**SOUTH BEND — “This Chrism Mass expresses in a beautifully solemn way the unity of Christ’s Church here in our diocese and in dioceses throughout the world: Bishop, priests, deacons, religious and laity, gathered together during Holy Week for the consecration of the Sacred Chrism and the blessing of the Oil of the Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick,” began Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in his homily at St. Matthew Co-Cathedral in South Bend on Monday, April 18.**

At the Chrism Mass, which was also celebrated Tuesday, April 19, in Fort Wayne at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the Oil of the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens and the Sacred Chrism are blessed by the bishop and distributed to churches throughout the diocese. The Sacred Chrism will be used at the Easter Vigil. The Chrism will be used in the coming months for infant Baptisms and priestly Ordinations. It is also employed for sacramental blessings and consecrations, such as the dedication of churches and altars.

“Through these oils, the Lord’s grace will flow within thousands of people’s souls throughout our diocese, bringing light, support and strength through the sacraments. The Church will be built up as the Holy Spirit works through these oils, consecrating and sanctifying the members of Christ’s Body in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy...”

**Six-Church Passion Walk, a day of retreat for diocese**

**BY LAURIE KIEFABER**

**SOUTH BEND — The Six-Church Passion Walk on Palm Sunday in South Bend was like a retreat for some and a pilgrimage for others, depending on shoes or a lack of them. Either way, most participants polled said it was a good way to prepare for Holy Week.**

Approximately 100 to 175 people attended the walk at any one time, with some people participating in a few Stations of the Cross, but most taking on the entire walk. The sunny but cool and breezy day with a daytime high of 52 degrees brought together people from St. Joseph, St. Patrick, St. Hedwig, St. Augustine, St. Stanislaus and Holy Cross churches as well as those outside the area. Local police assisted walkers at intersections and a few golf carts were available to those who needed a break.

“Today was like a day of retreat for me with my people of the diocese,” said Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades after the Palm Sunday Mass at Holy Cross. “It was so prayerful and a wonderful way to begin Holy Week.”

Before the walk began, Bishop Rhoades talked about Jesus’ walk to Jerusalem when people walked with Him.

“We are spiritually united with them,” Bishop Rhoades said. “I thank you for being here.”

Most people wore sensible shoes for the event, with participants walking from one church to another between various stations. However, Gabriel Akre, 13, went the majority of the walk without his shoes.

“I’m giving up shoes for Lent,” said the home-schooled teen. “Last year during the fall 40 Days for Life (I also gave up shoes).”

The St. Pius X member said he was inspired by the Franciscan Brothers Minor who have gone barefoot before.

**BISHOP BLESSES BAPTISTRY**

A newly-installed baptistry at St. John the Baptist Church, Fort Wayne, was blessed on Saturday, April 16, by Bishop-emeritus John M. D’Arcy with pastor Father Cyril Fernandes, assisting.
The Mystery of Easter

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

W e have completed our Lenten journey. Throughout Holy Week, we have honored the memory of Our Lord’s Passion and Death. At the Easter Vigil, we will experience the Easter fire and the Easter candle, praising Jesus as the light of the world, the light which dispels all darkness. We will hear the joyful proclamation: “This is the night when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.” We celebrate the Easter mystery of our redemption. We sing again Alleluia as we celebrate the joy of Christ’s Resurrection.

The Resurrection of Jesus brought something radically new to human history and to creation. It is an event unlike any other. It far surpasses even the great miracles Jesus performed when he raised the dead, like Lazarus. This is because the Resurrection of Jesus was not just the resuscitation of His dead body. Pope Benedict XVI explains that it was utterly different: “Jesus’ Resurrection was about breaking out into an entirely new form of life, into a life that is no longer subject to the law of dying and becoming, but lies beyond it — a life that opens up a new dimension of human existence … that opens up a future, a new kind of future, for mankind.”

The Holy Father speaks of the Resurrection of Jesus as “an evolutionary leap,” “the greatest mutation, absolutely the most crucial leap into a totally new dimension that there has ever been in the long history of life and its development; a leap into a completely new order which does concern us, and concerns the whole of history.” The Pope has described the Resurrection of Jesus as like an explosion of light and an explosion of love, which “ushered in a new dimension of being, a new dimension of life.”

Do we really grasp the great significance of Easter? It is not just some miracle from the past. This event reaches us today. It comes to us through faith and Baptism. Baptism is part of the Easter Vigil. At Easter Sunday Masses, we renew our baptismal promises and we are sprinkled with the Easter water. The Resurrection comes to us, in mystery, through Baptism, the sacrament of our new life in Christ. As Pope Benedict puts it: “The great explosion of the Resurrection has seized us in Baptism so as to draw us on.”

Amid the challenges and sufferings of life, and even in the midst of the greatest trials, including death, we live in hope because of the Resurrection of Jesus. We live our life in Christ as a journey of faith and a journey of hope. Yes, we walk the way of the cross, but we carry the cross knowing that it is ultimately the triumphant and victorious cross of the Risen Jesus. Amid the struggles of life, we grasp the hand of the Risen Lord and He never lets go of our hand. And we hold one another’s hands in the community of the Resurrection, the Body of Christ, which is the Church.

Through Baptism, we share personally in the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. Our lives are forever immersed in the mystery of Easter also through the Holy Eucharist. In the celebration of the Eucharist, we proclaim not only Jesus’ passion and death, but also His resurrection. As the Venerable Pope John Paul II wrote: “The Eucharistic Sacrifice makes present not only the mystery of the Savior’s passion and death, but also the mystery of the resurrection which crowned his sacrifice. It is as the living and risen One that Christ can become in the Eucharist the bread of life, the living bread.” In Holy Communion we receive the true Body and Blood of Christ, the pledge of our bodily resurrection at the end of the world. The Eucharist is truly, as Saint Ignatius of Antioch called it, “a medicine of immortality, an antidote to death.”

As we celebrate Easter this year, may we be especially conscious of the great mystery of the Resurrection of Jesus and how we are associated with it through our Baptism and through the Eucharist. We’re talking about a new dimension of life, life in Christ. That is why Saint Paul was able to say: “It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me” (Galatians 2:20). This is possible because of the Resurrection.

Jesus Christ is alive and He shares His life with us. We can live “in Him.” This new life in Christ is eternal. It is a life that comes to us as a gift (which is why we call it “grace”) that we are invited to receive in faith. It is given by the One who is Truth, the One who is Love, the One who is “the Resurrection and the Life.”

May you and your loved ones be filled with the joy of the Resurrection this Easter! May the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of the Risen Christ, help us to be joyful witnesses of the Resurrection of her Son!
Technology without God pulls humanity down, pope says on Palm Sunday

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Celebrating Palm Sunday Mass at the Vatican, Pope Benedict XVI warned that technological progress must not lead people to think they can “become God.”

About 50,000 faithful waved olive branches and palm fronds in St. Peter’s Square April 17 at the start of the liturgy that commemorated Christ’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem five days before his crucifixion.

The German pontiff, who celebrated his 84th birthday the day before, joined a procession that led to the Egyptian obelisk in the center of the square. He asked listeners to continue to prepare for Easter through penitence and acts of charity.

Holding a braided palm garland, he then rode in a jeep to the main altar for the two-and-a-half-hour Mass. It was the beginning of Holy Week, the busiest period of the year for the pope, with a demanding schedule of public appearances.

In his homily, Pope Benedict said the Palm Sunday procession must be understood as more than a “quaint custom.” It represents the spiritual ascent that all Christians are called to make, a journey “along the high road that leads to the living God,” he said.

Such an ascent is impossible without God’s help, he said, although men and women have long attempted to “attain the heights of God by their own powers.” All the inventions of the human spirit are ultimately an effort to become independent and completely free — but without God, this effort is doomed to failure, he said.

“Mankind has managed to accomplish so many things: We can fly. We can see, hear and speak to one another from the farthest ends of the earth,” he said.

“And yet the force of gravity which draws us down is powerful. With the increase of our abilities there has been an increase not only of good. Our possibilities for evil have increased and appear like menacing storms above history,” he said.

The pope said that despite progress, human limitations have been evident in recent disasters that “have caused so much suffering for humanity.”

He described people as caught between two “gravitational fields”: the force of gravity that pulls people down toward selfishness, falsehood and evil, and the force of God’s love that pulls people up. A spiritual ascent to which Christians are called has some concrete elements, including purity, honesty and faith in God, he said.

“The great achievements of technology are liberating and contribute to the progress of mankind only if they are joined to these attitudes — if our hands become clean and our hearts pure, if we seek truth, if we seek God and let ourselves be touched and challenged by His love,” he said.

In the end, he said, a spiritual ascent is effective only if people humbly acknowledge that they need God and “abandon the pride of wanting to become God.”

At the end of the Mass, the pope expressed greetings in seven languages to the thousands of young people in the square and said he was looking forward to the World Youth Day celebration in Madrid next August. The youths serenaded the pope with an abbreviated version of “Happy Birthday” in Italian.

Correction to schedule
In the schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Bishop Emeritus John M. D’Arcy listed on page 2 of the April 17, 2011 issue of Today’s Catholic, there were two errors.

The Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper on April 21 will be at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. Bishop Rhoades will celebrate the Mass.

