



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Spiritual journey marked path to beatification

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As Church officials keep emphasizing, Pope John Paul II is being beatified May 1 not for his performance as pope, but for how he lived the Christian virtues of faith, hope and love.

When the Vatican's sainthood experts interviewed witnesses about the Polish pontiff, the focus of their investigation was on holiness, not achievement.

What emerged was a spiritual portrait of Pope John Paul, one that reflected lifelong practices of prayer and devotion, a strong sense of his priestly vocation and a reliance on faith to guide his most important decisions.

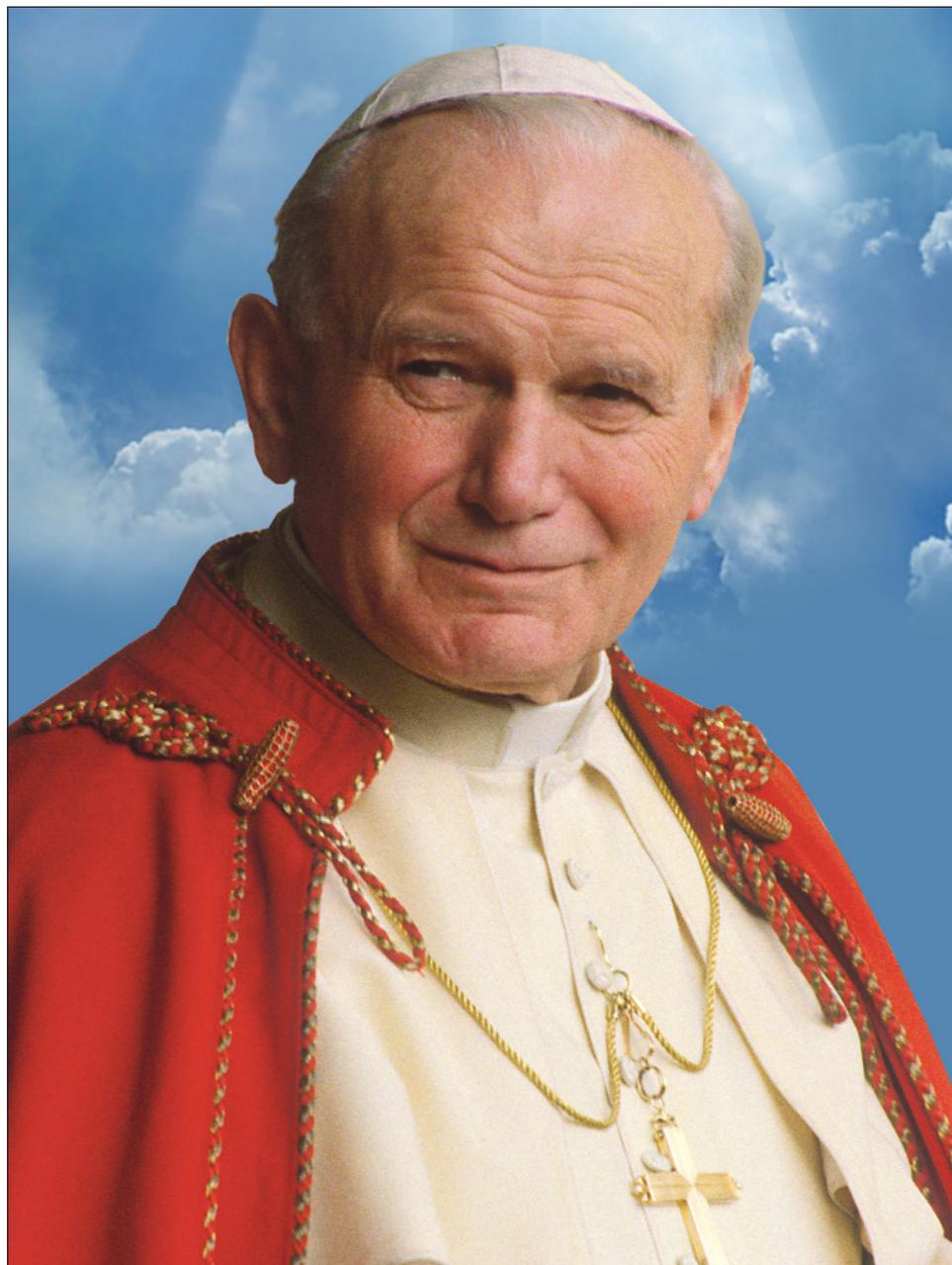
More than leadership or managerial skills, these spiritual qualities were the key to his accomplishments — both before and after his election as pope in 1978.

From an early age, Karol Wojtyla faced hardships that tested his trust in God. His mother died when he was 9, and three years later he lost his only brother to scarlet fever. His father died when he was 20, and friends said Wojtyla knelt for 12 hours in prayer and sorrow at his bedside.

His calling to the priesthood was not something that happened overnight. It took shape during the dramatic years of World War II, after a wide variety of other experiences: Among other things, he had acted with a theater group, split stone at a quarry, written poetry and supported a network that smuggled Jews to safety.

Wojtyla's friends of that era always remembered his contemplative side and his habit of intense prayer. A daily Mass-goer, he cultivated a special devotion to Mary. In 1938, he began working toward a philosophy degree at the University of Krakow. A year later, the

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CNS PHOTO/GRZEGORZ GALAZKA, COURTESY OF POSTULATION OF POPE JOHN PAUL II

Pope John Paul II is pictured in an image released March 25 by the postulation of his sainthood cause. The Polish pope, who died April 2, 2005, will be beatified May 1.

Bishop Rhoades celebrates Triduum, Easter Celebrates Easter Sunday Mass at St. Joseph, Bluffton

BY TIM JOHNSON

BLUFFTON — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Easter Sunday Mass with the multitude assembled at St. Joseph Church in Bluffton. Bishop Rhoades has made it a tradition to celebrate Easter at a parish.

The days of the Easter Triduum kept Bishop Rhoades busy at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne and St. Matthew Co-Cathedral in South Bend.

At St. Joseph, Bluffton, Bishop Rhoades opened his homily with the words, "We celebrate the crowning truth of our faith. The Church sings once again 'Alleluia,' a Hebrew word meaning 'God be praised.' We praise God with great joy today as we celebrate the Resurrection of His



MARK WEBER

Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. We celebrate today the greatest event in the history of salvation, and indeed, in the history of humanity. Easter is the Church's greatest feast."

Bishop Rhoades spoke of the Resurrection of Jesus in historical terms and said, "But besides being a real, historical event, the Resurrection transcends and stands above history."

EASTER, PAGE 12

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades' first visit to St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton, was a special one, occurring on Easter Sunday. With acolyte Dan Geimer in attendance, Bishop Rhoades blessed the congregation at Mass which he concelebrated with pastor Father Francis Chukwuma.

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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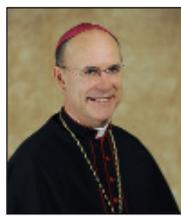
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Memories of Pope John Paul II



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

I have been asked to write about my memories of the soon-to-be beatified Pope John Paul II for this week's issue of Today's Catholic. Reflecting on my memories of this great Pope has been an occasion of grace for me and fills me with thanksgiving for this incredible man, a faithful and courageous disciple of Jesus Christ, a holy priest and bishop, an amazing Pope.

I remember watching his election (October 16, 1978) on television while a seminarian at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia. The first election of a non-Italian Pope in over 400 years surprised the world. I was 21 years old. Little could I have imagined the effect this new Pope would have on my life as a seminarian, as a priest, and as a bishop. I was immediately taken by his energy and youth, his charisma and strength. I knew that he was just what the Church needed at that time in history. He brought hope for a new springtime of the Church.

The next year, I was sent to Rome for my theological studies. From 1979 to 1983 as a seminarian and from 1985 to 1988 as a priest, I lived and studied in Rome. Those years were a grace-filled time of my life, most especially because of the one I came to admire and to love as truly a "Holy Father." I don't know how many of his Masses and audiences I attended, probably over a hundred. I felt like a disciple at the feet of his master, listening and soaking in his homilies and speeches. I think I learned more from Pope John Paul II than I did from my university theology classes. His homilies, encyclicals, apostolic letters and exhortations fill more than a bookshelf in my residence. I turn to his writings often for wisdom and knowledge.

But Pope John Paul II is not being beatified for his intellectual gifts and accomplishments. Nor is he being beatified for his amazing pontificate: his apostolic visits around the world, his role in the downfall of Communism in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, his influence in world affairs, his charismatic leadership, or for any number of accomplishments during his 27-year pontificate. He is being canonized because of his holiness and heroic virtue, his saintly life and death. The papal biographer, George Weigel, said it well when asked "what is the essence of John Paul's holiness?" He replied: "Radical discipleship. Everything Karol Wojtyla did — as priest, poet, philosopher, playwright, bishop, father of Vatican II, Pope and world statesman — was an expression of his discipleship."

I had the honor and privilege of personally meeting Pope John Paul II six times during my years in Rome. The first time was on February 22, 1980, the feast of the Chair of Peter (also George Washington's birthday), when Pope John Paul visited our seminary, the North American College. It was a rather brief encounter, but one that touched me deeply. He greeted every one of the seminarians personally after he celebrated Mass for us



PROVIDED BY BISHOP KEVIN RHOADES

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, right, while studying in Rome, is greeted by Pope John Paul II.

in our chapel and then had dinner with us in our refectory.

A few months later, I had the privilege of serving Mass for the Holy Father in Saint Peter's Square on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. I will never forget the time three other seminarians and I shared with Pope John Paul in the sacristy before the Mass. The Holy Father was very interested in learning about our vocations, our families and backgrounds. Since it was the feast of Corpus Christi, the Holy Father spoke to us about the gift of the Holy Eucharist and shared with us his personal experience of celebrating this feast in Poland with beautiful Corpus Christi processions through the streets. I thought at the time that he seemed a little homesick. And then he spoke to us as a spiritual father and advised us to always keep the Eucharist at the center of our lives as seminarians and later as priests. I felt he was giving a little homily or spiritual direction just for us before we went out into the square and the thousands of people gathered there for the Mass. Before vesting, the Holy Father knelt down to pray. This had a profound impact on me. It was evident that he was in deep prayer. It went on for several minutes. In fact, one of the papal M.C.'s had to go over to ask him to put on the vestments since we would have been late for the start of Mass if Pope John Paul continued in his personal prayer. Later, I would also experience the Holy Father at prayer. I am convinced that he was a mystic, profoundly connected to God when he prayed. After that very personal time with the Holy Father, we processed into Saint Peter's Square for Mass. At the end of Mass, we processed with the Holy Father carrying the Eucharist around Saint Peter's Square for the Corpus Christi procession.

After the Mass, we again spoke with the Holy Father. He said, in our presence, to the M.C.'s that next year he wanted to have the Corpus Christi procession through the streets of Rome. I remembered his words to us about Corpus Christi processions in Poland. He wanted to bring Jesus in the Holy Eucharist into the world, not just around Saint Peter's Square! I remembered this and wondered whether the Holy Father's wishes would be followed the next year. Sadly, it was not to be. In May 1981, Pope John Paul was shot and nearly killed in Saint Peter's Square. He was in the hospital for Corpus Christi 1981.

I was ordained a deacon in April, 1982. As Providence would have it, I was asked to serve as a deacon for Pope John Paul at the Mass for Corpus Christi that June. This time it was celebrated at the Basilica of Saint John Lateran. And yes, the Holy Father's wishes were granted. At the end of Mass, we processed with the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of Rome, from the Basilica of Saint John Lateran to the Basilica of Saint Mary Major. Before the Mass and procession, I was again with the Holy Father in the sacristy. This time there was a lot of commotion. The police and security guards were trying to convince Pope John Paul that they should surround him during the procession, that it was a dangerous route, with all the buildings on either side of the street where snipers could easily be hiding. It was just a year earlier that he had been nearly assassinated. But the Holy Father stood his ground and said no. He told them that why have a Eucharistic procession with police all around him, blocking the people's view of the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament. The Holy Father prevailed. The only ones by his side during the procession were us deacons who carried the canopy over him and the Blessed Sacrament. I could not help thinking that we might want bullet-proof vests under our dalmatics! I cannot describe the joy and excitement I felt walking next to the Holy Father carrying the Eucharist on that route through the streets of Rome. And nearby some cardinals also walked in the procession, the one closest to us none other than Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger!

I realize this column is already getting long so I will have to condense my other experiences. I served Mass for Pope John Paul on December 31, 1980, and I served as a deacon for him on December 31, 1982. Both of these Masses were in the Church of the Gesu, the main church of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) in Rome. Saint Ignatius Loyola is buried in a beautiful side altar in that church. Those Masses on New Year's Eve were Masses of thanksgiving for the blessings of the past year. At the end of Mass, all sang the "Te Deum" in thanksgiving. On both occasions, I was blessed to have some minutes with the Holy Father before and after Mass.

My last one-on-one experience with Pope John Paul was a week before returning home for my priesthood ordination in 1983. I had brought my new paten and chalice, gifts from my parents, to the Vatican and asked if the Pope would bless them and be the first to use them before I left for home. It just so happened that the Holy Father was celebrating a special Holy Year Mass for the Sick in Saint Peter's Square that week. Pope John Paul used my paten and chalice for the Mass. I distributed Holy Communion at the Mass and, afterwards, thanked the Holy Father and received his blessing before coming home. Though I would return to Rome for further studies two years later, I did not know that at the time.

