Pope Benedict XVI announced a special “Year of Faith” to help Catholics appreciate the gift of faith, deepen their relationship with God and strengthen their commitment to sharing faith with others.

Celebrating Mass Oct. 16 with participants in a Vatican conference on new evangelization, the pope said the Year of Faith would give “renewed energy to the mission of the whole Church to lead men and women out of the desert they often are in and toward the place of life: friendship with Christ who gives us fullness of life.”

The pope said the observance would begin Oct. 11, 2012 — the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council — and conclude Nov. 24, 2013 — the feast of Christ the King.

“It will be a moment of grace and commitment to an ever fuller conversion to God, to reinforce our faith in Him and to proclaim Him with joy to the people of our time,” the pope said in his homily.

Pope Benedict explained his intention more fully in “Porta Fidei” (“The Door of Faith”), an apostolic letter released Oct. 17 to formally announce the special year.

“Faith grows when it is lived as an experience of love received and when it is communicated as an experience of grace and joy,” the pope wrote.

He said the Catechism of the Catholic Church, first published in 1992, should serve as the handbook for helping Catholics rediscover the truths of faith and deepen their understanding of Church teaching.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, he said, will publish a “note” to help people live the year “in the most effective and appropriate ways at the service of belief and W E D D I N G , P A G E 1 6

FORT WAYNE — Catholic couples, who were married 25 or 50 years, and their families and friends assembled for Masses celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, first at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, on Oct. 9, and the following Sunday, Oct. 16, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.

At the Fort Wayne Mass, Bishop Rhoades told the couples in his homily, which can be found on page 2 of this week’s Today’s Catholic, “The life of Marriage is indeed a holy journey, since Marriage is an institution which has God as its author.”

On the weekend in which diocesan parishes honored Blessed Pope John Paul II, Bishop Rhoades said that the beloved pope often told married couples: “Become what you are!”

When Pope John Paul II was declared “blessed” on May 1, Bishop Rhoades chose Oct. 16, the day on which Pope John Paul was elected to the papacy, as the weekend of celebration of the beatification in the diocese.

Bishop Rhoades spoke of his great affection and the influence of Blessed Pope John Paul II. As a seminarian in Rome, Bishop Rhoades served Mass for Pope John Paul II. Bishop Rhoades said he knew then that Pope John Paul II was a saint.

John Paul II had written extensively on the vocation of the Family.
The holy journey of Marriage

Bishop Rhoades delivered this homily the past two Sundays at the wedding anniversary Masses at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, and at Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend.

On this joyful occasion, we gather to offer thanks to God for the gift of His unfailing love in the sacrament of marriage. We celebrate in a very special way the love of God which has united and sustained the married lives of the many couples gathered here in this cathedral from throughout our diocese who are celebrating 50 or 25 years of holy matrimony. Congratulations to all of you!

I imagine that this year our anniversary couples have reflected back on their wedding day when, before God and His Church, they freely consented to the duties and responsibilities of marriage. Through their mutual “I do,” they said yes to their vocation from God and embarked on a holy journey together.

The life of marriage is indeed a holy journey, since marriage is an institution which has God as its author. It is a holy journey because Jesus elevated this natural institution to the status of a sacrament, which means that through it God communicates His grace. It is a holy journey because the marital vocation is meant to be a means to grow in holiness. Holiness is at the very heart of the vocation of marriage — it is a call to become holy and to help each other become holy, which means leading each other to heaven.

A holy marriage is one which is made of many virtues. Saint Paul, in his letter to the Colossians, calls the Christians “God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved” and then he exhorts them to live the Christian virtues, the virtues that are the mark of those who live the new life in Christ, a truly holy life. This applies so very clearly to married couples who are called to be holy, to live the grace they received in the sacrament of marriage. Blessed John Paul II said often to married couples: “Become what you are!” What did he mean by this? He means an image of Christ’s love for the Church.

There is a strong tendency today to reduce the love of the marriage bond to only a feeling, perhaps the romantic love of courtship and honeymoon. But then, when that feeling dries up, it may seem to the couple that they have nothing left and that they have failed. No! At these times, their vocation as spouses calls them to go further, to “become what they are,” members of a marital communion defined not by romantic feeling, but by the unbreakable spousal love of Jesus Christ for His Church. You would not be here today celebrating your anniversaries, if you had not clung to the unconditional promise that you made at your wedding as a source of grace. You have grown through the years in a love that is far deeper than a romantic feeling. Perhaps the love of the marriage bond to only a feeling finds its complete expression, following the example of Jesus himself, in a willingness to sacrifice oneself in everyday situations for one’s spouse and children. There is no greater love within a marriage and a family than for the spouses and children to lay down their lives for one another. This is the heart of the vocation of marriage, the heart of the call to become holy” (US Bishops’ Pastoral Letter).

Saint Paul also exhorts the Colossians to be thankful. “And be thankful.” The virtue of joyful gratitude is critical for marital and family love. We’re here at this Mass today to give thanks to God for your married lives. Every husband and wife is called to be thankful for their spouse as a gift they have received. You are a gift to each other. And ultimately this gift of the other comes from God’s awesome love for each of you. If you have been blessed with children, this is also a cause for thanksgiving. In our culture today, I sometimes think people are not grateful enough. We need to live and practice the virtue of gratitude — in our relations with each other and also in our relationship with God. He blesses us with so many gifts every day. When we are truly grateful and live grateful lives, we are happier. We have a more positive attitude to life. Moreover, the virtue of gratitude overflows from the marriage and family to embrace the Church and the world. It extends to others and helps to build up Christ’s Body, the Church. Saint Paul writes: “And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

I wish to end this homily by expressing my gratitude as bishop to all our married couples on their anniversaries. I thank you for your witness of love and fidelity through your many years of marriage. Yours is a witness that is so needed in our culture and society today. Thank you for witnessing Christ’s love for the Church!