On Good Friday, April 22, Bishop Rhoades will celebrate the liturgy of the Lord’s Passion beginning at 1 p.m. at St. Matthew Co-Cathedral in South Bend.
Defunding Planned Parenthood ‘not one of those hard choices’

BY DON CLEMMER

WASHINGTON — In an April 13 letter to the U.S. House of Representatives, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston urged Congress to vote for a resolution to ban federal funding of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. In the midst of a budget debate involving shared sacrifice and hard choices, Cardinal DiNardo wrote: “Whether to fund the largest abortion network in the country is not one of those hard choices.”

DiNardo is chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Cardinal DiNardo cited a March 4 letter to Congress from Bishop Stephen E. Blair of Stockton, Calif., chairman of the USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, which expressed the hope that “funds now provided to organizations that perform abortions... will be redirected to meeting the basic needs of the poor.”

DiNardo offered additional reasons for supporting H. Con. Res. 36: “First, it is indisputable that Planned Parenthood Federation of America is by far the largest provider and promoter of abortions nationwide, performing about a third of all abortions (332,278 abortions in Fiscal Year 2008-9). Abortions also account for over a third of Planned Parenthood’s income. The organization has aborted over 5 million unborn children since 1970.”

“Second, the organization’s involvement in abortion (now including chemical abortions using RU-486) has substantially increased in recent years, and its provision of other services such as prenatal care and adoption referrals has declined markedly. Now the national organization insists that all affiliates provide abortions by 2013, a mandatory policy that has led at least one affiliate to leave the organization.”

Third, the organization has led numerous legislative campaigns and litigation strategies to oppose any meaningful limits on abortion, including modest measures such as public funding bans, informed consent provisions, and parental notice requirements for abortions on unemancipated minors. One of Planned Parenthood’s legislative priorities is to oppose conscience clauses (which it calls “refusal clauses”), so that hospitals, physicians and nurses will not be allowed to serve the healthcare needs of women without taking part in abortion.

Cardinal DiNardo wrote that some, in an effort to divert the discussion away from abortion, have tried to make the debate about women’s access to basic health care. He noted that Catholic and other religiously affiliated health-care providers generally do provide medical programs, prenatal and maternity care for women, while Planned Parenthood does not.

“To the extent that Planned Parenthood does provide any legitimate health services for women, however, those services can be provided by others, since H. Con. Res. 36 does not reduce funding for services for one cent,” Cardinal DiNardo wrote. “Therefore the question at issue here is: When low-income women need these legitimate health care services, should the federal government insist that they receive them from the local abortion provider?”

John Paul II being beatified for holiness, not papacy, speakers say

ROME (CNS) — Pope John Paul II is being beatified not because of his impact on history or the Catholic Church, but because of the way he lived the Christian virtues of faith, hope and love, said Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes.

“Clearly the cause was put on the fast track, but the process was done carefully and meticulously, following the rules Pope John Paul himself issued in 1983,” the cardinal said April 1, during a conference at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome.

The cardinal said the Church wanted to respond positively to many Catholics’ hopes to have Pope John Paul beatified quickly, but it also wanted to be certain that the pope, who died in 2005, is in heaven.

Cardinal Amato said the sainthood process is one of the areas of Church life where the consensuses of Church members, technically the “sensus fidelium” (“sense of the faithful”), really counts.

“From the day of his death on April 2, 2005, the people of God began putting the pope in holiness,” and hundreds, if not thousands, visit his tomb each day, the cardinal said. A further sign is the number of biographies published about him and the number of his writings that are translated and re-published.

“The course of a beatification cause, there is the vox populi,” he said, which must be “accompanied by the vox dei (voice of God) — the miracles — and the vox ecclesiae (voice of the Church),” which is the official judgment issued after interviewing eyewitnesses and consulting with historians, physicians, theologians and Church leaders to verify the candidate’s holiness.

Beatification and canonization are not recognitions of someone’s superior understanding of theology, nor of the great works he or she accomplished, he said.

Declaring someone a saint, the Church attests to the fact that he or she lived the Christian virtues in a truly extraordinary way and is a model to be imitated by others, the cardinal said.

The candidate, he said, must be perceived “as an image of Christ.”

Cardinal Amato said, “the pressure of the public and of the media did not disturb the process, but helped it” because it was a further sign of Pope John Paul’s widespread reputation for holiness, which is something the Church requires proof of before it moves to beatify someone.

Joaquin Navarro-Valls, who served as Vatican spokesman under Pope John Paul, told the conference that the late pope’s voice, his pronouncement, his use of gestures and his presence at the altar or on a stage all contributed to his success as a communicator.

But the key to his effectiveness was that he firmly believed that each person was created in God’s image and likeness, Navarro-Valls said. “I think this was what attracted people even more than the way he spoke.”

People felt he was sincere in his recognition of their dignity and of their destiny to be with God, he said. “He was a man profoundly convinced of the truth of those words of Genesis — ‘God made man and woman in his image and likeness.’ This gave him optimism even when he could no longer walk, and then even when he could no longer speak,” Navarro-Valls said.

The Spaniard, a member of Opus Dei, said he had the blessing of personally knowing three saints: Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer, founder of Opus Dei; Blessed Teresa of Kolkata; and Jose Balaguer, founder of Opus Dei. None of them was beatified because of his impact on history or the Catholic Church but because of his living of Christian virtues.
House responds to concerns of Alliance for Immigration Reform, amends immigration bill

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana House of Representatives addressed concerns of Alliance for Immigration Reform of Indiana (AIRI) and significantly amended the immigration reform legislation, SB 590, April 14.

The bill passed the House Public Policy Committee, 6-5, April 15.

“We are pleased that the House leadership addressed many of the concerns raised by faith communities, business, social service and agriculture groups. The committee amended out many of the egregious provisions of the bill,” said Glenn Tebbe, executive director for the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC).

“The Church is still opposed to the bill primarily because the legislation does not address a solution to the broken federal immigration system,” said Tebbe. “Immigration reform must be comprehensive and addressed at the federal level for it to be meaningful and effective.”

The amendments removed the “reasonable suspicion” language requiring local and state police to enforce federal immigration laws. Many argued during previous testimony in the Senate that “reasonable suspicion” could only lead to racial profiling. The House also removed all the “English only” language from the bill. State entities will continue to offer services in both English and Spanish.

Rep. Rebecca Kubacki, R-Syracuse, said, “I was pleased with the amendments and the shift of the bill. It moves away from targeting the individual and more to penalizing the businesses. We need to be doing something at the federal level, but, for now, at least the fear factor is gone. There is a sense of relief in the Hispanic community.”

“The sentiment of the House and most of my colleagues is that this is a federal issue. Our hands are tied. These laws need to be changed, uniformly at the federal level,” said Kubacki.

“What we ought to be doing as legislators is to get in touch with our Congressmen and tell them to do something about the immigration problem, to put more pressure on them to act and to quit pontificating,” Kubacki said.

House Sponsor of the SB 590, Rep. Eric Koch, R-Bedford, said, “Illegal immigration is a problem in Indiana. We need to find a solution that’s right for Indiana. What might be right for another state like Arizona, doesn’t mean it will be right for Indiana. We are not a border state.”

He said, “The general philosophy of amendments was to tailor a solution for Indiana considering our location, geography and economy. We worked very closely with Speaker of the House Brian Bosma, the governor’s office, author of the bill Sen. Mike Delph and Rep. Davis, chairman of the House Public Policy Committee on these amendments,” said Koch. “It was very much a collaborative effort.”

Koch said, “The general philosophy of the bill is to target intentional wrong-doing, either on the part of an individual who commits identity theft or the business who knowingly or intentionally hires an illegal alien.”

Koch explained that SB 590 as amended would add the following penalties for companies: 
1. Businesses that knowingly or intentionally hire an illegal alien would have to repay employment benefits, lose tax credits, and lose tax deductions for that illegal alien’s wages.
2. The bill also directs the Indiana Office of Management and Budget to calculate the cost of illegal immigrants to Indiana and send the bill to the federal government,” said Koch.

Sen. Mike Delph, author of SB 590 said, “I’m going to let the House do their work on the bill. I do think there are many good things in the bill including the human trafficking provision; prohibition of sanctuary cities, and E-Verify,” said Delph. “I think E-Verify is critically important.”

E-Verify is an Internet-based, free program offered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, which allows businesses to determine if a potential employee is eligible to work in the United States. Senate Bill 590 requires all businesses that are contracted with the federal government and other countries — not Indiana and other countries; 2) national talent and be competitive in the global economy. Reid Koch said that he expects SB 590 to pass the House by Easter weekend.
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith will set up a special working group to authorize, edit, errors and distribute corrections in translations of a new catechism created for young people. The move came after the catechism’s Italian edition was found to have a translation mistake concerning the Church’s teaching on contraception. Austrian Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna, who oversaw the creation of “YouCat,” a recently released supplement to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, told journalists at a Vatican news conference April 13 that many translations of the original German text of the new catechism were still under way. “YouCat” was expected to be published in 13 languages, including Chinese and Arabic, by the end of 2011 and in 25 languages by 2012. While the original German version had been studied and approved by the doctrinal congregation before its release, the other language editions did not pass through the doctrinal office after they were translated by different publishing houses. “For each translation we had an agreement with the publisher and we, the Austrian bishops’ conference, asked that a bishop who had theological and catechetical expertise act as guarantor of the translation in his language,” Cardinal Schönborn said. Citta Nuova, the publishing arm of the Focolare lay movement, handled the Italian edition of the catechism. It was translated by Pietro Podolak and translation revisions were overseen by Cardinal Angelo Scola of Venice. Sometimes translators get a commission a few days before take are made, Cardinal Schönborn said, and for that reason “we need a second or third edition” that gets reviewed.