Fast forward! I was one of the last bishops appointed by Pope John Paul II before he died. When I returned to Rome as a new bishop in 2005, at an annual conference for all the new bishops of the world, we concelebrated Mass in Saint Peter's Basilica. At the end of Mass, we processed down into the crypt by the tomb of Pope John Paul II. I thought of his advice to me 25 years earlier, when I was a server at his Corpus Christi Mass. I thought of his holy example. Needless to say, tears of gratitude flowed down my face. Blessed John Paul II, thank you and pray for us.

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May 1, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Blessed John Paul II once reflected that the motherly love of the Church consists in being close to people and all that happens to them, and bringing their human needs within the radius of Christ's saving power. This is what Mary, our Blessed Mother, did at the wedding at Cana, and what the Church continues to do through the work of organizations like Catholic Charities. How fitting it is, then, that our diocese continues its tradition of taking up a special collection for Catholic Charities on Mother's Day weekend.

The money received in this collection will be used to support the many services of Catholic Charities right here in our own diocese. From providing life-affirming pregnancy counseling, foster care, and adoption assistance, to maintaining food pantries, to providing immigration services and refugee resettlement, to offering older adults opportunities to continue to grow and learn and serve, the work of Catholic Charities is a concrete manifestation of the motherly love of the Church for all those in need in our diocese.

In the name of Mary, our Blessed Mother, who shows us that a life lived in service to God is at the same time a life lived in service to others, I ask you to be as generous as you can with this collection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Kevin C. Rhoades

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne – South Bend



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, May 1, 12:15 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at St. Pius X Church, Granger
- Sunday, May 1, 3:30 p.m. — Divine Mercy Sunday Mass at Holy Family Church, South Bend
- Tuesday, May 3, 5 p.m. — Mass at St. Joseph Chapel, Holy Cross Village, Notre Dame
- Wednesday, May 4, 12:30 p.m. — Luncheon Meeting of Priests' Retirement Board
- Wednesday, May 4, 5:30 p.m. — Meeting of Diocesan Review Board, Warsaw
- Thursday, May 5, 12 noon — Service for National Day of Prayer, Battell Center, Mishawaka
- Thursday, May 5, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at St. Mary of the Annunciation Church, Bristol
- Friday, May 6, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass at St. Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 7, 2 p.m. — Commencement address for the University of Saint Francis, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne

At Easter, pope prays for peace, freedom in world trouble spots

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In an Easter blessing to the world, Pope Benedict XVI prayed that Christ's resurrection may open paths of "freedom, justice and peace" for troubled populations of the Middle East and Africa.

The pope urged an end to violence in Libya and the Ivory Coast, assistance to refugees flooding out of North Africa and consolation for the victims of the Japanese earthquake. He prayed for those persecuted for their Christian faith, and praised their courage.

He spoke from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica April 24 in his blessing "urbi et orbi" (to the city of Rome and to the world), after celebrating Mass for nearly 100,000 people in St. Peter's Square. Broadcast to many countries and live-streamed on the Internet, it was the last major event on the 84-year-old pontiff's heavy Holy Week schedule.

Pope Benedict said the resurrection of Christ must not be viewed as "the fruit of speculation or mystical experience." It happened in a precise moment and marked history forever, giving human events new strength, new hope and new meaning, he said.

"The entire cosmos is rejoicing today," and every person open to God has reason to be glad, he said.

But the joy of Easter contrasts with "the cries and laments that arise from so many painful situations: deprivation, hunger, disease, war, violence," the pope said.

He prayed that "the splendor of Christ reach the peoples of the Middle East, so that the light of

peace and of human dignity may overcome the darkness of division, hate and violence." In Libya, he said, diplomacy and non-violence need to take the place of armed fighting, and the suffering must have access to humanitarian aid.

The pope alluded to the civil unrest that has spread throughout northern Africa and the Middle East, encouraging all citizens there, especially young people, to work for a society where poverty is defeated and where "every political choice is inspired by respect for the human person." The refugees who have fled the conflicts deserve a generous response by other populations, he added.

The pope said the many forms of suffering in "this wounded world" make the Easter message all the more meaningful.

"In our hearts there is joy and sorrow, on our faces there are smiles and tears. Such is our earthly reality. But Christ is risen, He is alive and He walks with us," he said. He then offered Easter greetings in 65 languages, including Chinese, Hindi and Swahili.

The pope arrived at the Easter liturgy in an open jeep, riding through a crowd that overflowed the square into adjacent streets.



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Benedict XVI delivers his Easter blessing "urbi et orbi" (to the city of Rome and to the world) from the central loggia of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican April 24.

Many of the pilgrims were Poles who had already arrived in Rome for the May 1 beatification of Pope John Paul II.

As clouds gave way to sunshine, the pope celebrated Mass on an altar surrounded by flower gardens of yellow narcissus, cream-colored roses and blue delphiniums — all donated and shipped to Rome by Dutch florists.

After the Gospel reading, an Orthodox choir sang a hymn of psalms of the Byzantine liturgical tradition, marking the fact that the Catholic and Orthodox celebration of Easter fell on the same day this year.

In a lengthy Easter Vigil Mass in St. Peter's Basilica the night before, the pope baptized and confirmed six adults from Albania, China, Peru, Russia, Singapore and Switzerland. He poured holy water from a golden shell over each catechumen's head, and later accepted offertory gifts from the

newly baptized.

In a sermon, he analyzed why the Christian's sense of environmental responsibility is directly connected to the core beliefs of the faith.

"We relate to God the creator, and so we have a responsibility for creation," he said. "Only because God created everything can He give us life and

direct our lives."

The trajectory of salvation history, which reaches a summit with Christ's resurrection, reaches all the way back to creation, he said. For the Christian, he said, the account of creation is not about the scientific process involved, but something deeper: it says that the source of everything is not pure chance, but "creative reason, love and freedom."

The pope rejected an evolutionary account that excludes a divine purpose.

"It is not the case that the expanding universe, at a late stage, in some tiny corner of the cosmos, there evolved randomly some species of living being capable of reasoning and of trying to find rationality within creation, or to bring rationality into it," he said.

"If man were merely a random product of evolution in some place on the margins of the universe, then life would make no sense," he

said. "Reason is there at the beginning: creative, divine reason."

The pope said Easter was a good time for Christians to remind themselves that the faith embraces everything about the human being, from his origins to his eternal destiny.

"Life in the Church's faith involves more than a set of feelings and sentiments and perhaps moral obligations," he said.

On Good Friday, the pope presided over a nighttime Way of the Cross liturgy at Rome's Colosseum, where tradition holds that early Christians were put to death. Kneeling on a platform on a hillside facing the ancient amphitheater, the pope opened the ceremony with a prayer that drew attention to the constant struggle between good and evil in human history.

He appeared to refer to the priestly sex abuse scandal when he spoke of the "hour of darkness" when "an emptiness of meaning and values nullifies the work of education, and the disorder of the heart disfigures the innocence of the small and the weak."

The meditations for the 14 Stations of the Cross were written this year by an Augustinian nun, Mother Maria Rita Piccione. The texts encouraged Christians to develop the ability to listen to the subtle voice of God that speaks through the human conscience, and not to ignore the needs of the poor and suffering in their midst.

In a closing talk, the pope said that reliving the drama of Christ's crucifixion demonstrates that the cross is not a triumphal symbol but rather the sign of "God's immense love" for humanity.

As bills advance, Obama calls for federal immigration changes

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With more legislatures taking public frustration over immigration-related problems into state-level hands, President Barack Obama renewed his commitment to putting his political weight and the resources of his administration behind a federal approach to reform.

But as he told participants in a White House meeting April 19, the responsibility for legislation to fix the multilayered immigration mess lies with Congress.

Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, one of dozens of religious, political, business and civic leaders who attended the White House meeting, told Catholic News Service April 21 that he came away from the session more optimistic about the possibility of getting a comprehensive immigration reform bill passed than he was when he arrived.

But he acknowledged that after years of working with similar diverse coalitions on the subject, "I've been there too many times to get my hopes up."

Comprehensive immigration reform proposals generally include some enforcement provisions; expanded ways for low-skilled workers to come legally into the United States; changes in family-based immigration procedures; and a path to legalization for the estimated 11 million people who are in the United States illegally.

As the group gathered in Washington, Georgia's legislative staff was putting the finishing touches on a bill passed April 14 that would broaden the powers of local police to enforce immigration laws and require businesses to use an online verification system when hiring. The bills also would create criminal penalties for assisting people who are in the country illegally.

Gov. Nathan Deal said he would sign the bill when it reached



Bishop Dale J. Melczek of Gary speaks to hundreds of residents at a rally in East Chicago, April 1. The demonstrators were voicing opposition to legislative proposals intent on curbing illegal immigration. The Indiana House April 21 passed a bill requiring employers to verify workers' immigration status and mandating steps to ensure undocumented immigrants are not receiving welfare benefits.

CNS PHOTO/MICHAEL MCARDLE, NORTHWEST INDIANA CATHOLIC

his desk, in spite of the ongoing protests against the legislation, including by the state's Catholic bishops.

In a March statement as the legislation was being considered, the bishops said that while nations have the right to control their borders, "the human dignity and human rights of undocumented immigrants should be respected at all times, whether they are at work, at home, at school or participating in community life."

Georgia legislators said their bill was written to avoid some of the judicial challenges that put Arizona's similar law, passed a year ago, into legal limbo.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals April 11 upheld a stay on implementation of the most contentious enforcement provisions of S.B. 1070, saying, "We are not persuaded that Arizona has the inherent authority to enforce the 'civil' provisions of federal immigration law." Yet to be decided by the appeals court is whether the Arizona law itself is constitutional.

The Indiana House April 21 passed a bill requiring employers to verify workers' immigration status and mandates steps to ensure undocumented immigrants are not receiving welfare benefits.

The House version eliminated a provision from the Senate version

of the bill that would require police officers to investigate people's immigration status. Bishop Dale J. Melczek of Gary was among protesters who marched in early April from Hammond to East Chicago to express their opposition to the legislation.

Similar legislation also was pending in Florida, where neither House nor Senate versions had made it to a vote by the full body as of April 22.

Dozens of other states have taken up similar bills, though most have ended up going nowhere.

A White House statement about the April 19 meeting said "the president made it clear that while

his administration continues to improve our legal immigration system, secure our borders, and enhance our immigration enforcement so that it is more effectively and sensibly focusing on criminals, the only way to fix what's broken about our immigration system is through legislative action in Congress."

Obama asked participants to "get the word out, to galvanize support" among their constituencies, said Bishop Wester. He said he attended the meeting at the request of Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, who chairs the U.S. bishops' migration committee but was unable to attend because of Holy Week obligations in California.

Among those at the session were the secretaries of the U.S. departments of Labor, Interior and Homeland Security — Hilda Solis, Ken Salazar and Janet Napolitano, respectively; Attorney General Eric Holder, and White House domestic and economic policy advisers.

Others included the president of the National Association of Evangelicals; New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg of New York and Julian Castro of San Antonio; current and former police chiefs or commissioners of Los Angeles, New York and Philadelphia; former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger; several former Cabinet members; and representatives of the AFL-CIO, Business Roundtable and other organizations.

Bishop Wester said one theme of the discussion was the need "to reframe the conversation," to eliminate the perception that fixing immigration problems is an either/or choice between enforcement or "being a bleeding heart."

"Those are not the only valid options," Bishop Wester said. "There could be enforcement and compassionate protections for vulnerable people."

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School choice and pro-life legislation headed for homestretch

INDIANAPOLIS — As the April 29 adjournment deadline approaches for the Indiana General Assembly to pass a budget and complete all other legislative business, the Indiana Catholic Conference priority legislation heads for the homestretch.

School choice and pro-life legislation topped this year's list as priorities for the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) and both are likely to become law in 2011.

School choice is one step closer to reality as HB 1003, the school scholarships bill, passed the Senate 28-22.

The bill would award families that qualify for free and reduced lunches at school to get up to 90 percent of tuition cost to attend a private school of the parent's choice. Each child in a qualifying family would be eligible for up to \$4,500 in school scholarship money to use at the private school of the family's choice. Families between 100 and 150 percent of the free and reduced lunch income would also be eligi-

ble for a 50 percent scholarship. Only students who were previously enrolled in a public school would be eligible for a scholarship.

The bill was amended on second reading in the Senate to provide a benefit for current private school parents. Parents of students in private or home schools with unreimbursed expenses can deduct \$1,000 per student from their adjusted gross income in computing state income tax.

"While the income tax reduction is modest, only \$34 per student, we wanted to put in this provision to recognize and support the efforts that parents have made a choice to send their children to a school that best fits their needs," said Rep. Bob Behning, (R-Indianapolis), author of the bill.

"The unreimbursed expenses could certainly include tuition, which in most cases, would be at least \$1,000," said Behning. The provision recognizes that in the scholarship program current stu-

dents are not permitted to participate and yet these families deserve support also.

Another important provision of the bill increases the tax cap for the scholarship tax credit program. The provision allows a greater number of scholarships for students entering kindergarten who under the current bill are excluded. Once awarded a tax credit scholarship, the student is eligible for the voucher the following school year.

Since the Senate amended the bill, the author has the option of agreeing with the Senate amendments or disagreeing on the amendments. Behning said he plans to file a motion for a concurrence. He said that the House Republicans have a policy that all members of the caucus must agree with the Senate amendments before the author can concur. "I think our caucus will agree to the Senate changes," said Behning. "We are going to have to make a few tweaks to the bill to make sure it does what it is

intended to do, but the overall changes were in line with the goals we are trying to achieve here." Behning said he is fairly confident he has the votes for the bill to pass.