Santa Fe archbishop tells cohabiting Catholics to stop ‘living in sin’

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (CNS) — The archbishop of Santa Fe in a pastoral letter admonished unmarried Catholic couples who are living together, those who are not married but are in a civil union and divorced Catholics who re-marry without an annulment, warning them to receive Holy Communion. Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan said it was up to the Church and its pastors to emphasize that with regard to cohabitation, “there are only two lifestyles acceptable to Jesus Christ for His disciples: a single life of chastity, or the union of man and woman in the sacrament of marriage. There is no ‘third way’ possible for a Christian.” He reminded Catholics that the Bible and the Catholic Church oppose same-sex unions and teaches that marriage is between one man and one woman. The Church also teaches that any sexual activity outside of marriage is sin ful. Catholics living in one of the three relationships he described “are objectively living in a state of mortal sin,” Archbishop Sheehan said. “These people are objectively living in a state of mortal sin and may not receive Holy Communion. They are in great spiritual danger. At the best — and this is, sadly, often the case — they are ignorant of God’s plan for man and woman. At the worst, they are contemp- tuous of God’s commandments and His sacraments,” he said. His pastoral letter, dated April 3, was posted on the archdiocesan website, www.archdioceseasantafe.org, in an archdiocesan news section titled “Awakening Faith.” He told Catholic News Service in a voice mail message that the pastoral letter was getting about 16,000 hits a day on the website.

San Antonio seminary rector named auxiliary bishop for Detroit

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has decided the col lection taken up at his Holy Thursday evening Mass will be used to help those affected by the devastating earthquake and tsunami in northeast Japan. The March 11 disaster left more than 13,000 people dead and another 13,700 unac counted for. More than 150,000 were made homeless and many lost their jobs, especially in the fishing industry. Each year, the pope chooses where to send the collection taken up during the Mass of the Lord’s Supper at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome. Pope Benedict’s decision to use the collection from the Mass April 21 to support Japanese earthquake and tsunami victims was announced by the Vatican April 14. In announcing the pope’s decision to use the Holy Thursday collection for Japan, the Vatican also published the pope’s Holy Week schedule. The pope was to celebrate the usual slate of Holy Week and Easter liturgies: Palm Sunday Mass in St. Peter’s Square April 17; the Chrism Mass in the morning of April 21 in St. Peter’s Basilica; the Mass of the Lord’s Supper that evening; on Good Friday, April 22, the afternoon liturgy of the Lord’s Passion in St. Peter’s Basilica, followed by the nighttime Way of the Cross; the Easter Vigil April 23 in St. Peter’s Basilica; and Easter morning Mass April 24 in St. Peter’s Square.

Pope marks Holy Thursday collection for disaster relief in Japan

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has decided the collection taken up at his Holy Thursday evening Mass will be used to help those affected by the devastating earthquake and tsunami in northeast Japan. The March 11 disaster left more than 13,000 people dead and another 13,700 unaccounted for. More than 150,000 were made homeless and many lost their jobs, especially in the fishing industry. Each year, the pope chooses where to send the collection taken up during the Mass of the Lord’s Supper at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome. Pope Benedict’s decision to use the collection from the Mass April 21 to support Japanese earthquake and tsunami victims was announced by the Vatican April 14. In announcing the pope’s decision to use the Holy Thursday collection for Japan, the Vatican also published the pope’s Holy Week schedule. The pope was to celebrate the usual slate of Holy Week and Easter liturgies: Palm Sunday Mass in St. Peter’s Square April 17; the Chrism Mass in the morning of April 21 in St. Peter’s Basilica; the Mass of the Lord’s Supper that evening; on Good Friday, April 22, the afternoon liturgy of the Lord’s Passion in St. Peter’s Basilica, followed by the nighttime Way of the Cross; the Easter Vigil April 23 in St. Peter’s Basilica; and Easter morning Mass April 24 in St. Peter’s Square.

Vatican commission expresses deep concern over relations with China

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A Vatican commission on China expressed deep concern over worsening relations with the Chinese government and appealed to authorities there to avoid steps that would aggravate church-state problems. Specifically, the commission urged Chinese authorities not to persist in imposing new government-backed bishops who do not have the approval of Pope Benedict XVI. Titled “A Message to Chinese Catholics,” the text was issued April 14 following a three-day annual meeting of the commission at the Vatican. The commission expressed joy at the news that the Diocese of Shanghai was launching the beatification cause of Paul Xu Guangqi, a Chinese scholar who worked closely with the famed Jesuit missionary, Father Matteo Ricci, in the 16th and 17th centuries. Pope Benedict met with commission members at the end of their encounter, praising Chinese Catholics’ desire for unity with Rome and underlining the importance of spiritual formation in confronting present challenges. The commission’s message began by noting that “in recent years, general climate of orientation and anxiety about the future” of the Church in China, following recent setbacks in church-state relations. It said that given the numerous vacant dioceses in China, the selection of new bishops was an urgent necessity and at the same time “a source of deep concern.”

Value poor people, don’t work to get rid of them, UN papal nuncio says

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) — The world must not view poor people as a commodity to be managed and used to increase individual profit, and those who need the help of the global community to achieve their full potential, the Vatican’s ambassador to the United Nations said April 12 in an address to the Economic and Social Council during the 44th session of the Commission on Population and Development. “Instead of focusing political and financial resources on efforts to reduce the number of poor persons through methods which trivialize marriage and the family and deny the very right to life of unborn children, let us instead focus these resources on programs that will more easily addressed and that were fewer people needing to be provided education; that if there were fewer poor women giving birth, there would be less maternal mortality; and that if there were fewer people needing to be fed, then malnutrition would be more easily addressed and that governments should instead direct “greater financial, political and social emphasis” at initiatives to support the family.
**Holy Week Services schedule for Ancilla Domini Chapel**

DONALDSON — The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ invite all to attend the Holy Week liturgies at the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Ministry Center. Liturgies will be held in the Ancilla Domini Chapel on:

- Holy Thursday, April 21, at 7 p.m.
- Good Friday, April 22 at 3 p.m.
- Easter Vigil, April 23, at 9 p.m.
- Easter Sunday Mass on April 24, will be held at the Catherine Kasper Home Chapel in Donaldson at 11 a.m.

**Girl Scout’s collection benefits Women’s Care Center**

FORT WAYNE — Jessica Heise, sophomore at Bishop Dwenger High School and Girl Scout at St. Vincent de Paul School in Fort Wayne, is currently working on a project to earn the Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouts. Her project is to assist the Women’s Care Center by raising community awareness and collecting needed items for the program that assists young women in pregnancy crisis. Items needed for donation are diapers (size 4-6), new onesies (size newborn to 24 months), and new clothes (size newborn to 5 toddler). To donate call (260) 490-7833 or e-mail penny101@gmail.com.

**ND and Goshen College publish study of Latinos in North Central Indiana**

NOTRE DAME — The Institute for Latino Studies at Goshen College’s Center for Intercultural Teaching and Learning (CITL) recently released the first in a series of three research reports examining the origin and present circumstances of Latinos in four north-central Indiana cities (South Bend, Elkhart, Goshen and Ligonier).

Co-edited by ILS Research Director Juan Carlos Guzmán, the report offers a demographic, economic and educational overview of Latinos in Elkhart, St. Joseph and Noble counties and examines area demographics and the history of Latino immigration to North Central Indiana since the 1990s, setting the context for an analysis of the educational challenges and opportunities local Latino students face.

The report finds, though, contiguous Elkhart, Noble and St. Joseph counties have great diversity in their Latino populations. Elkhart County has experienced the most Latino immigration in recent years, apparently fueled by jobs in its manufacturing industry. St. Joseph County, while still experiencing immigration, seems to have a more settled Latino community. Noble County’s Latino population is small by comparison. Its Latinos are highly concentrated in rural areas in the western part of the county.

In all three counties, Latinos face adversity. In comparison to non-Latino whites, Latinos have higher poverty rates, lower income, lower educational attainment, and lower home ownership rates. Latinos’ high school graduation rates are a particular concern, as they speak to the future generation’s ability to improve its economic outlook.

**Father Thomas J. O’Hara to speak at Holy Cross College commencement**

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross Father Thomas J. O’Hara, Ph.D., will be delivering the commencement speech to the Holy Cross College graduating class of 2011 about preparing for globalization and the importance of service to the world.

His message comes from many years of personal experience. Prior to becoming president of his alma mater, King’s College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Father O’Hara assisted in relief work with the Missionary Sisters of Charity, the religious community of the late Blessed Mother Teresa, in Daaca, Bangladesh, where he also was professor of English at Notre Dame College. Previous to serving in Bangladesh, Father O’Hara served as professor of political science at the University of New York State Award for Dedication to Youth, and the King’s College All College Awards for both administrators and faculty.