A pro-life measure, HB 1210, aimed at reducing abortion and defunding Planned Parenthood passed the Senate. 35-13. "It is a major victory for the pro-life community because it accomplishes several goals," said Glenn Tebbe, Indiana Catholic Conference executive director. "First, it strengthens the informed consent law in Indiana," said Tebbe. Prior to an abortion, information on abortion must be given in writing as well as orally to the woman. This includes the fact that life begins at conception and that there are options to abortion and support for women who carry the baby to birth. It also requires the woman to refuse to see the ultrasound prior to the abortion. "Secondly, the bill will prohibit abortion after 20 weeks and ban

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

an Indiana health insurance exchange established under the federal healthcare act from including elective abortion coverage," said Tebbe.

"Thirdly, the bill includes a prohibition for Indiana to contract with an organization that conducts abortions," said Tebbe.

House Bill 1210 now returns to the House for review of the changes made in the original bill. "The House is expected to vote to concur," said Tebbe. "We are hopeful that this significant pro-life bill will clear this final hurdle and pass this year."



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Pope names Louisville vicar general to succeed Bishop Gettelfinger of Evansville

WASHINGTON—Pope Benedict XVI has named Father Charles C. Thompson, 50, vicar general of the Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky, and pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Louisville, to succeed Bishop Gerald A. Gettelfinger, 75, of Evansville, and accepted Bishop Gettelfinger's resignation from the pastoral governance of the diocese. The appointment and resignation acceptance were publicized in Washington, April 26, by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Charles C. Thompson was born April 11, 1961, in Louisville. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in accounting from Bellarmine College, a master of divinity degree from St. Meinrad School of Theology, and a Licentiate in Canon Law from St. Paul University in Ottawa. He was ordained a priest for the Louisville Archdiocese in 1987. Assignments after ordination included associate pastor, St. Joseph Pro-Cathedral, Bardstown, Ky., and chaplain of Bethlehem High School, Bardstown, 1987-1990; part-time associate pastor, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Louisville, 1992-1993; metropolitan judicial vicar and director of tribunals, 1993-1998; administrator, St. Peter Claver Parish, Louisville, 1994-1996; chaplain, Presentation Academy, Louisville, 1995-1997; pastor, St. Augustine Parish, Lebanon, Ky., 1996-2002; defender of the bond and judge of the diocesan tribunal, 1998-2008; pastor, Holy Trinity Parish, 2002-present and vicar general, 2008-present. Bishop Gettelfinger was born in Ramsey, Ind., on Oct. 20, 1935. He was ordained a priest in 1961 for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. In 1989, he was appointed bishop of Evansville. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from St. Meinrad College and a master of science degree in education from Butler University. The Evansville Diocese includes 5,010 square miles, with 496,793 people, of which 17 percent, or 85,079, of them are Catholic.

Pro-life veteran sees 'mood change' in US on abortion

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Joseph Scheidler, regarded by many as the "godfather of the pro-life movement," sees the mood shifting in the United States on the abortion issue and predicts pro-lifers eventually "will prevail." He said: "There is a mood change in the country. A lot of our legislators are actually getting backbone and they are beginning to stand up for the rights for the unborn." The president and founder of the Chicago-based Pro-Life Action League, Scheidler made the comments in a recent telephone interview with Catholic

NEWS BRIEFS

RISEN CHRIST STATUE CARRIED EASTER SUNDAY IN MALTA



CNS PHOTO/DARRIN ZAMMIT LUPI, REUTERS

A statue of the Risen Christ is carried through the town of Cospicua during an Easter Sunday procession on the island nation of Malta April 24.

News Service. In Chicago in early April, more than 400 people paid tribute to him at an evening banquet organized by Citizens for a Pro-Life Society. Scheidler, along with his wife, Ann, and their son, Eric, listened to several speakers tell stories, share humorous anecdotes and offer words of praise for his decades of pro-life activism. "The polls now show that the majority of people call themselves pro-life. There has been a lot of media exposure with Planned Parenthood and it has exposed a lot on abortion. It's becoming more and more of a negative thing than it was in 1973," Scheidler told CNS, referring to the year of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision. The recent focus on the Planned Parenthood Federation of America has occurred as a result of the budget debates on Capitol Hill and demands from pro-life groups that the organization no longer receive federal funding. A resolution to amend federal appropriations bills for the current fiscal year to exclude any funding for Planned Parenthood or its affiliates passed in the House April 14 but failed in the Senate later that day.

Appeals court panel throws out challenge to National Day of Prayer

WASHINGTON (CNS) — When May 5 rolls around, activities associated with the National Day of Prayer will go on largely unfettered, thanks to an April 14 decision by a three-judge panel of the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The court ruled that the Freedom From Religion Foundation did not have standing to challenge President Barack Obama's right to proclaim the National Day of Prayer because its plaintiffs could not show any harm done to them. The foundation filed suit in 2008, claiming the day violated church-state separation. A U.S. District Court judge ruled in 2010 the day was unconstitutional. The Obama administration appealed the ruling, arguing the day recognizes the role of religion in the United States. The National Day of Prayer has been around since Congress passed a bill in 1952 requiring the president to select a day each year. A 1988 bill fixed the first Thursday of May as the date. Catholic participation in the day is a sidelight — the National Day of Prayer Committee is a nonprofit Christian evangelical organization — but the degree of liberty enjoyed by one religious group will affect the degree of liberty all other groups will have. The suit — which foundation copresident Annie Laurie Gaylor said will be appealed to the full circuit court, but only on the "standing" issue, not the case's merits — is evidence that the quest for religious liberty, while fought more publicly on the international stage, has a home front as well. While religious liberty is not absolute — worshippers, for example, can't justify violating parking regulations just because those parking "spaces" are close to their church — tests continue to pop up from time to time to determine just how much religious

freedom Americans have.

In TV appearance, pope answers questions about faith, suffering, war

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In an unprecedented TV appearance, Pope Benedict XVI answered questions posed by Christians and non-Christians about global conflicts, interreligious relations and human suffering. One of the most moving questions came from a 7-year-old Japanese girl who lost friends in the recent earthquake and tsunami and who asked: "Why do I have to be so afraid? Why do children have to be so sad? I'm asking the pope, who speaks with God, to explain it to me." In his response, pre-recorded and broadcast on Italian state television Good Friday, April 22, the pope assured the girl that one day she would understand better that "this suffering was not empty, it wasn't in vain, but behind it was a good plan, a plan of love. It is not chance." He said he had the same questions about why some people suffer so much while others live in ease. "And we do not have the answers but we know that Jesus suffered as you do, an innocent, and that the true God who is revealed in Jesus is by your side," he said. "Be assured, we are with you, with all the Japanese children who are suffering. We want to help you with our prayers, with our actions, and you can be sure that God will help you," he said. The pope, seated at his desk in the Vatican, spoke in Italian as he responded one by one

to the questions, which were posed on-screen by the people who submitted them.

Ex-Anglican priest, father of eight, gives up job to become Catholic

LONDON (CNS) — It's a brave decision for Ian Hellyer to give up his job when he has to provide for eight children and his wife is pregnant with the couple's ninth child. But Hellyer is losing no sleep over his decision. He believes he is answering God's call to become a Catholic priest in the newly-created Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham. On Palm Sunday, he formally gave up his 20,000-pound (\$33,000) yearly salary as rector of four Church of England parishes in the Dartmoor area of southwest England. On Holy Thursday, during the Mass of the Lord's Supper at the Benedictine Buckfast Abbey in Devon, he was confirmed by Abbot David Charlesworth. His wife, Margaret, and children, who are already Catholic, were his sponsors. Hellyer then made his first Communion as a Catholic, joined by 12 members of the ordinariate group he will lead after his ordination to the Catholic priesthood June 17. The small faith community will be based at the abbey. "I truly feel that this is God's call, and there has been nothing to make me think that it isn't," he told Catholic News Service April 20. "It has been a wonderful, wonderful journey," he said. "There are some practical issues that haven't been resolved, but I don't worry that they are not going to be resolved."

New Altoona-Johnstown bishop pledges to be 'servant, witness of hope'

ALTOONA, Pa. (CNS) — As his ordination and installation Mass came to a close, new Bishop Mark L. Barchak said he looked forward to being "a servant, a prophet, a witness of hope." Hope was the prevailing theme of the April 18-19 celebration of Bishop Barchak's ordination and installation as the eighth bishop of Altoona-Johnstown. Bishop Barchak chose for his episcopal motto "Christ, our hope of glory," drawn from Chapter 1, Verses 25-27 of St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians. Speaking at an evening vespers service at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona April 18, the soon-to-be-ordained bishop said he was moved to choose his motto when reading the introduction of a 2003 apostolic exhortation addressed to the world's bishops by Pope John Paul II. Though he was familiar with the document and had read it many times, Bishop-designate Barchak said he had not carefully considered the introduction before being named bishop of Altoona-Johnstown Jan. 14. "Pope John Paul wrote that a bishop is called to be a prophet, a servant, a witness of hope," he said.

Notre Dame graduates honored at Alumni Senate

NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame Alumni Association honored the achievements of seven distinguished graduates during its annual Alumni Senate events last week.

From South Bend, Michael (Mike) Danch, a 1967 graduate, was recognized with the James E. Armstrong Award for his years of distinguished service to the Notre Dame community.

Danch has worked at the university since 1972, going from events manager at the Joyce Center to his current post as associate athletics director, where he oversees facilities including Notre Dame Stadium and acts as the primary administrator for the men's swimming and diving program.

An active member of community boards, he was instrumental in bringing events such as the AAU Junior Olympics and International Summer Special Olympics to campus.

Danch is a 1963 graduate of Saint Joseph's High School and current board member. His father, Elmer J. Danch, has been a long-time contributing reporter to *Today's Catholic*.

Also honored were the following: Brian Doyle, a 1978 graduate, was presented with the Rev. Robert F. Griffin, CSC, Award; Stefanie Marshall, a 2005 graduate, was honored with the Young Alumni Award; John Crowley, who received his law degree from Notre Dame in 1992, and Aileen Crowley received the Family Exemplar Award; Lt. Col. Jason Mims, a 1975 graduate, was presented with the William D. Reynolds Award; and The Rev. Louis J. Putz, CSC, Award was presented to Christopher Walsh, a 1959 graduate.

Bishop Luers High School inducts National Honor Society members

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School recently inducted 16 new members into the National Honor Society. They include Nicholas Burrell, Andrea Choka, Sarah Doak, Anna Eifrid, Brooke Gabrek, Sarah Gigli, Emily Hoch, Katelyn McCullough, Morgan Miser, Rachel Myers, Megan Phillips, Taylor Phillips, Emily Raugh, Colleen Scheible, Melissa Schenkel and Alisha Wyss.

Saint Mary's College recognizes students with service awards

NOTRE DAME — The Office for Civic and Social Engagement (OCSE) at Saint Mary's College has announced that six students received service awards at a banquet held on April 26 in Le Mans Hall. Five of the awards are named for Sisters of the Holy Cross, who founded the Catholic all-women's college in 1844, and

AROUND THE DIOCESE

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO STUDENTS ASSIST CHARITY



PHOTO PROVIDED BY JENNIFER EISAMAN

St. Charles Borromeo School students recently took a field trip to The Franciscan Center, Fort Wayne, where they helped prepare food items for the sack lunch program and stocked the Medicine Cabinet. Students pictured are Maria Cavacini, Olivia Eisaman, Grace Dembickie and Sarah Oberhausen.

the awards are a tribute to the founders' mission — to help where help is needed. The sixth award is named for an alumna, Patricia Arch Green '61, who lived a life dedicated to serving others. Winners are selected from nominations submitted by faculty and staff.

The Sister Kathleen Anne Nelligan, CSC, Award for Spiritual Service was awarded to senior Anne Maguire, a nursing major. The Sister Olivia Marie Hutcheson, CSC, Award for Service in the Health Field was awarded to senior Christina Losasso. The Sister Maria Concepta McDermott, CSC, Award for Service in Education was awarded to junior Aileen Hurd, a social work and communicative disorders double major. The Sister Christine Healy, CSC, Award for Service with Women was awarded to senior Claire Yancy, a communication studies major. The Sister Olivette Whalen, CSC, Award for General Service was awarded to senior Karen Borja, a political science major. The Patricia Arch Green Award was awarded to sophomore Carla Leal, a psychology and communicative disorders double major.

Bishop Luers students discuss world events

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School government and economics classes are currently par-

ticipating in NewsHour through the Teach on the Beach program. NewsHour is an interactive forum where high school students gather to watch and discuss current events news programming to learn more about their world and share their opinions on important current events with their peers around the globe.

Bishop Luers students currently use Facebook to communicate with students in Ghana, West Africa, on a weekly basis. The students will use Skype to discuss world events with the West African students on Friday, May 6.

USF offering community rain barrel workshop

FORT WAYNE — Students and advisers of the Luca Pacioli Society Accounting Club and Eco Environmental Club at the University of Saint Francis will offer a workshop on rain barrel construction on Saturday, April 30, at 9 a.m. in Hutzell Athletic Center off Leesburg Road.

Rain barrels that collect storm water from a home's gutter system conserve water and promote sustainability by creating a free reservoir for the watering of vegetable gardens and flower beds. A fee of \$50 includes the barrel, all hardware and instruction. Assembly will occur onsite, and participants will take home a completed rain barrel.