Father O’Hara has conducted research, served on panels, and published numerous papers and chapters on the role of religious lobby groups in the American public policy system. Papers he has written or presented include “The Multifaceted Catholic Lobby,” “The Pluralism of the Catholic Lobby” and “The Civil Rights Restoration Act.” Other publications include “Interest Groups and the Right to Die,” “Rwanda: The Church Response” and “Uganda: A Model of Democracy.”

The 44th commencement ceremony of Holy Cross College will be held on Saturday, May 14, at 2 p.m. in the Pfeil Center on the campus of Holy Cross.

**St. Charles honor roll students honored at school breakfast**

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Borromeo School in Fort Wayne recently held two annual breakfasts honoring students in grades 5-6 and 7-8 that have shown high achievement by being on the school honor roll for the past four quarters. Principal Rob Sordelet spoke to the parents and students, and encouraged them to continue on their path of excellence.

**Arborists giving away 1,500 trees at USF**

FORT WAYNE — The Fort Wayne Arborists will give away 1,500 free trees in the south parking lot of the University of Saint Francis North Campus, 2702 Spring St., on Friday, April 29, from 7-10:30 a.m. Community residents can choose from white spruce, Canaan fir, serviceberry, black gum and honeylocust varieties, with a limit of three trees per person. Environmentally-conscious “green” industry professionals will be available to answer questions about tree types, maintenance, ideal locations and benefits. Ricky Kermey from the Allen County Extension Office will also attend to provide information.

The Arborists have conducted the tree giveaway, with USF as the main host, for around 20 years to stress to the community the value and importance of trees.

**Saint Joseph’s teacher named Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction**

SOUTH BEND — Brian Dolezal was nominated by student Jesse M. Weir for his outstanding dedication and commitment to excellence in the classroom. Student members of the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS) have the opportunity to nominate the educator who made the most significant contribution to their academic career. The Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction award recognizes teacher role models who have made a lasting difference in their classroom, inspiring students to strive for excellence.

“The dedicated educators who exhibit a commitment to excellence demonstrate the highest level of excellence and appreciation,” said NSHSS President James Lewis. “We’re excited to provide an ongoing means to do so, and we encourage our members to nominate teachers who have contributed to their academic success.”

In the congratulatory letter to Dolezal, Claes Nobel stated, “I have many duties bestowed upon me in my roles as NSHSS chairman and of carrying on the tradition of my family name. One of the most important and pleasant of these duties is recognizing the achievement of educators. ... Your student nomination is a role model for a positive influence, someone who has made a difference — in short, a great teacher.”

“Jesse M. Weir,” added Brien Barzun, a French-born American historian of ideas and culture, said, “In teaching you cannot see the fruit of a day’s work. It is invisible and remains so, maybe for 20 years. We hope this letter and certificate ... does make visible the work that you do each day.”

**The High School Youth Group of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne traveled to Franklin, W. Va., during the week of April 2-9 under the direction of St. Elizabeth pastor Father Jim Shafer, Youth Director Jay Horning and parish volunteers to assist with the Habitat for Humanity house building program there. The 45 teens, who came from six area high schools as well as home schooling, also delivered five tons or 10,000 pounds of food donated by the parish for the community’s exhausted local food bank. Pictured are the 45 teens posed in front of a three-townhouse complex they helped build.**

**The choir will sing “The Passion According to St. John by William Byrd.” Jesuit Father Edward Sproul will preside. Mary Lou McCarthy-Artz is director/organist.**

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Blessing offered for new Earthworks location in Plymouth

BY IDA CHIPMAN

PLYMOUTH — Father Ed Reutz of South Bend was a member of the first Earthworks board and has remained an enthusiastic supporter of the Earthworks mission as it has grown and evolved.

On Saturday, April 9, Father Reutz offered the ceremonial blessing of Earthworks’ new location, asking God’s blessing on the work and service that will be done in the bakery, classroom and the market.

Earthworks’ mission is a ministry sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. Spearheaded by Sister Sue Rogers, Earthworks encourages people to be environmentally responsible.

A large crowd toured the premises at Earthworks’ new location at 701 E. Jefferson St., Plymouth, admiring the renovation done by volunteers, many of them from Ancilla College’s baseball program. Everything in the building is recycled with the exception of the linoleum.

Jan Allis, a devoted worker at Earthworks, entices Jim Masterson to buy more goodies.

Earthworks plans to hold classes in the new facility as early as the end of April.

Future plans include a baking and employment training program for young adults in partnership with Heart and Hands and the Jesse programs.

Some of the products offered are Earthworks’ artisan bread, homemade sweets, jams, jellies and granola. Local products such as brown eggs, raw honey, Indiana maple syrup and Fair Trade coffee and teas are available. Humanely raised meats, without steroids or antibiotics, Ancilla beef, local pork, lamb and chicken are also featured.

Sister Sue said, “We hope that this new and enlarged venture will be a source of education, love and pleasure.”

Market hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., with extended hours on Wednesday until 5:30 p.m.

"Behold, your Mother."

May is the month of
Our Lady-
Spring
Sharathon
May 11-13

Hawaii

Join your Roman Catholic chaplain and other Roman Catholics on the most affordable two-week, four-island Hawaiian vacation you will ever find. Your group will fly to Honolulu for five nights in Waikiki, three nights in Kona, one night in Hilo, two nights on Maui, and three nights on Kauai. Sightseeing on every island includes: a Honolulu city tour with Punchbowl Crater and Pearl Harbor cruise to the Arizona Memorial, the Waikiki riverboat cruise, Iao Valley excursions & the old whaling capital of Lahaina, a Hilo orchid garden and Rainbow Falls, Black Sand Beaches, Volcanoes National Park and more. Includes all taxes, baggage handling, first class hotels, flights between the islands, and escorted sightseeing on every island. YMT specializes in Hawaii and has had its own office in Honolulu since 1967. Ask for the letter from your chaplain with his phone number.

*Prices per person, based on double occupancy. Airfare is extra.

For details & itinerary call 7 days a week:

Father Ed Reutz asks God’s blessing on the new quarters of Earthworks bakery and teaching site. Sister Sue Rogers holds the bowl of water for the ministrations.
Fort Wayne Philharmonic ensemble visits St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School

A musical ensemble from the Fort Wayne Philharmonic visited St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School at the St. Elizabeth campus on April 13.


Two profess final vows in Third Order of Carmel

FORT WAYNE — The Third Order of Carmel in Fort Wayne welcomed two members to final profession on Saturday, April 2. Patricia Bader and Jim Kimes professed their final vows at the Saturday Mass celebrated by Father Tom Lombardi at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Church.

The Lay Carmelite Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary (historically known as the Third Order of Carmel) is an association mainly of lay persons who commit themselves “to live in the following of Jesus Christ” according to the charism, traditions and spirit of Carmel under the authority of the Prior General of the Carmelite Order.

Kimes says, “Being a Lay Carmelite is not just a devotion added to life; it is a way of life; it is a vocation.”

Lay Carmelites attend a monthly community meeting, participate in daily Mass when possible, and spend half-an-hour in daily reflective prayer. They wear the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel daily as an external sign of dedication to Mary. The Lay Carmelite also prays in union with the Church through recitation of the Liturgy of the Hours — Morning and Evening Prayer.

A person wishing to become a candidate for admission to the Lay Carmelites must be a Catholic in good standing, age 18-69, a registered member of a parish and feels called by God to live more deeply his/her baptismal vocation as a member of the Carmelite family according to the charism of the Carmelite Order.

Lay Carmelites in the area come from St. Charles Borromeo, St. Jude and St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, St. Mary of the Assumption, Decatur and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel parishes. Local contact is Formation Director Bob McIver at (260) 226-0683 or rmciver@yahoo.com or Nancy Simmonds, director of the local community, (260) 417-1540 or nancy.simmonds@frontier.com.


Pilgrims begin Holy Week in South Bend

WALK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The St. Pius X member said he was inspired by the Franciscan Brothers Minor who have gone barefoot before.

“It helps your faith grow,” he added. “It definitely toughens up my feet. ... The Franciscans are really cool!”

His father, Tom Akre, said he was pleased he could participate barefoot, donning shoes inside the churches and public places.

“Sometimes doing something a little more extreme makes a statement and gets people to ask about it,” he said. “Hopefully it will get people to think. God became flesh and (giving up shoes and other physical activities) make it more real.”

While inside each church, attendees were able to listen to beautiful meditations and prayers by Cardinal Camillo Ruini, vicar general emeritus of His Holiness for the Diocese of Rome, with permission. They also were educated on the history of each parish and the people who built it. St. Augustine was established in 1928 for black Catholics who had come to South Bend, according to Holy Cross Father Pastor Leonard Collins. Father George O’Connor was their first pastor.

“Father O’Connor was born in Kansas and a tornado wiped out his whole family,” Collins said. “A black family took him in.”

Before the church was built in 1941, Collins said black Catholics met at taverns. Cheryl Ashe, a St. Augustine member, said the Church was segregated back then and African Americans had to take communion last. Before St. Augustine was built, some churches had a small room set up for them so they would not have to wait until the end, she said.

Ashe’s mother, Theresa, had been a social worker and convert to the faith.