Proceeds from the workshop will underscore USF's Franciscan value of respect for creation and the importance of environmental stewardship by supporting additional student environmental initiatives.

For more information, contact Professor Dan Boylan at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8306.

Gludemans named candidate in Presidential Scholars Program

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger senior Michael J. Gludemans has been named one of more than 3,000 candidates in the 2011 Presidential Scholars Program. The candidates were selected from nearly 3.2 million students expected to graduate from U.S. high schools in the year 2011.

Inclusion in the Presidential Scholars Program, now in its 47th year, is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities.

Correction

In the April 24 issue of *Today's Catholic* Father Ed Ruetz's name was misspelled in "Blessing offered for new Earthworks location in Plymouth" on page 8. We apologize for the error.

DECATUR STUDENT VINCE FAUOTE NAMED CARSON SCHOLAR



PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, DECATUR

St. Joseph School, Decatur, eighth-grader Vince Faurote was recently named a Carson Scholar for the 2010-2011 school year. The Carson Scholars Fund scholarship program awards students who have embraced high levels of academic excellence and community service with \$1,000 college scholarships. Shown is Faurote, right, with his nominating teacher Amanda Sutter. Faurote's name will be added to the trophy with the other St. Joseph past winners Zack Fitzgerald and Katie Hackman.

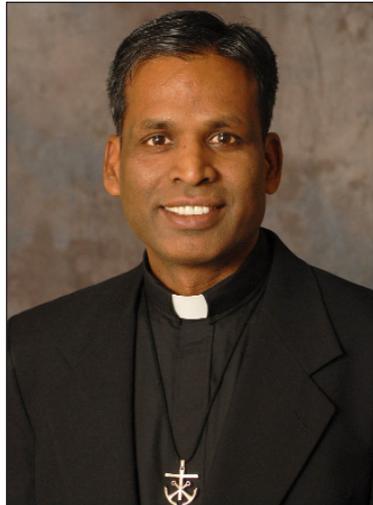
Congregation of Holy Cross to ordain two priests

NOTRE DAME — The Indiana Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross will ordain two new priests on Saturday, April 30, at 2 p.m. at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, bishop of Peoria in Illinois, will confer the Sacrament of Holy Orders on Rev. Mr. John Britto Antony and Rev. Mr. Paul M. Ybarra.

“The international Holy Cross community is blessed to welcome these men who will bring hope and joy to many people through our ministries,” says Holy Cross Father David T. Tyson, provincial superior for the Congregation of Holy Cross, Indiana Province. “These ordinations are a time of gratitude and celebration for us.”

John Britto Antony

The youngest of five children, John Britto Antony was born in the village of Agraharam, Salem, India, to devout Catholic parents, Antony and Natchathiram. He



JOHN BRITTO ANTONY

enrolled in the Juniorate program of Holy Cross in South India at the age of 13, joined the Brothers of Holy Cross in 1984 and made his final profession of vows in December 1990. Britto holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Annamalai University in Chidambaram and a master's degree in English from Loyola



PAUL M. YBARRA

College, Madras University in Chennai. He also studied philosophy and theology at the esteemed Pontifical University of Jnana Deepa Vidya Peeth (J.D.V.) in Pune, India, and later earned a bachelor's in education in English, a master's in education from Annamalai University and a master's in philosophy from Periyar

University, Salem, India.

As a professed brother of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Britto served in a variety of leadership roles, most recently as vicariate superior for the Brothers of Holy Cross in South India from 2005-2009.

During his years of ministry in India, Britto's desire to seek ordination to the priesthood grew, and in 2009, he joined the Eastern Province of Priests and Brothers in the United States where he was assigned to study in the theology department at the University of Notre Dame. Ordained to the transitional diaconate in September 2010 in Bennington, Vt., Britto has served as deacon at Sacred Heart/St. Francis de Sales Parish since September of last year.

Following his ordination, Britto will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Sunday, May 1.

Paul M. Ybarra

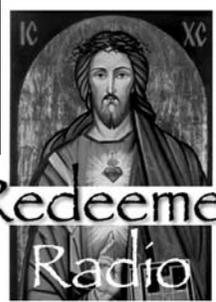
Paul M. Ybarra was born in Los Angeles, Calif., and attended West Covina High School before entering the University of Notre Dame in 1998. There he earned a bachelor of arts degree in film, television and theatre in 2002 and a master's in education through the Alliance for Catholic Education prior to entering formation with the Congregation of Holy Cross in 2004. While completing his master's degree at Notre Dame, Ybarra taught middle school English and social studies at St.

John Vianney Catholic School in Goodyear, Ariz. Following a novitiate year in Colorado Springs, Colo., Ybarra professed first vows with the Congregation of Holy Cross in July, 2006, and returned to Moreau Seminary to continue theology studies at the University of Notre Dame.

During his time in formation, Ybarra worked with the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County in Indiana, as a chaplain at Penrose Hospital in Colorado Springs, and served as a member of the staff at Holy Redeemer Parish and School in Portland, Ore. In addition he participated in the marriage prep program at St. Pius X Parish in Granger, returned to St. John Vianney Parish in Arizona as a pastoral associate, and completed an internship with the Center for Social Concerns at the University of Notre Dame.

Prior to his profession of perpetual vows with the Congregation of Holy Cross and ordination to the diaconate in August 2010, Ybarra was awarded a master of divinity degree from the University of Notre Dame. During the past year, he has been assigned to St. Ignatius Martyr Parish in Austin, Texas, where he has served as a transitional deacon.

Ybarra will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Sunday, May 1, at 11:45 a.m., and later that evening at 10:30 p.m. in the Dillon Hall Chapel at Notre Dame.



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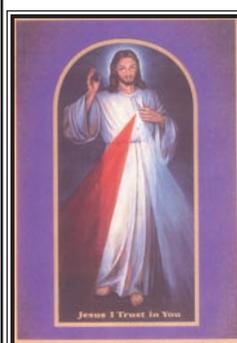
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36-HOUR LINE-UP

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8:00 am	Christ Child Society	St. Therese Fr. Dave Ruppert	Stay Tuned!
9:00 am	St. John the Baptist – FW Fr. Cyril Fernandes	The Huntington Hour Fr. Ron Rieder Principal Jason Woodland	Immaculate Conception Fr. Derrick Sneyd
10:00 am	Queen of Angels Fr. Gary Sigler	The Tippman Hour John Tippmann, Sr. Fr. Larry Tippmann	St. Jude Fr. Tom Shoemaker
11:00 am	St. Joseph Hessen Cassel Fr. Lombardi	Most Precious Blood Fr. Joe Gaughan	World Apostolate of Fatima Fr. Adam Schmitt
Noon	St. Vincent de Paul Fr. Andrew Budzinski	Cathedral Immaculate Conception Msgr. Robert Schulte	St. Charles Borromeo Fr. Tony Steinacker
1:00 pm	St. Catherine – St. Joseph Fr. Ken Sarrazine	Bishop Kevin Rhoades	Franciscan Brothers Minor Fr. David Mary and Brothers
2:00 pm	St. Mary's – Decatur Fr. Voors, Fr. Msuya	St. Joseph – Fort Wayne Fr. Tim Wrozek, Widner	Bishop Luers Hour
3:00 pm	Catholic Schools Office Dr. Myers, John Gaughan	Our Lady of Good Hope Msgr. Bruce Piechocki	Bishop Dwenger Hour
4:00 pm	St. Mother Theodore Guerin Fr. George Gabet	Allen County Right to Life Steve Jones, Cathie Humbarger	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Fr. Drew Curry
5:00 pm	Stay Tuned!	Stay Tuned!	Rekindle The Fire
6:00 pm	Stay Tuned!	Franciscan Sisters Minor Sr. Mary Clement	Gratitude Hour

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Bishop Rhoades visits Sister Maura Brannick Health Center

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

SOUTH BEND — As Martha Velazquez waited patiently in the lobby of Sister Maura Brannick Health Center to be seen, someone caught her eye.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend made his way over to Velazquez and her grandson, Angel. Velazquez told Bishop Rhoades in Spanish about her husband, who like herself, is a patient at the center on Chapin Street in South Bend.

The bishop knelt down with her and along with Al Gutierrez, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center president and CEO, listened to her and spoke to her with great concern.

"She (Velazquez) was telling us that her husband has had some really bad health problems," said Bishop Rhoades. "He's a diabetic but he's doing much better since they have been coming to the clinic, and she is very grateful for this place."

"Yo sabia que era alguien especial (I knew he was someone special)," Velazquez said.

Last week Bishop Rhoades visited those in need at the Sister Maura Brannick Health Center.

The bishop began his visit with a tour of the clinic. He also visited with the staff of the clinic



PHOTOS BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and staff members at SJRMC's Sister Maura Brannick Health Center in South Bend pose during his recent visit. They are from left, Holy Cross Sister Maura Brannick, Bishop Rhoades, Bettye Green, RN, Joseph Vallejos, social worker, Medical Director Dr. Nicholas Timm and Carla Bice, clinical director.

as well as the executives of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center. He shook hands and greeted people who came to the clinic for help.

"This is faith in action," said Bishop Rhoades. "This clinic not only serves the poor, (the clinic) brings Christ to them. That is what we are all called to do. I'm so thrilled to be here."

Those who work at the clinic

said they were touched by the visit, too.

"It was good to have the bishop come to visit us," said Elma Bautista, a licensed practical nurse at the clinic. "We all hope he sees the family-like atmosphere we have around here. The people come to us because they know we are one of them. We enjoy serving them, and it was nice to have the bishop visit and



see what we do every day."

Gutierrez agreed, saying, "Growing up I got all my health care at a clinic like this. That's why it is so important that we be clear about our faith-based program, because our ministry is about caring and healing."

Those who depend on the service said they, too, were glad to meet Bishop Rhoades.

"I'm Catholic, and it's so nice to see he wants to come out and meet the people," said Alicia Dealba of South Bend. "I mean, if it wasn't for the clinic, a lot of us would be sicker than we are. Thank you bishop. Your coming shows how much you care."

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades meets one of the many clients served at the Sister Maura Brannick Health Center in South Bend during his recent visit.

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AND

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keep you close and help you continue to grow in faith, hope, and love.

Sincerely,

The University of Notre Dame

Her students, faculty, staff, trustees, and the Holy Cross community at Notre Dame



UNIVERSITY OF
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BEATIFY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Nazi blitzkrieg of Poland left the country in ruins.

During the German occupation, Wojtyla began attending weekly meetings called the "living rosary" led by Jan Tyranowski, a Catholic layman who soon became his spiritual mentor. Tyranowski introduced him to the 16th-century Spanish Carmelite mystic, St. John of the Cross, who would greatly influence the future pope.

Wojtyla called Tyranowski an "apostle" and later wrote of him: "He showed us God much more immediately than any sermons or books; he proved to us that God could not only be studied, but also lived."

At a spiritual crossroads in 1942, Wojtyla entered Krakow's clandestine theological seminary. In the pope's 1996 book, "Gift and Mystery," he remembered his joy at being called to the priesthood, but his sadness at being cut off from acquaintances and other interests. He said he always felt a debt to friends who suffered "on the great altar of history" during World War II, while he pursued his underground seminary studies.

As a seminarian, he continued to be attracted to monastic contemplation. Twice during these years he petitioned to join the Discalced Carmelites but was said to have been turned away with the advice: "You are destined for greater things."

He was ordained four years later, as Poland's new communist regime was enacting restrictions on the Catholic Church. After two years of study in Rome, he returned to Poland in 1948 and

worked as a young pastor. From the beginning, he focused much of his attention on young people, especially university students — the beginning of a lifelong pastoral interest. Students would join him on hiking and camping trips, which always included prayer, outdoor Masses and discussions about the faith.

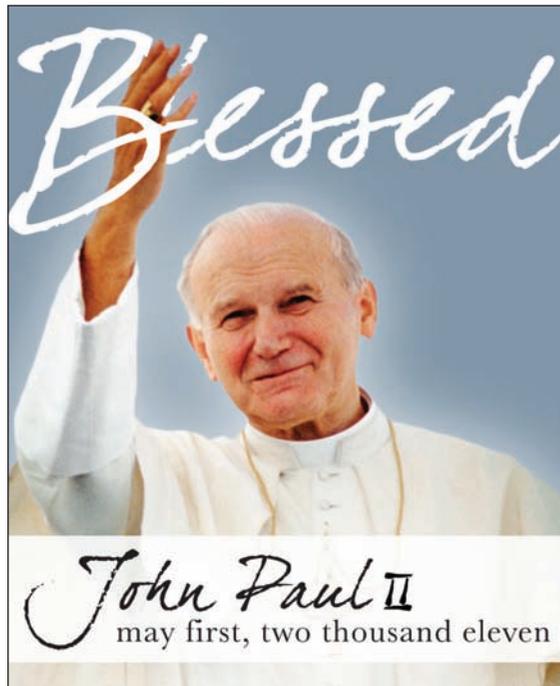
Father Wojtyla earned a doctorate in moral theology and began teaching at Lublin University, at the same time publishing articles and books on ethics and other subjects. In 1958, at age 38, he was named an auxiliary bishop of Poland, becoming the youngest bishop in Poland's history. He became archbishop of Krakow in 1964, and played a key role in the Second Vatican Council, helping to draft texts on religious liberty and the Church in the modern world.

After Pope John Paul I was elected in the first conclave of 1978, Cardinal Karol Wojtyla said in a sermon in Poland that the papacy, "although it is a great office, is also a very great cross."