She wanted to align herself with people who lived the Gospel,” Cheryl Ashe said.

When Theresa Ashe’s clients needed a donation for something, the Catholic priests did not ask if they were Catholic or attending Masses, as some ministers did, Cheryl Ashe explained.

“I thought (this walk) was nice,” Ashe said. “It showed the solidarity of all the city parishes. People think St. Augustine is dying, but it’s not. People may move away (to St. Joseph, or Buchanan, Mich.) but they still come back.”

“The church has not abandoned (the local churches or people). That’s what Jesus was about. He didn’t abandon us,” she said.

About 20 years ago...

“There’s a good mix of people here,” King said. “I’m happy to see younger people participating in an old tradition. It’s a good witness (of faith) to see people walking through the streets of South Bend.”

John Sikorski was one of the younger people taking the walk with his wife and two small children — aged two and nine months.

“We wanted to instill the faith in them at a young age,” the St. Matthew Cathedral member said. “We were really excited the bishop wanted to bring this tradition to South Bend. It’s a beautiful experience what we’re doing in South Bend with the Universal Church. The bishop is the shepherd of the flock here.”

Sikorski also mentioned that the walk was a powerful witness to non-Catholics who might be watching the procession.

Several order priests and nuns also participated in the walk. Friar Gerard, whose order has ties to Great Britain and Ireland and is serving an interim novitiate with the Mishawaka Franciscans, was snapping photos of the walk. “It’s a great way to prepare for Holy Week,” he said. Sister Benedicta Duna, who had not yet professed her first vows with the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka, enjoyed seeing all the people who came to share a prayerful beginning to Holy Week.

“It was neat seeing the different churches in South Bend I haven’t seen before,” she said. “It also was neat to see the bishop’s faith and understanding and making the event public for the people to see.”

Sister Mariana Collison, who has yet to profess her second vows in the same order, appreciated the experience. “It’s really powerful — walking,” she said. “It’s a time to meditate on the stations ... People were watching us at the intersections ... I identified with Him as He walked.”

At the St. Stanislaus grotto where palms were distributed, Bishop Rhodes talked about how Jesus took charge of even small details of His entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and how He was different from other kings.


Jeanine Celmer of Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus was among the walkers who said the rosary and sang songs at the beginning. “It’s such a beautiful idea,” she said. “I’ve never been on a walk (like this) and will never make it on a pilgrimage.”

College students such as Regina Slonkosky also were enjoying the day. “We’re giving witness and preparing for the Triduum,” the liberal studies major at Holy Cross College in South Bend said in front of the grotto. “This is a great way to start Palm Sunday.”

Chris Gautsch, a University of Notre Dame student, saw his faith in the event. “It’s been great!” he said. “I really enjoyed celebrating with the bishop — Palm Sunday, the Lord’s Passion and following in the bishop’s steps. Being here with the faith community of Catholics is another aspect of faith building.”

During his homily at Holy Cross Church, Bishop Rhoades said, “It’s important for us to focus on the crucifixion. It’s a horrendous way to die.”

Jesus endured mocking from people, having His clothes stripped away and nails being painfully hammered through His hands and feet, Bishop Rhoades said.

“Hanging on a cross He embraced every feeling of intense spiritual and physical suffering,” he continued. “He entered into complete solidarity (with man).”

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Pilgrims pray the fifth through eighth Stations of the Cross at St. Hedwig Church in South Bend.

Pilgrim Jonathan Jones of St. Augustine Parish carries the cross, which was commissioned for the diocesan Sesquicentennial celebration in 2007.
South Bend’s Six-Church Passion Walk

Pilgrims walk from St. Joseph Church to St. Patrick Church in the Six-Church Passion Walk on April 17, Palm Sunday.

PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE

A pilgrim meditates at St. Patrick Church, South Bend, where the first four Stations of the Cross were prayed.

Pilgrims process with palms to Holy Cross Church.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates Palm Sunday Mass at Holy Cross Church, at the conclusion of the pilgrim walk.
New U.S. Catholics include former abortion clinic administrator, Marine

Thousands around the country will join Catholic Church at Easter

WASHINGTON — A young adult raised in communist Cuba, an African woman who grew up as a Muslim, a marine being deployed in June, and a former abortion clinic administrator, along with tens of thousands of others around the country, are joining the Catholic Church in the United States at Easter.

These catechumens, now known as “the elect,” and candidates for full communion have all participated in a process of conversion and study of the Catholic faith through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). The RCIA has several stages, the most important of which is the moment when they will receive or complete their sacraments of initiation, usually at the Easter Vigil.

Catechumens are a person who has never been baptized; a candidate is someone who was baptized in a Christian tradition and now desires to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. In some dioceses, the candidates also include baptized Catholics who never completed their sacraments of initiation and weren’t raised in the faith.

José Pujols is one of the 148 “elect” in the Diocese of Paterson, N.J., who will receive the sacraments of initiation and weren’t raised in a Christian tradition and now desire to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. In some dioceses, the candidates also include baptized Catholics who never completed their sacraments of initiation and weren’t raised in the faith.

Celebrate the Hour of Mercy!

MERCY SUNDAY

May 1, 2011

Holy Family Catholic Church
46405 Mayflower Road
South Bend

CLOSING MASS FOR DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
CELEBRANT

Confessions: 2:00 - 3:20
Eucharistic Adoration: 2:30-3:00
The Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3:00

NoVENA Closing Mass: 3:30

EVERYONE WELCOME

BIENVENIDOS A TODOS

New U.S. Catholics include former abortion clinic administrator, Marine
THE LITURGIES OF EASTER

BY BRIAN W. MACMICHAEL

Last week, we began with Palm Sunday and walked through Holy Week, ending with Holy Saturday. Now, at Easter, we look at the liturgical celebrations of our Risen Lord.

Easter Vigil

Commencing at nightfall on Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil — or the “Great Vigil” — is the high point of the Easter Triduum and of the entire liturgical year. It is when the Church keeps vigil at the tomb and rejoices with the Risen Lord.

The Easter Vigil today consists of four parts: 1) The Service of Light, 2) The Liturgy of the Word, 3) The Liturgy of Baptism, with Christian Initiation (including Confirmation) and the Renewal of Baptismal Promises, 4) The Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The Service of Light begins with “Lucernarium” (from the Latin word for “light”), when the Paschal Candle, lit from the Easter fire outside the church, is brought into the darkened church building. The candle is dipped into the font that will be used to baptize the elect, symbolizing Christ sanctifying the waters. The darkness (whose onset was recalled at Tenebrae) is dispelled by the “Light of Christ,” and the flame is spread to the candles of the individual Christians gathered in the Church. The Paschal Candle itself will be used throughout the season of Easter, and especially for Baptisms and funerals during the coming year. When light has been restored, the magnificent and ancient text of the “Exsultet” is chanted. The current English translation begins: “Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels! Exult, all creation around God’s throne! Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!”

The Liturgy of the Word includes seven Old Testament readings, although that number can be shortened for time constraining reasons. Prior to Pope Pius XII’s reforms, there were 12 Old Testament readings. The current selection is drawn from Genesis, Exodus and prophetic texts — all alluding to creation and redemption. Then, the church bells are rung and the Gloria is sung, marking the end of the expectant vigilant period and a rousing elevation of our Easter joy.

Following a reading from Romans, the Alleluia returns as one of Christian initiation. As we were baptized, given our white garments and welcomed to the Church, the elect are now undergoing death and rebirth in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, work ing through the newly blessed water. Afterwards, the newly baptized, and sometimes also those previously baptized who are now being brought into full communion with the Catholic Church, receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, using the Sacred Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

May 1, 2011 Divine Mercy Sunday Devotion
4:00 - 5:00 PM:
Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
(NO RECONCILIATION ON MAY 1)
5:00 PM: Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- Homilist and President
Father Thomas Shoemaker
St. Jude Church
Randallia Drive at East State Blvd., Fort Wayne
www.stjudefw.org/adoration

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Divine Mercy Chaplet
and
Nine Day Divine Mercy Novena
Begins Good Friday, April 22
and ends the following Saturday, April 30

Immaculate Conception Parish
AUBURN
Easter Sunday

Christs consecrated earlier in the week. All those in the assembly then renew their baptismal promises to reject Satan and remain faithful to God, and all are sprinkled with baptismal water. The first Mass of Easter then continues with the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and for the first time, the newly baptized are permitted to join their brothers and sisters in Christ as they receive the Body and Blood of our Resurrected Lord.

Easter Sunday

Masses during daylight on Easter Sunday don’t contain quite as much splendor as the Vigil, but they are extraordinary celebrations nonetheless. The Gospel is always taken from John Chapter 20, in which Mary Magdalene finds the stone removed from Christ’s tomb and runs to tell Peter and the other disciple, who return to find the tomb empty. A wonderful liturgical practice, always observed on Easter Sunday, is the use of the Easter Sequence, “Victimae Paschali Laudes” (the title is from the first line, which translates as “Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer your thankful praises”) immediately before the proclamation of the Gospel. The sequence is a very ancient tradition, and is exceptionally beautiful when sung — especially in the original Latin chant form, which is not very difficult to learn.

The Easter Triduum officially ends with Vespers (Evening Prayer) on Easter Sunday, but the solemn feast of Easter is celebrated for eight days, known as the Easter Octave. The eighth day, the Second Sunday of Easter, has recently also become known as Divine Mercy Sunday. The concept of the “Eighth Day” is very important in Christian theology and liturgy. Six was considered a number of imperfection by Jews and Christians, while seven was the perfect number — for instance, God rested on the seventh day of Creation, which became the Sabbath. The “Eighth Day,” as a day beyond even the seventh, is known as the “eschatological” day (derived from “eschaton,” the Greek word for “last”) — it is the day of Christ that points to His “Parousia,” or “last”) — it is the day of Christ’s Passion, Death and Resurrection. By celebrating the Eighth Day, Catholics express the exaltation of Christ’s Paschal Victim to the glory of God.

Easter Sunday in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

The Resurrection of Christ is depicted in a mural in the sanctuary of Holy Family Church in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

(© Photo/Debbie Hill)

In his superb book, “The Spirit of the Liturgy,” written while he was still a cardinal, Pope Benedict XVI discusses the timing of Easter. The date of Easter not only has a historical significance of the Lord’s Resurrection. By celebrating Easter on a Sunday (the “Eighth Day”) after the first fully “risen” moon of spring (a season of renewal), Christians express the power and universality of sacred time, uniting the rich symbolism of the solar and lunar calendars.

The Easter season lasts 50 days: Ascension Thursday comes 40 days after Easter Sunday (although it is observed on Sunday in much of the United States including this diocese), and is followed 10 days later by Pentecost Sunday, the conclusion of the Easter season.

As we can see, there is much more to the celebration of Christ’s Passion, Death and Resurrection than just Easter Sunday, or even Holy Thursday and Good Friday. The Easter Triduum and all of Holy Week are a very interwoven expression of and participation in the Paschal Mystery that we celebrate every Sunday.

I encourage all to try to attend as many of these Masses and liturgies as possible, including the Easter Vigil. By immersing ourselves in the Church’s liturgical life, we spiritually bind ourselves more fully to Christ our Head. We can then better serve as joyful witnesses while we accompany tens of thousands of people — in the United States alone — who will sacramentally enter into the life of the Catholic Church during Easter this year.

Brian W. Machtke is the director of the diocesan Office of Worship.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Easter Blessings

Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community
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Easter Sunday in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

The Resurrection of Christ is depicted in a mural in the sanctuary of Holy Family Church in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

(© Photo/Debbie Hill)
The courage to refuse to cooperate in evil

What made John Paul II truly great

Secular media often breezes over the most important details. The oft-repeated headline after the announcement of John Paul II’s May 1 beatification was, “Pope Benedict XVI puts John Paul II on the fast track to Sainthood.” Hello! Did you notice the sister who was miraculously healed of Parkinson’s? Secular doctors examined her and couldn’t explain it. Doesn’t that deserve a headline?

But I can forgive the media because I tend to overlook the most important details too. What made John Paul truly great was that he never did.

There are people throughout history with the impact and charisma of John Paul II. Who can forget watching his funeral and seeing world leaders sitting like little school boys and girls before his coffin, still reverent, still humble in the presence of this imposing figure with size-13 shoes? But lest we breeze over the most important details, what made this man of immense shoes truly great was his immense love for every person he encountered.

In “Rise, Let Us Be on Our Way,” he wrote “I don’t like the word ‘crowd,’ which seems too anonymous. I prefer the word ‘multitude.’” Even though he led the world’s 1 billion-plus Catholics, he didn’t minister to the masses, but to the individual. He noticed each person in his path. He also reflected in the same book, “I simply pray for everyone every day. As soon as I meet people, I pray for them, and this helps me in all my relationships... I welcome everyone as a person sent to me and entrusted to me by Christ.”

This attention to each person is summed up in an encounter of John Paul II with San Diego’s Bishop Robert Brom.

Bishop Brom’s first meeting with the pope occurred in 1963 during the second session of the Second Vatican Council. He was a seminarian at the North American College and Pope John Paul II was the auxiliary bishop of Krakow. Brom and several classmates were leaving the Church of the Gesu after a visit there when some Polish seminarians with Bishop Wojtyla were entering. At that time Brom and his classmates briefly met the man who would thereafter become the Cardinal Archbishop of Krakow and the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. Subsequently, Brom forgot all about the encounter.

In 1983 after his appointment as Bishop of Duluth, Bishop Brom in the context of his first “ad limina” visit met Pope John Paul II for what he thought was the first time. However, John Paul, looking into a group of proxies, said, “I think we have met before.” Bishop Brom assured the Holy Father that they’d never met. “I believe he is right,” said Pope John Paul II, but Bishop Brom was equally sure they had not. A meeting with the pope isn’t easily forgotten!

Some days later, during the same “ad limina” visit, the secretary to the Holy Father, then, Msgr. Stanisław Dziszewski, now cardinal, approached Bishop Brom to say, “I’ll be back in Rome; remember when he met you.” “When?” Brom asked. “In November of 1963 outside the Church of the Gesu in Rome.” Brom’s memory refreshed, he asked Msgr. Dziszewski, “How can he do that?” to which Msgr. Dziszewski explained that for John Paul to meet another person is to encounter God.

It was this superhuman love for each individual he encountered is what made him truly great. “And it’s that holy love of God beating in the heart of a man that is about to get him beatified. It’s not his power, social impact or his charisma as a leader. It was this superhuman love for each individual he encountered is what made him truly great.”

In an age so dismissive of religious devotion, this is a powerful model for us all. It is this kind of love that makes people to tears standing a mile away from him in a crowd of a million plus. They felt personally known; they were loved.

Here is my confession, which I’m comfortable making because it’s probably yours, too: In the midst of my busy life it’s easy for me to forget to tell the people I love that I love them; to unintentionally let quality family time slip between my fingers; to forget to call friends, to forget to take care of myself; to get so caught up in the “tasks” of my work that I don’t have time for the people my work is serving. It’s so easy to forget the most important things in life, namely, the people God has placed around me.

My thanks to Bishop Brom for his help filling in the details of his story.

Speaker and author Christopher Stefaniak is director of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministry for the Denver Archdiocese.
**Bioethics**

Dr. Habib Malik of the Lebanese American University has been a friend for many years. Oftentimes have such an informed and humane view of the sad, even desperate, position of Christians in the Middle East. As a Lebanon-born Maronite with a Harvard doctorate in intellectual history, what Dr. Malik knows comes from experience as well as impeccable scholarship.

The Hoover Institution Press at Stanford University recently published a short booklet by Dr. Malik that should be required reading for anyone concerned with the fate of ancient Christian communities throughout the Levant, including the Holy Land. “Islamism and the Future of the Christians of the Middle East” can be read in one sitting. Its brevity is an advantage: a concise mind and an accomplished pen distilling a vast amount of knowledge and experience into 68 pages. Let me try, with far greater brevity, to highlight several of the book’s key points.

1) Middle East Christians today have had two distinct historical experiences. One is an experience of freedom. The other is an experience of being a “dhimmi,” a second-class citizen existing under the protection of the Muslim majorities in an Islamic state.

2) Ninety percent of Christian Arabs live in conditions of dhimmitude today, including the Copts in Egypt, the Chaldeans and Assyrians in Iraq, and the Greek Orthodox and Melkites in Syria, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. These are the Christians at greatest risk from Islamism and jihadism.

3) Christians who have been subjugated for generations have, over time, “lost all sense of what it meant to experience a life of true liberty.” Thus they have developed a variety of survival strategies which, having been thoroughly internalized, now seem natural and – kowtowing to authority; accepting benefactions from dictators like Saddam Hussein in Iraq or the Assad dynasty in Syria, remaining silent in the face of atrocities committed against Christians by Islamists and other Muslims; blaming the current problems of Christians in the Middle East on that great bugbear, the State of Israel.

4) Christian communities in the Middle East are also under tremendous pressure because their numbers are shrinking while Muslim populations are growing. Emigration (to escape persecution or to seek prosperity) has played a considerable role here; so has contraception.

5) Both free Christian communities and dhimmi Christian communities suffer from a paucity of indigenous leadership. (Dr. Malik doesn’t say it, but I expect he means both political leadership and religious leadership.) This has created another comparative disadvantage for Christian communities in the Middle East. For their Muslim neighbors, having rejected various secular ideologies, have increasingly turned to more stringent (and thus more intolerant) forms of Islamic in recent decades. And they have done so at a time when a few Christian leaders, clerical or lay, have been defending Christians’ rights, much less proposing Christianity as an alternative to secular ideologies.

6) Western indifference to the fate of Arab and other Middle Eastern Christians has also contributed to their decline and their present peril. This blindness has also imperiled the West. Vivant Christian communities can be a check on Islamism and jihadism by promoting Islamic moderation and openness. In Malik’s own words:

> “Such moderation is sure to be strengthened when Muslims interact daily with confident fellow-native adherents to a creed that does not condone suicide bombers, respects women, is not out for religious domination, upholds the principle of religious pluralism, is compatible with liberal democracy, defends personal and group rights, emphasizes the centrality of education, and is not uncomfortable with many features of modern secular living. Whenever local Christians have felt relatively un molested, they have acted as catalysts for positive change and as conduits for some of the West’s finest and most enduring universal values, and this in turn has advanced Islamic tolerance and moderation.”