He said of the new pope: "He took up the cross of contemporary man ... of all the tensions and dangers which arise from various injustices: the violation of human rights, the enslavement of nations, new forms of colonial exploitation ... wrongs which can be righted only in the spirit of Christ's cross."

A few weeks later, Pope John Paul I was dead, and the "cross" of the papacy fell to Cardinal Karol Wojtyla.

Early in his pontificate, on May 13, 1981 — the feast of Our Lady of Fatima — the Polish pope experienced a brush with death that intensified his already strong devotion to Mary. Mehmet Ali Agca, a Turk who had previously threatened the pope, shot and seriously wounded the pontiff in St. Peter's Square. The pope's life hung in the



balance, and his recovery was slow. He credited Mary with saving him, and he later traveled to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal, where he placed a bullet fragment removed from his body in the crown of a statue of Mary.

Years later, the pope published the "third secret" of Fatima, which described a period of suffering for the Church and the shooting of a bishop in white — a figure the pope believed was linked to the attempt on his life.

Pope John Paul's private prayer life was intense, and visitors who attended his morning Mass described him as immersed in an almost mystical form of meditation. He prayed the Liturgy of the Hours, he withdrew for hours of silent contemplation and Eucharistic Adoration, and he said the rosary often — eventually adding five new luminous mysteries to this traditional form of prayer.

The pope also took penitential practices seriously. In a book published after his death, the postulator of his sainthood cause, Msgr. Slawomir Oder, said Pope John Paul spent entire nights lying with his arms outstretched on the bare floor, fasted before ordaining priests or bishops and flagellated himself with a belt.

Throughout his life, Pope John Paul was a devotee of the Divine Mercy

movement, which was founded in the early 1900s by a Polish nun from Krakow, Sister Faustina Kowalska. Her special devotion to the divine mercy of God was a theme the pope himself took up in his 1980 encyclical "Dives in Misericordia" ("Rich in Mercy").

The pope beatified Sister Faustina in 1993 and canonized her in 2000, proclaiming the second Sunday of Easter as Mercy Sunday throughout the world. Pope John Paul's death in 2005 came on the eve of Mercy Sunday, and his beatification May 1 will be celebrated on Mercy Sunday.

Pope John Paul canonized 482 people, more than all his predecessors combined. Although the Vatican was sometimes humorously referred to as a "saint factory" under Pope John Paul, the pope was making a very serious effort to underline what he called the "universal call to holiness" — the idea that all Christians, in all walks of

life, are called to sanctity.

"There can never be enough saints," he once remarked.

He was convinced that God sometimes speaks to the world through simple and uneducated people. St. Faustina was one, and he also canonized St. Padre Pio, the Italian mystic, and St. Juan Diego, the Mexican peasant who had visions of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The world knows Pope John Paul largely because of his travels to 129 countries. For him, they were spiritual journeys. As he told his top advisers in 1980: "These are trips of faith and of prayer, and they always have at their heart the meditation and proclamation of the word of God, the celebration of the Eucharist and the invocation of Mary."

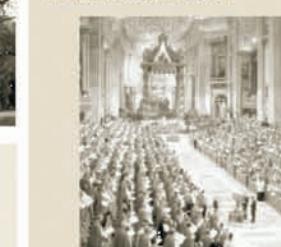
Pope John Paul never forgot that he was, above all, a priest. In his later years, he said repeatedly that what kept him going was not the power of the papacy but the spiritual strength that flowed from his priestly vocation.

He told some 300,000 young people in 1997: "With the passing of time, the most important and beautiful thing for me is that I have been a priest for more than 50 years, because every day I can celebrate Holy Mass!"

In his final years, the suffering brought on by Parkinson's disease, arthritis and other afflictions became part of the pope's spiritual pilgrimage, demonstrating in an unusually public way his willingness to embrace the cross.

With his beatification, the Church is proposing not a model pope but a model Christian, one who witnessed inner holiness in the real world, and who, through words and example, challenged people to believe, to hope and to love.

Pope John Paul II A chronological record of the life and accomplishments of Karol Wojtyla

<p>1920 May 18: Born Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice, Poland</p> 	<p>Formation Karol studies at the university, acts in a clandestine theater, writes poetry and reads philosophy, plays goalie on his soccer team, splits stone at a quarry and works in a chemical factory. It is at this time that his vocation to the priesthood comes into focus.</p>	<p>1940 Studies interrupted, works as manual laborer</p> <p>World War II</p> <p>1941 Father dies</p> 	<p>1954 Completes doctorate in philosophy • Teaches at Jagellonian and in Lublin</p> 	<p>Vatican II He attends the 1962-65 Second Vatican Council, where he helps to draft documents on religious liberty and the church in the modern world.</p> 	<p>1978 Oct. 16: Becomes 264th pope</p> 
<p>1929 Mother dies • Receives first Communion</p> 	<p>1938 Enters Jagellonian University</p> 	<p>1942 Enters secret seminary 1945 Resumes studies 1946 Nov. 1: Ordained priest 1948 Earns doctorate in theology</p> 	<p>1958 Sept. 28: Becomes auxiliary bishop of Krakow</p> 	<p>1964 Jan. 13: Becomes Archbishop of Krakow</p> 	<p>1979 Makes first of 104 papal trips abroad</p> 
1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970

'In the presence of a saint'

Local Catholics revel in memories of personal meetings with Blessed John Paul II

BY KAY COZAD

The worldwide Catholic community will rejoice at the upcoming beatification of Pope John Paul II scheduled for May 1, the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, in Rome. Pope John Paul, whose global travels and genuine pastoral presence, united the faithful across the globe during his rich and fruitful 26-year papacy.

It appears to be universally agreed upon that Pope John Paul was a pope of the people, attentive to each individual he met. He was a man of great humility and devotion to his priestly vocation. Many across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend recall with gratitude and joy their own personal meetings with the devoted Holy Father.

Bishop-Emeritus John M. D'Arcy recounted the privilege of meeting with the Holy Father over a dozen times throughout his own 26 years as bishop of this diocese, in several locations and settings. Bishop D'Arcy has fond memories of the five "ad limina" visits — visits between the pope and the bishops of the world — in the Vatican beginning in 1983. These visits, said Bishop D'Arcy, kept the bishops of the world "linked to the Apostles," through their pope.

"This pope made these visits extraordinary," said Bishop



PROVIDED BY BISHOP-EMERITUS JOHN M. D'ARCY

Bishop John M. D'Arcy met with Pope John Paul II at World Youth Day in Denver in 1993.

D'Arcy, who describes the day as including a 10-15 minute meeting with the pope, early morning Mass, a talk by the pope and a luncheon, where Bishop D'Arcy recalled, "We could talk about everything."

During one of those special visits, Bishop D'Arcy recalls the pope's warmth and sense of humor when he had the opportunity to walk beside Pope John Paul II as they exited the chapel after Mass. Bishop D'Arcy said to the Holy Father, "You have helped us be better priests and bishops," to which the clever pope responded, "A pope should be good for something!"

Bishop D'Arcy met with Pope John Paul in Boston in 1979, at World Youth Day in Denver in 1993 and several other cities around the country and in Canada, as well. He said of the pope, "He had a great love and affection for young people. ... He was joyful, holy, highly intelligent, with a strong sense of the priesthood. He was a great listener. He was devoted to his ministry and the Church."

Bishop D'Arcy found great inspiration for his own vocation from this man who was priest first above all else. "Pope John Paul had as much influence on me as my mom and dad. ... I loved him," he said, adding, "You knew you



PROVIDED BY FATHER DARYL RYBICKI

Father Daryl Rybicki, pastor of Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend, and his mother Eileen met with pope John Paul following a private Mass at the Vatican in 1994.

were in the presence of a saint."

Msgr. Bernard Galic, pastor of St. Aloysius Parish in Yoder, and director of the Vocations Office in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, met Pope John Paul for the first time while he was in Rome on vacation. Bishop D'Arcy had written a letter requesting Msgr. Galic be permitted to celebrate Mass with the pope while in the Vatican. With the request granted Msgr. Galic found himself standing with this holy man at the altar of the Apostolic Palace. "It was exciting the first time I met him. It was awesome to be standing next to him. We're there with the Vicar of Christ," he said.

Msgr. Galic enjoyed the pope's company a second time six years

later while visiting Rome, this time with his own brothers. The brothers with their wives were invited along with the monsignor to meet with the pope at his summer residence, Castel Gandolfo. Though Pope John Paul's health was in visible decline, Msgr. Galic said, "He spoke less. But holiness radiated from him. I thought, 'I know I'm in the presence of a saint.'"

During this meeting Msgr. Galic said Pope John Paul asked him where he was from and sent blessings to all his people. "He was so very humble and unassuming," said Msgr. Galic. The highlight of the trip occurred as Msgr. Galic was introducing his brothers

SAINT, PAGE 13

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Issues Encyclical

1980



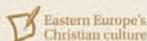
1981 May 13: Mehmet Ali Agca shoots and wounds pope



1983 Issues new Code of Canon Law • Opens Holy Year of redemption • Visits Agca in prison

1984 Establishes diplomatic relations with United States

1985 Warns Europe against abortion



1986 Makes historic visit to Rome synagogue • Calls world religious leaders to Assisi to pray for peace



1987 Opens Marian year • Convenes first international World Youth Day • Calls Vatican meeting to resolve Catholic-Jewish controversies

1989 Communism falls in Eastern Europe, pope seen as key figure



1990 Establishes diplomatic relations with Soviet Union

1991



1992 Issues Catechism of the Catholic Church

1993



1994 Establishes diplomatic relations with Israel • Named Time magazine's Man of the Year



1995



1996 Urges total ban on nuclear testing, land mines

1998 Makes historic trip to communist Cuba



1999 Unseals Holy Door for jubilee 2000



2000 Visits Holy Land

2003 Marks 25th anniversary as pope • Beatifies Mother Teresa



2004 Opens Year of the Eucharist



2005 Dies April 2

2011 Beatified May 1 by Pope Benedict XVI



1980

1990

2000

2010

EASTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He said, "In His risen body, Jesus passed from death to another life beyond time and space. His risen body was indeed the same body that had been tortured and crucified. In fact, it still bore the traces of His Passion. Yet, it was radically new, a glorious body, not limited by space and time, not subject to physical restrictions. It belonged to a new realm, the realm of eternity."

Pope Benedict XVI, Bishop Rhoades said, "called Christ's resurrection '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 bishop continued to relate the pope's words: "The Resurrection is a cosmic event, which includes heaven and earth and links them together."

Bishop Rhoades said, "... it is clear that the Resurrection of Jesus is not just some miracle from the past, something of indifference to us. It makes all the difference in the world. Without it, our faith would be meaningless. Because of it, we live in Christ. We become one in Christ. As Pope Benedict XVI 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. We live our life in Christ, as a journey of faith, the way of the cross, yes, but the triumphant and victorious cross of the Risen Jesus. This is the joy of Easter. ..."

After Mass at a reception in the parish center, John Horn, St. Joseph Parish council member, presented the bishop with a check for \$1,000 on behalf of the parish for the Franciscan Brothers Minor educational fund.

Easter Vigil

Bishop Rhoades celebrated the Easter Vigil Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on April 23. At the Mass 10 joined the Catholic Church.

Bishop Rhoades quoted St. Augustine who called the Easter Vigil, "the mother of all vigils," for this is the night when Christ Jesus broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave. So the Church keeps watch, awaiting the resurrection of Christ and celebrating it in the sacraments."

The accounts of the women at the empty tomb and the angel speaking to them bring a feeling of quiet joy. "The Gospel tells us that they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed," Bishop Rhoades said.

He offered: "Perhaps those are the feelings of our catechumens and candidates here this evening —



PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades pours baptismal waters over the head of a Ashley Didier who was baptized into the Catholic Church during the Easter Vigil at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on April 23.

half-overjoyed and half-fearful. Overjoyed that their journey of faith tonight reaches a climax in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Overjoyed to join the Church founded by Christ on the rock of St. Peter's confession of faith. Overjoyed that the Spirit of God finds a dwelling place in their hearts and that they will receive the Lord's Body and Blood as spiritual food and drink for the first time."

He said in his homily, "But maybe they are also experiencing something of the women's fear — fear because their lives become changed. The future presents new challenges to them and to all of us who are persons of faith. Conversion means a deepening of our relationship to God who calls us to a new life of service to Him and commitment to His Church. We are called to a self-sacrificing love in union with the heart of Christ. We must always look to the example of Jesus, whose love was so great that it led Him to the supreme act of self-emptying on Calvary. His love is so amazing, so divine, that it demands our soul, our life, our all. St. Paul says that 'If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Christ.' Yes, Jesus will raise us up if we follow Him with love to the cross."

During the Liturgy of Baptism, Bishop Rhoades baptized nine. And later, Bishop Rhoades confirmed those baptized neophytes and one additional man who joined the Catholic Church. The 10 made their First Holy Communion at the Mass.

Holy Thursday and Good Friday

Earlier in the week at the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Bishop Rhoades said, "The events of the Last Supper, the Passion and death of Jesus, and His Resurrection are at the very core of our faith. We celebrate the mystery of faith that we proclaim after the consecration at every Mass, words which will become even clearer when the new English translation comes out in a few months. 'We announce your

death, O Lord, and we proclaim Your resurrection, until You come in glory.'

"The whole Paschal mystery celebrated in the Easter Triduum was foreshadowed at the Last Supper," Bishop Rhoades said. "It is appropriate that the Triduum begins with this Mass of the Lord's Supper in which we remember the amazing gift Christ entrusted to His Church, the gift which makes present until the end of the world the Paschal mystery of Christ. That gift is, of course, the Holy Eucharist instituted on this holy night."