The defense of religious freedom for persecuted Christians in the Middle East is a moral obligation. It is also a strategic imperative. Middle East Christians who share a historical experience of freedom, or who can shake off the psychological shackles of dhimmitude, are a strategic asset, not the psychological liabilities of which, having been thoroughly internalized, now seem natural and inevitable.

**The Catholic Difference**

George Weigel

**Scripture Search**

**Gospel for April 24, 2011**

Matthew 28:1-10

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Easter Sunday, at dawn: the resurrection. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

**The First Day**

K O J E S U L O V E D

S D Y E C A L P Y K A I

T C L O T H S U A E B S

I M R I S E D E D E C

L A A I P N F E T W L I

L L E E P O H L S E I P

D F T H W T Y L R H E L

A E B A M S U O I T V E

R F S O I L K R F M E S

K E R M H I S H E A D A

H F O J S O S H E R A N

B N T N E W L K Y T A

On behalf of Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, I extend my gratitude for your contribution of $51,001.54 from the 2010 Catholic Relief Services Collection in your diocese. The collection supports six Catholic agencies whose programs help families suffering from war, famine, extreme poverty and natural disasters; victims of human trafficking; unaccompanied minors; and immigrants trying to reunite with family members.

Please convey to your priests and parishioners our heartfelt gratitude for your contribution of $51,001.54 from the 2010 Catholic Relief Services Collection in your diocese.

**Catholic Home Missions Appeal appreciated**

Please accept my deepest appreciation for your diocese’s contribution of $44,071.38 from your 2010 Catholic Home Missions Appeal. The generosity of your parishioners is needed greatly by our U.S. mission dioceses.

There are 87 home mission dioceses in the United States. These dioceses are unable to fund basic and essential pastoral works such as catechesis, seminary formation and lay leadership training or to provide aid to parishes struggling to keep their doors open. With your support, the Catholic Home Missions Appeal works to bridge the gap between need and available resources.

The 2011 Catholic Home Missions Appeal will be taken up in many dioceses the weekend of April 30-May 1. Hundreds of priests in small parishes across the country benefit directly from the appeal, as do the people they serve.

I am grateful for all you do to strengthen home mission dioceses and wish you a blessed remainder of the Lenten season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Kevin J. Farrell, D.D.
Bishop of Dallas
Chairman, Committee on National Collections

**Catholic Home Missions Agreement**

Gratitude expressed for CRS collection

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BISHOP LUERS HOST ‘RUN WITH THE KNIGHTS!’ 5K RUN/WALK

Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne will host a 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, May 7, in Foster Park, 3900 Old Mill Rd. The race begins at 9 a.m. at Pavilion No. 1. Registration will be at 8 a.m. The entry fee is $15 for those who pre-register before May 2. The entry fee is $20 per person after May 2. Runners and walkers are welcome. Registration forms are available to download from the Bishop Luers website, www.bishopluers.org. For more information contact Sarah Shank at (260) 456-1261 ext. 3039 or e-mail sshank@bishopluers.org.

LITTLE FLOWER CHILDREN’S FAITH PROGRAM TEACHES WAY OF CROSS

Paul and Maria Kil of Little Flower Parish in South Bend help daughters Angie and Natalie recite the second station — Jesus accepts His cross. During the Lenten season, students in the Children’s Faith Formation Program and their families illustrate and pray the Way of the Cross during Friday evening stations.

Lady Eagles start CYO season with soccer win

FORT WAYNE — The combined girls’ soccer team from St. John, Fort Wayne, and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel picked up right where they left off a year ago, opening their 2011 Catholic Youth League (CYO) season with a rematch against St. Charles. The two went head-to-head in the 2010 tournament championship when the Lady Eagles came out on top, 2-1. The reigning champs won at Foster Park by a narrow margin of 3-1 on Tuesday, April 12, over the Cardinals when they jumped out to an early 1-0 lead on a Colleen Cerajewski goal. Aubrey Feipel added another score for the Eagles before St. Charles answered back. Maddie Devlin scored in the second half and Maddie Strack contributed two assists in the win.

Coach Joe Strack explained, “It was a very evenly matched contest and could have gone either way.”

In his second season with the girls, Strack lists 20 seventh and eighth graders on his roster. “We graduated several solid travel players, but now others are stepping up and playing very well,” Strack said. His goals for this year’s group do not necessarily focus on seeking a third straight title, but rather, having a lot of fun.

“I want these girls to look back and remember they had a good time playing soccer,” Strack said.

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Salute the Class of 2011!

Send best wishes to your graduate in Today’s Catholic’s special graduation section to be in homes on May 22, 2011

Mary Smith

Congratulations Mary, on your hard work for the past 12 years... and best wishes at Harvard! Mom and Dad

For information or to place your ad, please call:

South Bend area: Jeanette Simon (574)234-0687 email: jssimon@diocesefwsb.org

Fort Wayne area: Tess Steffen (260) 399-1457 email: Sales@diocesefwsb.org

Prepare your own congratulatory ad... according to sizes shown. Preferred format is PDF. We cannot accept Microsoft Publisher Files. (On request, Today’s Catholic advertising department will prepare your ad at no additional charge.) All ads will appear in black and white.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & LITURGY

Saint Joseph Parish (South Bend, IN) seeks a full-time Director of Music & Liturgy to oversee, coordinate, and implement all aspects of St. Joseph Church & School’s liturgical life including music, ritual, environment, liturgical catechesis, and ministry formation.

This is done as a member of the Pastoral Team. Specific duties require attendance at three weekend Masses, including directing the choir at one of those Masses; attendance at weekly School Mass; maintaining regular office hours; conducting weekly choir rehearsals; working with School leadership to prepare and coordinate School Masses/liturgies and to train liturgical ministers, choir instrumentalists, etc.; chairing monthly parish Liturgy Commission meetings; preparing seasonal and special worship aids; and other duties as required by the Pastor. Qualified applicants must possess a bachelor’s degree. Degree in music performance and/or education in theology and liturgy preferred. The ability to read music and understand choral conducting and vocal techniques is required. The ability to play a keyboard instrument and computer skills with page layout and music composition software are desirable.

For a complete position description, please visit our website at www.stjoeparish.com

Qualified candidates should send a cover letter and résumé with references to:

St. Joseph Parish 226 N. Hill Street South Bend, IN 46617

Questions may be directed to St. Joseph Pastor, Fr. John DeRiso, CSC, at (574) 234-3134, ext. 20 or via email at jderiso@stjoeparish.com.
**MOVIE CAPSULES**

**NEW YORK (CNS) –** Following is a capsule review of a theatrical movie recently reviewed by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

**“Rio”** (fox)

Buoyant animated adventure with music about a Brazilian-born macaw (voice of Jesse Eisenberg) raised as a cossed pet in Minnesota. Informed by an eccentric Rio-based scientist (voice of Rodrigo Santoro) that her feathery friend is the last male of his species, his devoted owner (voice of Leslie Mann) reluctantly brings him back to his native land so that he can mate with his sole remaining female counterpart (voice of Anne Hathaway). But the potential lovebirds get caught up in the illegal avian trade. Lessons about environmental stewardship and love-inspired loyalty are decked out in kaleidoscopic colors and delivered in an overwhelmingly child-friendly tone in director Carlos Saldanha’s 3-D flight of fancy. A few nursery-level bathroom references, a fleeting double entendre. The Catholic News Service classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences.

**Director of Catechesis**

**The Diocese of Evansville seeks an energetic and inspiring Director of Catechesis.**

The Director of the Office of Catechesis is responsible for continuing the mission of Jesus Christ through catechesis and evangelization throughout the diocese. This includes supporting a vision that encourages parishes to provide quality catechetical programs for all parishioners in keeping with the latest church documents, norms and directives.

**Qualifications include, but are not limited to:**

- Fully participating and practicing Catholic...Advanced degree in theology, religious education or related field... Five years of successful experience in Parish Catechetical Ministry and an awareness of diocesan needs and objectives...Strong organizational, managerial and interpersonal skills that inspire confidence among Ordained, Religious, Catechetical Leaders and other diocesan groups.

A complete position description can be found in the Employment Opportunities tab on the diocese’s website www.evansville-diocese.org

Those interested should send a cover letter and resume to: ocsearch@evdio.org

The deadline for priority consideration is April 29, 2011.

**Director of Nursing**

Priests of Holy Cross offers an outstanding medical facility, Holy Cross House, to those religious men that have retired and are in need of continuous medical care. Holy Cross House is an unlicensed 60-room facility with an excellent reputation as both a nursing facility and a workplace. We currently seek qualified applicants to fill the full-time position of Director of Nursing.

In this position you will lead and direct a staff of more than 30 to ensure proper governance of nursing care. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following: the development of comprehensive care/service delivery plan, quality assurance programs, written policies/procedures, training/educational sessions; attending in budget preparation and monitoring; ensuring accurate, timely and complete medical documentation; making rounds with physicians and the scheduling of their visits as needed; maintaining confidentiality of all residents/staff; mentoring and developing all staff.