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blesses fire outside the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne during the Easter Vigil Saturday, April 23.

Bishop Rhoades washed the feet of seminarians during the Mass.

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper concluded with a procession of the Holy Eucharist from the cathedral to the St. Theodore Guérin Chapel. Each participant carried a small candle in the procession.

At the Good Friday celebration of the Lord's Passion at St. Matthew Co-Cathedral, he said in his homily, "Jesus' mission was accomplished on Good Friday. That is why we call today 'Good.' It is the day that Jesus defeated sin and overcame evil with the power of love. And so, He was able to say 'tetelestai,' — 'it is fulfilled.' He had obediently fulfilled the will of His Father. He had accomplished the work God had given Him to do: The work of redemption. His love had conquered hate. His goodness had triumphed over evil, though this would not be clear to His disciples until Easter Sunday morning. But Jesus knew it when He said 'tetelestai,' — 'it is accomplished.' He knew He had won for us eternal redemption, that He had become, as the author of the letter to the Hebrews wrote, 'the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him.'"



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades washes the feet of seminarian Craig Borchard during Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on April 21.

SAINT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

to the pope when one of the brothers and his wife received a surprise blessing and congratulations from the Pope John Paul II when he learned it was their 40th wedding anniversary.

Another local clergy, Father Daryl Rybicki, pastor of Corpus Christi in South Bend, remains inspired by his memories of meetings with the humble Holy Father. Father Rybicki with his mother, Eileen, then 72, traveled through Poland and Rome with a group from their area in the fall of 1994. Bishop D'Arcy had written a request letter to the Vatican for Father Rybicki to concelebrate Mass with the pope. Though Pope John Paul was scheduled to be traveling, said Father Rybicki, the trip was canceled at the last minute. So the next morning Father Rybicki and his mother, along with just a few of Pope John Paul's household staff, entered the chapel at Castel Gandolfo.

Father Rybicki said, "It was remarkable. It was quite the honor and privilege to be standing next to him (the pope) at the altar. The experience is emblazoned in my memory." As he stood next to the pope, Father Rybicki realized that as they celebrated Mass they shared in the same ministry, the same priesthood. "I got a real sense of saying 'We're all in this together.' It was a real revelation as to the continuity of the Church. Pope John Paul was first and foremost a priest. That's what he identified with."

Following the Mass, Father Rybicki and his mother were escorted to the reception room where they spent a good deal of personal time speaking with the pope, due to his now clear schedule. "It was a pleasant visit and exceptional because we were the only guests there," said Father Rybicki.

A few years later, Father Rybicki was privileged once again to concelebrate Mass in Rome, this time with nearly 40 priests and Pope John Paul II in the Vatican garden, after which the pope visited personally with each priest and then processed through the crowd.

Mike and Dee Dee Dahm, parishioners of St. Jude, toured Italy in 1999 for their 35th wedding anniversary. The couple was invited, in response to a letter of request from Bishop D'Arcy, to attend an audience with Pope John Paul along with the multitude at St. Peter's Square. "We were on a platform at St. Peter's behind the bishops and cardinals," recalled Dee Dee.

Following the audience they arrived at their hotel in search of

HILGER INSPIRED TO PAINT PORTRAIT OF POPE JOHN PAUL II



PROVIDED BY MARY HILGER

Mary Hilger, parishioner of Queen of Angels Parish in Fort Wayne, was inspired to paint this portrait of Blessed John Paul II in 1983 before her chalk drawing ministry developed. The painting was completed in 10 hours and Hilger said, "The many hands trying to touch the pope communicate the charisma this pope had around people." Hilger was able to see Pope John Paul II in 1993 at World Youth Day in Denver, Colo., and again in 2003 in Rome at Mother Teresa's beatification.

the invitation to attend the morning Mass in the papal chapel. But, said Dee Dee, "there was no letter." So the couple spoke with several in authority in hopes of securing a seat at the Mass. After several hours of roaming the streets and praying the rosary, the Dahms

the whole line and said, 'I pray for you and your families.' He radiated holiness and peace and was there for everybody." As he neared her, Dee Dee wondered what to say and recalled thinking, "I wanted to give him a big hug. Because that's the feeling you get from him. He was like fatherly and grandfatherly to me."

Dee Dee recalled that at the end of the receiving line stood a family with a child with Down syndrome.

There the pope paused a bit longer and spoke with the child. "He reached out to those with disabilities and was loving and kind to them," said Dee Dee.

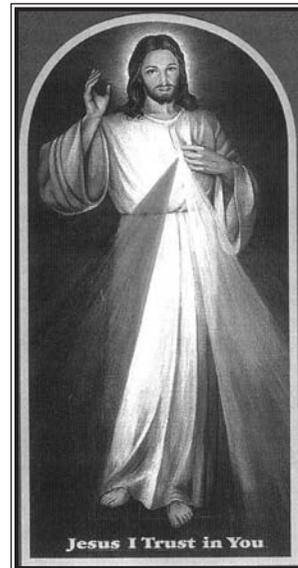
Perhaps Dee Dee speaks for all who had the privilege of meeting personally with Pope John Paul II when she said, "It was one of the biggest thrills of my life. I just wanted the opportunity to put my arms around him."

were told room would be made for them. "It was a select group. There were 30 seats only," said Dee Dee, who added, "By the grace of God."

Following the Mass that had the couple entranced with the pope's "prayerfulness and humility," the Dahms were escorted into the reception room to meet the pontiff. Upon entrance, Dee Dee reported, "The pope went through

"It was one of the biggest thrills of my life."

DEE DEE DAHM



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(NO RECONCILIATION ON MAY 1)

5:00 PM: Divine Mercy Chaplet

- Procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- Homilist and Presider

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- Rosary 3:30

Holy Mass: 4:00 pm*

- St. Mary's Full Choir

- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

• Prayer seeking intercession of
Blessed Pope John II

- Divine Mercy Chaplet • Benediction

* (Fulfills Sunday Obligation)



Mother in Maccabees is the real 'tiger mother'

BY LISA EVERETT

Ammy Chua, the “tiger mother” who recently touched a nerve around the globe with her tougher-than-nails parenting memoir, has nothing on the mother in the second book of Maccabees.

In this historical book of the Bible, we see the Jewish people in Palestine suffering persecution under the reign of the Syrian king, Antiochus, who is trying to force Greek culture on his subjects. Chapter seven tells the story of seven brothers and their mother who are arrested and commanded by the king, under threat of torture and death, to eat pork, a food which is forbidden by the Torah. This courageous mother must watch as each of her sons, in turn, is savagely tortured

and killed for refusing to violate the law of God. Yet she neither cringes in fear for their lives nor attempts to persuade her sons to obey the king's command. Rather, “filled with a noble spirit,” she encourages each of her sons to remain faithful, full of hope that God “in His mercy will give life and breath back to you again, since you now forget yourselves for the sake of His laws.”

When six of her sons have been put to death, Antiochus summons the mother and urges her to advise her youngest child to save himself in return for riches and power, and the personal friendship of the king. “Do not fear this butcher,” the mother whispers as she leans close to her son. “Accept death, so that in God's mercy I may get you back again with your brothers.” Last of all, the mother herself is mar-

tyred in the confident conviction that death is not the end, that she will be reunited with her sons in the resurrection of the just.

It has been said that being a mother is like having your heart go walking around outside your body. Our hearts ache when we see our children suffer, whether that suffering is physical, emotional or spiritual. So on the human level, it is hard to imagine a more horrible, heart-wrenching scenario than the one which the mother in Maccabees faced. And yet, on the supernatural level, it is also hard to imagine a more inspiring one, for it illustrates with crystal clarity the deepest meaning of our vocation.

Motherhood is a call to give of ourselves for the good of the children whom God has entrusted to us, the greatest of which is the gift of eternal life. Communion



WEB ILLUSTRATION

The martyrdom of the Maccabees.

with God, now and forever, is the pearl of great price for which we and our children must be willing, with His grace, to suffer anything and to sacrifice everything. From this perspective, we see more clearly the great truth penned by the French novelist, Leon Bloy: “The only tragedy in life is not to be a saint.”

Think for a moment of Our Lady. Standing at the foot of the Cross, watching her Son suffer an excruciating, drawn-out death, must have been Mary's moment of supreme sorrow and at the same time, her moment of supreme joy. While her mother's heart must have been breaking to behold her Son's agony, her heart must have also rejoiced beyond all telling to realize that her Son had perfectly fulfilled the will of His Father, had finished the work He had been given to do, had been faithful to the end, and had obtained for her, and for all of us, the gift of eternal life.

Most likely, our children will not be called to give their lives for their faith like Christ Himself, or like the seven sons in Maccabees, or like all of the other men and women in the history of salvation whom we honor as martyrs. But the word “martyr” means “witness,” and our children will be called to witness to their faith in a world which is in many ways more than ever at odds with our basic beliefs as Christians and our clear moral convictions as Catholics. Our children must know that the most important thing for us is not whether they are successful in the eyes of the world, but whether they are faithful in the eyes of God.

Only if we are women of faith can we give our example and our encouragement to our children — whether they live under our roof or whether they are grown and gone — to put God first, to follow His Law no matter what the cost or the consequence, and to seek first His kingdom in the sure

hope that everything else we really need will be given us besides. And only if we are women of prayer can we hope to persuade our children to be faithful to God and to all that He, in His wisdom and love, expects of us — in the sure hope of spending eternity with Him and with each other.

St. Monica, who prayed for many years that her wayward son, Augustine, would eventually embrace the Christian faith, was able to confide to him near the end of her life: “One thing only there was for which I desired to linger in this life: to see you a Catholic Christian before I died. And my God has granted this to me more lavishly than I could have hoped, letting me see even you spurning earthly happiness to be His servant.”

Several years ago on Mother's Day I got a glimpse of what St. Monica and the mother in Maccabees must have felt. I don't remember what gifts I got, or what special meal was prepared to celebrate. What I do remember is that all the kids were home, and after Mass, we all sat out on our back deck, just talking and laughing and telling stories. Then my husband suggested we pile in our van and drive to the University of Notre Dame to make a visit to the Grotto to pray the rosary. On the drive home, my heart was trying to hold on to the Tabor moment I was experiencing. I turned around and told the kids that all I wanted for Mother's Day — in fact, all I ever wanted as their mother — was to see them in heaven one day, so that we could spend eternity together.

Blessed John Paul II once reflected that the communion of persons in the family is meant to be nothing less than a preparation for the communion of saints in heaven. By the grace of God, may it be so for all of us.

Lisa Everett is codirector of the Office of Family Life.

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Holy confusion? Beatification, canonization are different

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The slight differences between a beatification and a canonization are easy to miss, especially when one pope beatifies another pope.

Just three weeks before Pope Benedict XVI was to beatify Pope John Paul II, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments issued a decree designed, in part, to maintain the distinction.

The decree dealt with one of the three main differences: the number and location of dioceses that can hold annual public liturgical celebrations in the holy person's honor.

The other two differences are less noticeable and they deal with who ceremonially requests the pope to act and the level of papal authority involved in the

proclamation.

During a beatification ceremony, the bishop of the diocese where the person dies asks that the candidate be declared blessed; at a canonization, the prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes speaks in the name of the whole Church and asks that the candidate be declared a saint.

Even less visible, but more important, is the fact that "papal infallibility is involved" when a person is declared a saint, said Cardinal Agostino Vallini, the papal vicar of Rome.

Beatification is an "administrative act" by which the pope allows a candidate for sainthood to be venerated publicly in places closely associated with his or her life and ministry; the place may be as small as one

THE VATICAN LETTER

CINDY WOODEN

city, although usually it is the diocese where the person lived or died. In the case of Pope John Paul II, his Oct. 22 feast day is entered automatically into the calendars of the Diocese of Rome and all the dioceses of his native Poland.

A canonization, on the other hand, is a formal papal decree

LETTER, PAGE 16

Through faith we receive eternal life



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

2nd Sunday of Easter Jn 20:19-31

With deep faith and faith-filled excitement the Church continues the celebration it began a week and a day ago of Easter, the Lord's Resurrection and final victory over death and sin.

As is the case in almost every Mass of this season, the first reading this weekend comes from the Acts of the Apostles. Acts originally was seen to be a continuation of St. Luke's Gospel, and still these books should be considered as being in sequence.

Together they tell an uninterrupted story of salvation in Jesus, from Mary's conception to a time years after the Ascension.

This weekend's reading reveals to us what life actually was like in the time shortly following the Ascension for the first Christians, most of whom likely knew Jesus, as reverently following the Apostles, of being together in a most realistic sense of community, of eagerly caring for the needy, of praying, and of "breaking the bread," a term referring to the Eucharist. Clearly Peter was the chief of the Apostles. He was special.

Most importantly, through the Apostles, and in the Church, Jesus lived and acted. The sick were cured. The deaf heard. The blind saw. No one was beyond the Apostles' interest.

For its second reading this

weekend, the Church offers us a passage from the First Epistle of Peter.

Obvious and inspiring in this reading is the early Church's obvious and intense love for, and faith in, the Lord. It was a faith that hardly went unchallenged. The culture in which Christianity was born and grew in almost every respect either rejected the ideals of the Gospel or held them in outright contempt.

So, the mere presentation of these beliefs in this epistle show how steadfastly the first Christians held to what Jesus had taught.

John's Gospel provides the last reading. It is one of the beloved, and most familiar, of the Resurrection Narratives.

In this reading is the story of the reluctance of the Apostle Thomas to accept that Jesus indeed had risen from the tomb. Then, as all recall, dramatically Jesus appears on the scene. He invites Thomas to believe. In awe, and the uttermost faith, Thomas declares that Jesus not only is teacher and Redeemer, but, indeed, that Jesus is God.

The Lord then confers upon the Apostles that most divine of powers, the power to judge what is sinful and to forgive sin.

Reflection

This weekend is Divine Mercy Sunday. Coincidentally it also is for people in Israel and for Jews everywhere the day of memorial for the millions who died in the Holocaust. Finally, for many years before the collapse of the Soviet system, it was the great celebration of communism, a philosophy that brought death and heartache to so many millions.

May 1 brings these three events together. The last two, the hideous policy of Adolf Hitler's dictator-

ship in Germany that slaughtered millions and the generations-long domination of communism stand on one side as an example of how terribly sin and disregard of God and God's creatures, human beings, can bring terror into the world. We humans can do awful things.

Opposite all this is God's loving mercy for each of us. In mercy, God sent the Lord Jesus. His humanity, life, death and triumph over death provided our access to divine mercy.

The Apostles and their successors bring us this mercy, this contact with Jesus, with God, and the hope of being forgiven, just as they brought it to Christians recorded in Acts.

The Church gathers around the Apostles. We truly become part of the Church when we create within ourselves the faith of the first Christians, and indeed of Thomas.

Through this faith, in the Church, with the Apostles, we receive the gift of eternal life. We experience the mercy of God.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47 Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 1 Pt 1:3-9 Jn 20:19-31

Monday: Acts 4:23-31 Ps 2:1-9 Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-5 Jn 14:6-14

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26 Ps 34:2-9 Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33 Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20 Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 Jn 6:16-21

A mother gets spiritually in tune

Being an award-winning musician who's performed with the likes of Luciano Pavarotti, Faith Hill and even Carlos Santana hasn't spared Natalie MacMaster from the self-doubt that afflicts many busy wives and mothers. Her Catholic faith, however, provides a source of comfort she can turn to during those inevitable times.

A native and resident of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, MacMaster has earned her reputation as an electrifying fiddle virtuoso with numerous gold albums, Juno Awards, and successful concert tours to her name. Married to Donnell Leahy — an acclaimed fiddler himself with the band Leahy — the couple has four children. Though they balance work and family life well, MacMaster recently experienced a bout of self-pity and gloom after comparing herself to other mothers who seem to be able to "do it all" with ease. Instead of staying focused on the negative, she tried a different approach. As she explained to me on

Christopher Closeup, "I went down in the basement, cried real hard, gritted my teeth and was praying to Mary. I said, 'Mary, please help me. I don't want to be like this.' ... And you know what? My day turned around. I attribute that to Mary as a mother and a woman helping me to see how much God loves me, how much the things that I do are of value, and how I shouldn't be comparing myself."

MacMaster first learned about relying on her Catholic faith from the example set by her mother and father. She admits that her parents only "knew the basics" and weren't deeply schooled in theology. Yet they believed in Catholicism and lived it — "I watched my mom live her faith through loving people... My father always lived the commandments in an obvious but unspoken way... My mom and dad (were) the only example I watched from the time I was born. Now that's so ingrained in me that anything less than what



LIGHT ONE CANDLE

TONY ROSSI, THE CHRISTOPHERS

they did is just not acceptable."

Another key factor during her formative years was that MacMaster's father would never accept her or her brothers missing Mass. When she started traveling a lot for concerts, she continued to attend weekly Mass, originally out of obligation. In retrospect, she believes that receiving the Eucharist throughout that time gave her the graces to transform her lukewarm faith into a Catholicism that's "on fire" today. She says, "I really do believe the Eucharist ... gives you strength that's not human. It's God trying to help you do things that are much too hard to do on your own."

After years of focusing on her own goals like developing a career and falling in love with the right man, marriage and motherhood required an adjustment in attitude and some divine assistance. She observes, "Love itself, after the ooey-goey part is over ... is a denial of self that's not so easy. Our faith mentions giving up things for great reward and it's so true. Life would be so shallow without my family, if I was just living for myself."

Though MacMaster is busier than ever, she wouldn't change a thing about her family life. She says, "It is way harder than anyone ever told me — and it is absolutely the most gratifying, fulfilling, loving thing I've ever done!"

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, QUALITY FAMILY MOMENTS, write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org.

Gianna Beretta Molla

1922-1962
April 28



Born near Milan, Italy, Gianna was one of 13 children in a deeply Catholic family. She wed Pietro Molla in 1955; they had three children while she continued to work as a physician. When she was pregnant with their fourth child, doctors discovered a large uterine tumor. She insisted that surgeons not remove her entire uterus, which would have aborted the baby, but only what was necessary to allow the baby to reach term. She died seven days after giving birth in 1962. Her husband and three of her children were present in 2004 when the pope proclaimed her a saint.

Mysteries in the hardware store

I ran into a friend in the hardware store yesterday. She was in the paint section, looking to match some paint to refresh some of her rooms. I was also in the paint section, hoping to find some clean, pretty colors to replace our wallpaper. I hate wallpaper.

Anyway, Susan is the mother of my daughter's best friend, and I hadn't seen her since last summer. We had so much to talk about. Right then and there, between samples of Harvest gold and Limoncello yellow we caught up as best we could, chatting about our daughters — their year so far in college, their stressors, their concerns.

And then we turned to discuss our other children. When I got to my adult son who is living far away from my husband and me (on the opposite side of the country, in fact), Susan said something that jolted me in a good way. As I described to her my pain of my son leaving the nest and working so far from us she interjected,

"That's the Ascension."

"What?" I asked

"That's the Ascension. You're going through what Mary went through at the Ascension."

She was referring to the event and the second glorious mystery of the rosary.

Hmm. I guessed so. Pain of separation. He was doing his work far from me. I always thought of the Ascension from the 'significance to the faithful' point of view — Jesus' work was done and He was returning to heaven. Susan made me think of the event from His mother's perspective. Interesting.

As we continued to talk I mentioned another event in my life. She slid in with "Oh! The

Visitation."

Yes, I suppose. I was experiencing something similar to Mary in that moment too. As our conversation continued, Susan continued to point out parallels in my life to certain mysteries of the rosary. It was a combination of comforting and feeling déjà vu. I liked it.

And that's what I realized what Susan had known all along — that the rosary mysteries could not only be meditations on the great events of Jesus' life in terms of their significance to mankind in general, but they could be peeks into the mysteries of our personal lives as well. They were opportunities to relate to Him in a more personal way. As Catholics we are to unite our sufferings to Jesus on the cross to see their redemptive power. Our joys can also more fully unite us to God as we ponder their significance in our lives — what God might be trying to say to us in each mystery event, in each moment that we experience something similar, if even in a small way.

The "Agony in the Garden" in the sorrowful mysteries, for example, not only reminds us of the torturous suffering that Jesus went through in anticipation of His brutal death but we can possibly more fully understand, relate to and maybe accept with resignation and offer up the anticipation of some dreaded event in our lives when we pray and ponder this mystery. A student might be dreading a test. A father might be dreading a presentation or separation from the family. A mother might be dreading a medical procedure or even the simple challenges of a particular day. By meditating upon Jesus' acceptance of the Father's



TERESA A. THOMAS

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

will — in the Agony in the Garden He prayed, "Not mine but Your Will be done" — we can perhaps gain the courage to face our own cross, our own suffering, and approach it in the best way possible.

In pondering the luminous mystery, Institution of the Eucharist, we might come to a better understanding of and appreciation for the Holy Eucharist and what a gift it is to us. Maybe that thought will get us to daily Mass or at least to approach it with a more appreciative and open heart the next Sunday that we go.

In short, I realized what my friend Susan must have known a long time — that applying the mysteries of the rosary to my daily life is a way to make it a living prayer — something that can be prayed almost constantly, daily. I appreciate this insight from Susan, my "big sister in Christ," and continue to be amazed how God uses little events and ordinary friends to teach us great things about Himself.

Theresa Thomas can be reached at TheresaThomasEverydayCatholic@gmail.com. Her book "Stories for the Homeschool Heart" can be ordered on Amazon.com

LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

that the candidate was holy and is now in heaven with God; the decree allows public remembrance of the saint at liturgies throughout the Church. It also means that churches can be dedicated to the person without special Vatican permission.

Beatifications only became common in the early 1600s after the Vatican centralized the sainthood process. The centralized process meant dioceses could wait many years or decades to celebrate one of their own as a saint, so to acknowledge the local devotion to the candidate, the popes would give the candidate the title blessed and allow limited devotion.

For hundreds of years, the most obvious difference between a canonization and beatification was the fact that the pope personally presided only at a canonization Mass.

Those lines began to blur during the pontificate of Pope Paul VI, who decided to celebrate the beatification in 1971 of Polish Franciscan Father Maximilian Kolbe, who was martyred in a Nazi concentration camp.

Pope John Paul II kept up the practice of personally presiding over both beatifications and canonizations — and he did so hundreds of times all over the world.

Pope Benedict XVI, responding to pleas from some Vatican officials, bishops and theologians, tried to help people actually see the difference between a beatification and a canonization by presiding personally only when a new saint was being proclaimed.

For more than five years, he maintained that practice. But in September, he led the beatification Mass in England for John Henry Newman. The second beatification of his pontificate will be the proclamation of Blessed John Paul II.

Procedurally, a miracle — lit-

erally — is needed for a blessed to be declared a saint.

For beatification, the Vatican requires proof of a miracle attributed to the candidate's intercession, unless the candidate was martyred for his or her faith.

The second miracle — the one needed for canonization — must take place after the beatification ceremony and is seen as God's final seal of approval on the Church's proclamation.

"In addition to reassuring us that the servant of God lives in heaven in communion with God, miracles are the divine confirmation of the judgment expressed by Church authorities about the virtuous life" lived by the candidate, Pope Benedict said in a speech to members of the Congregation for Saints' Causes in 2006.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for May 1, 2011

John 20:19-31

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Divine Mercy Sunday, Cycle A: the resurrected Jesus appears in the Upper Room. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

FIRST DAY	DOOR	FOR FEAR
PEACE	SHOWED	HIS HANDS
THE LORD	SEND YOU	BREATHED ON
HOLY SPIRIT	FORGIVE	SINS
THOMAS	FINGER	MY GOD
BLESSED	OTHER SIGNS	BOOK
THE CHRIST	LIFE	HIS NAME

FEAR AND PEACE

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K W L T H E C H R I S T
P B J O S D N A H S I H
E L R F O R F E A R N E
A E A E R E G N I F S L
C S M N A N K P G L T O
E S Y A D T S R I F H R
V E G K N Y H F K S O D
I D O O L S E E H O M A
G F D O L L I O D A A D
R H H B F E W H D O S A
O J O T H E R S I G N S
F S E N D Y O U E D A N
  
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St. Paul preached and baptized converts

Where is Crete where St. Paul's ship was caught in a hurricane?

St. Paul was continuing his journey by ship from Jerusalem to Rome when he encountered a hurricane and unexpectedly had to land at the Greek island of Crete (or Kriti). Crete is the largest of the Greek islands in the eastern Mediterranean Sea southeast of mainland Greece. Crete is famous for its ancient Minoan civilization (300-2100 B.C.) and its ancient paintings and ruins are very interesting to see.

O. Meinardus says that St. Paul's ship anchored at Fair Havens in Crete about the end of the first week of October, AD 61. Here the ship stayed for possibly three weeks waiting for the wind to change. Fair Havens (or Kaloi Limenes) is the name of a small village, a bay and a group of islets on the southern coast of Crete.

In 1851 Captain Spratt anchored his paddle steamer where St. Paul's ship had sought shelter. On a ridge over the bay Spratt found the ruins of a Greek chapel dedicated to St. Paul, perhaps marking the very spot where Paul himself used to preach to the natives of Crete.

Today the existing white chapel, commemorating St. Paul's arrival on Crete, is situated on the



FATHER RICHARD HIRE

HIRE HISTORY

brow of the hill overlooking the bay. It is built upon the site of the former church. A few yards to the west of the church is the traditional cave where St. Paul stayed. This cave is marked by a very tall cross. There are houses in Fair Havens scattered around the bay.

Another town of Crete is called Phoenix (modern Loutro) and is mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles. Loutro was a better harbor for waiting out the winter. The people of Loutro maintain that St. Paul visited their town. Today there is a little chapel of St. Paul and a spring of St. Paul between the coastal towns of Loutro and Aglia Roumeli. This chapel commemorates the site where St. Paul baptized his first Cretans converts. A service is held in this chapel each year on June 29, the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul.

St. Paul's companion Titus became the first bishop of Crete.

For Dave Elchert, Christ is 'Chairman of the Board'

GOSHEN — Holiness is one of the characteristics that Christians are called to through Baptism. A permanent deacon regardless of family, charitable service or leadership must cultivate a life of prayer in the midst of their busy lives. The Liturgy of the Hours, daily Mass, the rosary and daily prayers are a must in order to maintain a servant's heart. St. Francis de Sales once wrote, "Every one of us needs half an hour of prayer each day, except when we are busy — then we need an hour." The deacon, who teaches, administrates, assists at the altar or encourages, gives solace or direction to the faithful, needs constant refueling through personal prayer and the sacraments of the Church.