Qualified applicants will possess current RN certification in the state of Indiana, a B.S. degree in Nursing from an accredited program, and 3-5 years experience as nursing supervisor in a long-term care facility, hospital or related is required. Must have the ability to lead, maintain relationships, and coordinate services across a variety of lay/religious personnel. Bring your expertise and “Can Do” attitude to a community of men that will inspire and humble you.

In return for your efforts, we offer a personally rewarding environment considerate of work-life balance and an outstanding compensation and benefits package. Please mail your letter of interest, resume, and salary history to:

Priests of Holy Cross, Attn: Human Resources,
P.O. Box 774, Notre Dame, IN 46556

fax: (574) 631-5655 or email: phendri2@nd.edu

EOE
Hello Dolly!

Fort Wayne — Our Lady of Good Hope, 7125 St. Joe Rd., will have a workshop Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to noon for those who have lost children through miscarriage, stillbirth or other means. Activities include a keepsake craft, snacks and a fellowship. Call (260) 493-1330 to RSVP.

Fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus 553 will have a fish fry Friday, April 22, from 5-7:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 553 E. Washington St. Tickets are $9 for adults, $4 for children under 12 and children under 5 free.

Knights plan fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus 5531, 61535 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, April 22, from 5-7 p.m. Adults $8, children (5-12) $3. Chicken strips for $8 and shrimp for $8.50 will be available.

Rummage and bake sale

Fort Wayne — St. Joseph Hessen-Cassel will have a spring rummage and bake sale Friday, April 29, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, April 30, from 8 a.m. to noon. $3 sack sale on Saturday.

Night of Healing planned

South Bend — Father Christopher Crotty, CPM, will lead a Night of Healing Tuesday, May 3, at St. Anthony de Padua Church, 2320 E. Jefferson. The evening begins with Mass at 5:30 p.m., followed by a Novena to St. Anthony, confessions at 7 p.m., Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a talk by Father Crotty, laying on of hands, blessing with relic cross, and Eucharistic Benediction. For further information, call St. Anthony de Padua at (574) 282-3423.

Rosary Society rummage and bake sale

Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Church, 1515 Barthold St., will have a rummage and bake sale Thursday, May 5, and Friday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Mohr Hall.

Performing Arts present “Hello Dolly!”

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Performing Arts Department will present a spring musical, “Hello Dolly!” May 5-7 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are $10. Call (260) 456-1261 ext. 3114 for information.

Evening with Mary

Montroville — St. Rose Parish will have an Evening with Mary on Thursday, May 1, starting at 6:30 p.m. There will be 1/2 hour of congregational singing of Mary songs. At 7 p.m. there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Father David Mary Enno will give a talk on Fatima, followed by the Rosary and Benediction.

Harvest House to offer

Older American Day

Auburn — The Garrett-Auburn Harvest House will sponsor an Older American Day Wednesday, May 11, at Immaculate Conception Parish beginning with a rosary at 10:40 a.m., Mass at 11 a.m. with Father Derrick Sneyd, followed by dinner and entertainment. Reservations are $9 and needed by May 2 to Joan Treesh-Reezer. Call (260) 868-0104 for information.

Live chalk drawing at Queen of Angels

Fort Wayne — A live chalk drawing by Mary Hilger on a dramatization of the crucifixion will be Good Friday, April 22, at 6 p.m. at Queen of Angels Parish. Stations of the Cross will follow at 7 p.m.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Course offered

South Bend — Christ the King Parish will host a level II formation course in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd on June 22-25 and 27-29, for adults interested in learning a Montessori-based approach to faith formation for the six- to nine-year-old child. Contact Joanie Rynkewicz at (574) 485-7462 or rynmnzg@sbglobal.net for registration and information.

Dyngus Day Party

Granger — The Knights of Columbus Council 4263 will have a Dyngus Day Party Monday, April 25, from 5-10 p.m. at St. Pius X Church, 52553 Fir Rd. Music by Will Smaka Polka Band. Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for those 2-17 and under 2 free. Admission includes dinner and entertainment. Food and beer will be available for purchase.

Day of Reflection

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, April 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “The Book of Ruth.” Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is $15 and includes lunch. Register by April 22 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Spring salad luncheon planned

Elkhart — St. Thomas the Apostle Church will have a spring salad luncheon on Wednesday, May 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the school gym at 1331 N. Main St. Handicapped accessible. Serving hot chicken salad, many other salads, bread, desserts and beverages. Donation is $6 at the door or by calling (574) 596-1673.

Open house announced

Mishawaka — St. Monica School will have an open house Saturday, May 21, from 2-5 p.m. in parish activity center concluding with Mass at 5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Fish, Chicken, Tenderloin Dinner

Huntington — St. Mary Parish, 903 N. Jefferson St., will have a fish, chicken and tenderloin dinner, by Dan’s Fish Fry, on Saturday, April 30, from 5-8 p.m. in the school gym. Carry-outs available, homemade desserts, raffle and bake sale also featured. Tickets for adults are $8, children 6-12 are $5 and children five and under free.

Catholic Networking Group

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Networking Group will meet Friday, May 6, at the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel for 7 a.m. Mass, followed by networking and speaker Mike Ludrigan. Cost is $2. Call (260) 515-9472 for information.
CHRISM
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Orders, and bringing healing through the Anointing of the Sick,” Bishop Rhoades said.

During the Blessing of the Oils, which followed the homily, Bishop Rhoades poured the balsam into the oil and mixed the Chrim. He breathed over the Sacred Chrism oil and mixed the Chrism. He then with his hands extended, he prayed the prayer of consecration.

Bishop Rhoades spoke of anointing in the homily: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me;’ Isaiah wrote concerning the awaited Messiah. In the synagogue of Nazareth, Jesus read these words of Isaiah and applied them to Himself: ‘Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.’ Jesus presented Himself as filled with the Spirit and consecrated to bring glad tidings to the poor.”

The bishop continued, “He is the Messiah, the Christ,” which means ‘Anointed One.’ He is ‘the Alpha and the Omega,” as heard in the Book of Revelation, “the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth.” And from that same reading, “He is the one who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests and rulers of the kings of the earth.”

Bishop Rhoades spoke of how all gathered for the Chrism Mass, as members of God’s holy Church, “have received from Jesus, the great High Priest, the dignity and mission of sharing in His priesthood. The promise of God to Israel: ‘You shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation’ has been fulfilled, as the book of Revelation teaches us.” Bishop Rhoades said. “The universal priesthood of all the baptized is a real share in the priesthood of Christ by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Through the common priesthood, we are able to offer our lives in union with Christ as spiritual sacrifices to the Father, capable of living lives of faith, hope and charity, capable of living by the Spirit as children of the light.”

The evening also had a special focus on the ordained priesthood. The presbytery assembles to concelebrate with the bishop and manifest their communion with him. During the Mass, the priests renew their commitment to priestly service, dedicating themselves anew to Christ and to service of the local Church, particularly through the sacred Liturgy.

“In the sacrament of Holy Orders, Jesus has sent His Spirit on certain men to serve the common priesthood of all the faithful, to represent Him as the Good Shepherd leading His flock, acting in His Person as Head of the Church,” Bishop Rhoades said in the homily. “The gift of the ordained priesthood is a gift of Christ to His Church, so that all the members of His Body, through the ministry of His ordained priests, might be nourished by the Word of God and the sacraments, led to worship God in spirit and in truth, and guided along the way of holiness.”

Bishop Rhoades noted that the call to holiness applies for priests, religious and laity. He spoke of the example of Pope John Paul II, who will be beatified May 1: “What an example he is for us of what it means to be a faithful and holy priest,” Bishop Rhoades said.

“And he taught us so much about the priesthood in his writings and talks. He wrote the following: ‘Christians expect to find in the priest not only a man who welcomes them, who listens to them gladly and shares a real interest in them, but also and above all a man who will help them to turn to God, to rise up to Him.’” Bishop Rhoades offered the formula for the priests’ prayer life. “It’s good to remember the basics of a healthy priestly spirituality — prayerful meditation with the Sacred Scriptures (lectio divina), Adoration of the most Holy Eucharist, devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Liturgy of the Hours,” Bishop Rhoades said. “At ordination, we assumed the obligation to celebrate faithfully the Liturgy of the Hours for the people of God and indeed for the whole world. This is a blessed obligation. When we pray the (Liturgy of the) Hours, we can personally lift up to the Lord all the people who have asked us to pray for them or whom we have promised to pray for. This is not something secondary or incidental to our ministry. It’s part of our priestly identity — interceding for our people.”

PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH
A Diocesan Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. and Emmitsburg
September 8-11, 2011
Visit the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. and the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and the National Shrine of the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in Emmitsburg, Md.

Rates start at just $425 per person for quadruple occupancy.
For more information or to register visit: dioceseofwsb.org
or call (260) 434-6660 or e-mail jkrudop@travlead.com

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The Hearth at Sycamore Village offers something for everyone. Our residents have the independence they want along with comfort in knowing that if needed, personal care and support services can be tailored to their individual needs.

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- Apartments can be individualized with your own belongings, furniture available if needed
- Our Keepsake Village offers those with Alzheimer’s and other dementias the opportunity to experience the quality of care they need with the dignity they deserve.

For more information please call
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(260) 208-4036
Fort Wayne, IN

The Hearth at Juday Creek
(574) 307-5241
Granger, IN

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