Dave Elchert and his wife Donna, now married for 48 years, take daily prayer and their personal witness to Jesus Christ very seriously. By way of prayer they have successfully raised four children, Bob, Lisa married to Tim, Jim married to Becky and Ron wedded to Leslie. Eight grandchildren are fortunate to have such dedicated and holy grandparents.

Dave's call to holiness was well cultivated by his parents and relatives who led holy lives through good marriages or the religious life. Dave was surrounded by two permanent deacon uncles, a Holy Cross Brother uncle and an aunt, a Franciscan Sister, who taught him how to serve as a young boy at the altar.

Dave, one of 12 children, grew up with entrepreneur parents who started a religious article store in their own home. Initially recruiting other friends and fellow Catholics to assist them in making these articles of prayer available in their homes, his parents would eventu-



DAVE AND DONNA ELCHERT

ally own and operate 19 successful religious article stores in northwest Ohio. This combined love of the Catholic faith and his parents' financial genius would set Dave on a similar spiritual path throughout his life.

After high school, Dave joined the Marine Corps, where he learned the skill of photography. He worked as a photographer until he met his future wife Donna and decided to advance his professional opportunities by earning a finance degree. This decision and his innate ability to operate a busi-

ness led to a career that began as a federal credit union examiner, and then as a financial controller for a mobile home company.

He then was put in charge of the finances of five mobile home companies in Kansas. Moving to Atlanta, Dave became the general manager of five recreational vehicle companies and eventually became the vice president or president of three or four other RV companies. After moving 13 times to pursue his corporate dreams, Dave, in 1989, decided to start his own business in Bristol.

Dave now owns and operates Merhow Industries, a company that builds and sells horse trailers for customers all over the world. Dave proudly admits that in the lobby of his own business stands a statue of the Blessed Mother. In his office hangs a large crucifix and a picture of the Divine Mercy, who Dave confesses is "the Chairman of the Board."

A more settled life in Goshen allowed the Elcherts the possibility of becoming active members of St. John the Evangelist Parish. Father John Delaney, former pastor of the parish, quickly noticed their talents and asked Dave to chair the stewardship committee for the parish. With prayer, his financial expertise

and the help of many parishioners, Dave was able to eliminate the parish's half-million-dollar debt. He began to teach his fellow parishioners about the three-fold tasks of discipleship which includes the giving of time, talent and treasure. Dave also chaired the Legacy of Faith campaign for his parish. They not only blessed their parish with financial and business expertise but also their profound love of Jesus Christ.

Donna, a former beautician and cosmetologist, is now the parish sacristan. She heads the church cleaning committee, sings in the choir and mentors third- and fourth-grade students in the parish school. She assisted Dave on the stewardship and Legacy of Faith committees as well.

Dave, after his morning workout and prayer, leads Morning Prayer at the parish before heading into the office. He is a lector, extraordinary minister of Holy Communion and teaches sacramental prep for un-catechized elementary students. He assists in

A GLIMPSE: THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

BY GINNY KOHRMAN

teaching RCIA and leads Breaking Open the Word. Father Delaney knew that Dave was a prime candidate for the permanent diaconate and Father Chris Smith, current pastor of St. John, concurs.

Dave admits that the diaconate formation has helped him realize Christ as his personal board of directors. Donna smiles and says that "Dave is more patient."

But Dave in his wisdom and submission to God's will quickly quotes Scripture saying, "All things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." Donna quietly smiles and nods in agreement.

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DIRECTOR OF CCD

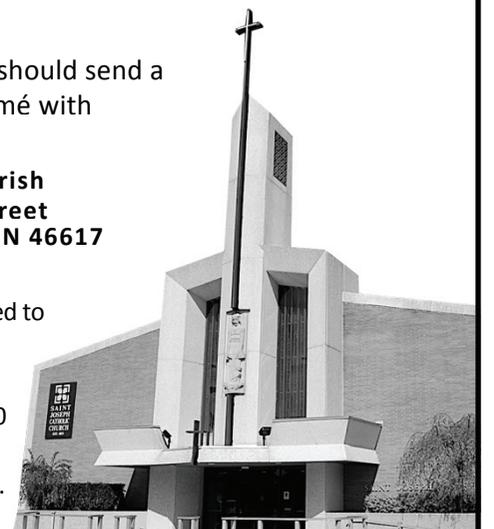
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Sports

CYO title goal for Cardinals' softball team

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The two-time defending Catholic Youth League (CYO) softball champs were beaten handily by St. Joseph, Decatur, 11-1, in their first outing of 2011, played at St. Charles on April 12.

Coach Tim Atkinson remains very positive about his St. Charles

Cardinals, "Our girls have a lot of fast pitch experience, which will allow us to focus on details instead of just the basics. Most of our players have been playing since they were little."

The team lacks pitching experience, but has a goal of winning the CYO title again this season.

"St. Joe, Decatur, smacked the ball all over the place. They may be the best all-around team and will be the

ones to beat this year," Atkinson predicts.

While winning is important, Atkinson feels that preparing his team to play at the high-school level is his first concern. The Cardinals are 13 strong this year listing six eighth graders and seven seventh graders on their roster.

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BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

"Burst: A Story of God's Grace When Life Falls Apart," by Kevin Wells

"Burst: A Story of God's Grace When Life Falls Apart," by Kevin Wells, (Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-948-5, \$14.99)

BY KAY COZAD

Today's Catholic book of the month club offers Kevin Wells' compelling personal story as this month's reading choice. Wells takes his readers on an unbelievable journey through some remarkably challenging trials juxtaposed with tender moments of faithfulness, humor and grace.

The first chapter begins unceremoniously as we meet Wells describing in intimate detail his excruciating experience of an intracranial brain hemorrhage. The former sports journalist's style of writing, stemming from his sports coverage years, is quippy and down to earth. Early on it's easy to feel as if you are present with him as his comprehensive account unfolds.

The truly inspired feature of this story is the delicately interwoven personal faith vignettes that form the rugged tapestry of his life leaving his readers wanting to know more. Following brain surgery, a miraculous healing supported by a host of prayerful friends and family and his subsequent return home for recuperation, Wells writes, "I believe much of the acute, lasting pain I've accumulated throughout my life has arrived as a sort of message from God, kind of like a postcard dropped from heaven that's as heavy as an anvil."

Subsequent chapters take the reader back in time before his brain hemorrhage in a successful attempt to illustrate

the early trajectory of Wells' life. Throughout his struggles with recovery from brain surgery and much more, Wells reminds us of God's grace with his accounts of saints, analogies and quotes from outstanding Church leaders that have touched his faith life and sustained him through it all.

Wells teaches us about faith in adversity even in his early years as he strives to find purpose in his first job in a small town. As intimacy with the Lord grows for the author in his solitude, through sheer will he finds his way to gratitude for even the smallest of blessings. He eventually lands his dream job on a daily newspaper as a sports journalist.

As his professional life accelerates, Wells — without even looking — meets and marries the woman of his dreams and sets up house. Life is good until the happy couple discovers their disheartening challenge with infertility. As he describes it, "Life is rolling along then ... poof!"

After coming to terms with the idea that biological children are not in the cards, the young couple turns to adoption, where they encounter even further devastation with a fraudulent adoption. And to add insult to injury, as Wells and his bride take refuge in the loving wisdom offered by his uncle Tommy — the enlightened and compassionate priest — on the cross they bear, a vicious murder tears the pastor from their grasp.

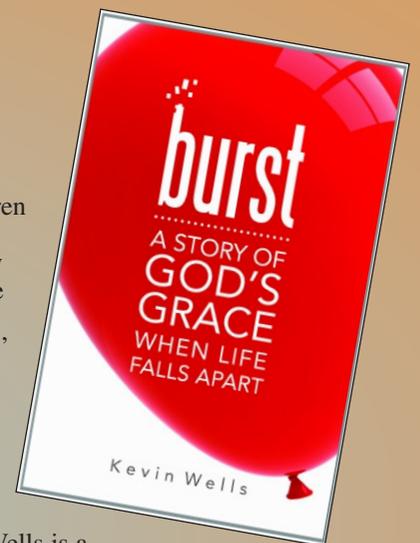
Even readers with the hardest of hearts will soften as this book reveals the truth of redemptive prayer throughout its pages. As the author and his wife face trial after trial, they seek God with raw and raging honesty and remain faithful to prayer and the sacraments even when

their hearts are barren and dry. That is the fundamental beauty of "Burst" — in the face of disastrous adversity, the Wells' foundation of faith sustains them and hope prevails.

"Burst: A Story of God's Grace When Life Falls Apart," by Kevin Wells is a page turner to say the least, if not for the riveting trail of adversity he traverses throughout his life, then for the inspiring results of his steadfast faith. We could all learn a thing or two about hope and trusting God from this inspiring account.

Questions for reflection

- What trials have you encountered in your life that left you feeling God was not present? How did you find Him again?
- What does Wells mean when he writes "All of us, it seems to me as I grow older, are confronted with at least one tragic event. And working through the aftermath of those tragedies is where we will determine every future instance of our lives." — page 107? Does that have meaning in your life? How?



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhogan@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.

Lourdes Dinner Dance May 7

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council No. 553 will hold a Lourdes Dinner Dance Saturday, May 7, at 553 E. Washington St. The evening begins with wine, hors d'oeuvres and silent auction at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner catered by Fiddler's Hearth. Dancing to the music of Mike Vaszari and his band will complete the evening. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$60 per couple. Reservations by May 1 can be made by calling John or Judy Lehner at (574) 236-7642. Proceeds send an individual suffering from a serious illness or injury on a pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Father Adam Schmitt will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel on Tuesday, May 3, at 7 p.m. to pray for priests and vocations. Father Schmitt is a retired priest in Fort Wayne.

Unemployment seminar offered

Huntington — Victory Noll Center will offer a Support Seminar for the Unemployed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 4, at Victory Noll Center, 1900 W. Park Dr. A number of local agencies will have staff members on hand making presentations and hosting workshops to offer training and other informational opportunities. There is no cost for the program, but registration is required. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Contact the center at (260) 356-0628, ext. 174, or at victorynollcenter@olvm.org.

Evening with Mary

Monroeville — St. Rose Parish will have an Evening with Mary on Thursday, May 12, starting at 6:30 p.m. There will be a half hour of congregational singing of Mary songs. At 7 p.m. there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Franciscan Father David Mary Engo will give a talk on Fatima, followed by the rosary and Benediction.

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.

Natural Family Planning sessions offered

South Bend — An introduction to Natural Family Planning will be Friday, May 13, at the South Bend Clinic physician's lounge, 211 N. Eddy St., presented by Cathy Rakowski, PhD, and is sponsored by Natural Family Planning of St. Joseph County. To register contact (574) 234-5411 or nfpstjoseph@catholic.org. Additional classes will be held on June 3, July 8, Aug. 12 and Nov. 18 at the same location.

REST IN PEACE

Columbia City

Evelyn Irene Andorfer, 92, St. Paul of the Cross

Fort Wayne

Sandra Lee Shepard, 69, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Francis James Gradley, St. Vincent de Paul

Maria L. Barnet, 94, St. Patrick

Felicia De-Ianni, 83, St. Charles

Mary Elizabeth Lucas Shreve, 93, St. Jude

Goshen

Demarcus Kelly, 70, St. John the Evangelist

Granger

Kevin P. Herceg, 35, St. Pius X

Robert L. Sellers, 82, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Martha D. Pepin, 88, St. Bavo

Eddie J. Kush, 90, Queen of Peace

Virginia K. Trippel, 89, St. Monica

Camiel P. De Keiser, Jr., 78, St. Bavo

New Haven

Gary R. Swaidner, 72, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Fay Hare, 84, St. Joseph Chapel

South Bend

Helen A. Maslowski, 94, St. Adalbert

Dorothy A. Kroll, 89, Holy Cross

Loretta L. Laskowski, 86, Holy Cross

Margaret Myers, 79, St. Catherine of Siena at St. Jude

Warsaw

Leonard C. Wendt, 85, Sacred Heart

Waterloo

Marilyn Joann Rudolph, 79, St. Michael

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE AND OUTREACH

St. Joseph Parish (South Bend) seeks a Director of Community Life and Outreach. A member of the Pastoral Team, this fulltime staff position furthers the mission of the parish through oversight of community-building efforts within the parish and through oversight of parish service-related opportunities and activities in the wider community.

The Director of Community Life and Outreach works to encourage the bonds of charity and mutual concern among parishioners to empower the parish membership to live out their faith in active, self-donating love for all, especially for those in need.

Qualified applicants will be conversant in Church teaching, have a pastoral theological understanding, be computer literate, and have strong organizational and interpersonal skills. A bachelor's degree is required (Theology or related field preferred). Salary is commensurate with education and experience.

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



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Cemetery has many other burial options available including garden crypts, cremation niche columbariums, and mausoleum entombment spaces.

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Call Larry Fisher at 260.426.2044 for an appointment or visit the Cemetery Office at 3500 Lake Avenue from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

www.catholic-cemetery.org

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EASTER TRIDUUM ACROSS THE DIOCESE



Laurie Kiefaber

Steve Kroh was one of 12 men having their feet washed by Father Sextus Don at St. Bernard Church in Wabash on Holy Thursday.



Jerry Kessens

Those assembled at St. Peter Church, Fort Wayne, venerate the cross during the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday.



Karen Clifford

Msgr. William Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Granger, blesses the congregation at Easter morning Mass.



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- Hispanic Health Advocate
- Pregnancy Services
- Refugee Employment Services
- Refugee Services
- RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)
- Senior AIDES Employment
- Villa of the Woods Senior Residential Living

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South Bend: 574-234-3111



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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

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