At every Mass, we celebrate the memorial of the love with which Christ loved us to the end, even to the giving of his life. In the Eucharist, you who are married meet the One who is the source of your marriage. You encounter the love that animates and sustains your marriage, the love of Christ for his Church. May you continue to bear witness to that love!

May God bless all our anniversary couples that they may continue to grow in virtue and in holiness! May the love of Christ and the prayers of Mary and Joseph move you to ever greater heights of love!
## Confirmation schedule for 2011-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Bishop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>Corpus Christi</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 16</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>St. Anthony de Padua</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>St. Michael the Archangel</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<td>March 23</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Warsaw</td>
<td>Our Lady of Guadalupe</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Notre Dame</td>
<td>Campus Ministries</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>St. Jude</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>St. Mary of the Assumption and St. Joseph</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Huntington</td>
<td>St. Mary of the Assumption</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Plymouth</td>
<td>St. Michael and St. Patrick (Walkerton)</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>St. Jude and Sacred Heart</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Bremen</td>
<td>Our Lady of Hungary, St. Augustine,</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Goshen</td>
<td>St. John the Evangelist</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Warsaw</td>
<td>Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception,</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>New Haven</td>
<td>St. Martin de Porres (Syracuse) at Sacred</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>St. John the Baptist</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>St. Matthew Cathedral, Little Flower,</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Mishawaka</td>
<td>Queen of Peace</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Granger</td>
<td>St. Pius X</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Monroeville</td>
<td>St. Rose of Lima</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Granger</td>
<td>St. Pius X</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>St. John the Baptist</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>St. Charles Borromeo</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>St. Teresa, Our Lady of Good Hope and</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Avilla</td>
<td>Queen of Angels at the cathedral</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>St. Mary of the Assumption</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Culver</td>
<td>St. Mary of the Lake</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>Holy Family, St. John the Baptist and</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>St. Mary of the Annunciation</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Most Precious Blood</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Elkhart</td>
<td>St. Thomas the Apostle</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>St. Anthony of Padua, St. Joseph (LaGrange)</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>St. Elizabeth Ann Sieron</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>St. Joseph</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Ligonier</td>
<td>St. Patrick</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>St. Adalbert and St. Gasimir</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>St. Vincent de Paul</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Elkhart</td>
<td>St. Vincent de Paul</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Columbia City</td>
<td>St. Paul of the Cross, St. Catherine of</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<td>May 19</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>St. Anthony of Padua</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>Garrett</td>
<td>St. Joseph and Immaculate Conception (Auburn)</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Ege</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception and St. John Bosco</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>South Bend</td>
<td>St. Matthew Cathedral, Adult Confirmation</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception:</td>
<td>Rhodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Rome City</td>
<td>St. Gaspar del Bufalo</td>
<td>D’Ary</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Advisory concerning ‘Holy Redeemer Catholic Community’

Fort Wayne Newspapers publish a weekly ad in its Area Church Directory listing “Holy Redeemer Catholic Community” and its Mass times.

This community, though it calls itself “Catholic,” is not in communion with the Catholic Church. It is independent of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and not in communion with Pope Benedict XVI and the Bishops in communion with him. Its minister is not a Roman Catholic priest.

This advisory is issued to clear up any confusion regarding the status of the Holy Redeemer community in relation to the Catholic Church. It should also be noted that, according to canon law, no initiative is to claim the name “Catholic” without the consent of competent ecclesiastical authority” (canon 216).

## POPE ARRIVES ON WHEELED PLATFORM FOR FIRST TIME DURING MASS

Pope Benedict XVI stands on a wheeled platform as he arrives for a Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 16. This was the pope’s first use of the mobile platform, which was used by Pope John Paul II during his last years. The Vatican said use of the platform was intended to reduce the physical toll on the pope.
Support access to health care?
Protect conscience rights.

**Catholic Organizations Respond to HHS “Preventive Services” Mandate**

We, the undersigned, strongly support access to life-affirming health care for all, and the ability of secular and religious groups and individuals to provide and receive such care. That is why we have raised objections to a rule issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services forcing almost all private health plans to cover sterilization procedures and contraceptive drugs, including drugs that may cause an early abortion.

As written, the rule will force Catholic organizations that play a vital role in providing health care and other needed services either to violate their conscience or severely curtail those services. This would harm both religious freedom and access to health care.

The HHS mandate puts many faith-based organizations and individuals in an untenable position. But it also harms society as a whole by undermining a long American tradition of respect for religious liberty and freedom of conscience. In a pluralistic society, our health care system should respect the religious and ethical convictions of all. We ask Congress, the Administration, and our fellow Americans to acknowledge this truth and work with us to reform the law accordingly.

Robert B. Aguirre
President/Ceo
Catholic Association of Latino Leaders

Carl A. Anderson
Supreme Knight
Knights of Columbus

F. DeKarlos Blackmon, ObLSB
Supreme Knight/CEO
Knights of Peter Claver

William J. Cox
President/CEO
Alliance of Catholic Health Care

Michael Galligan-Stierle, PhD
President/Ceo
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities

John Garvey, JD
President
The Catholic University of America

Sheila Gilbert
President
National Council of the U.S. Society of St. Vincent de Paul

John M. Haas, PhD, STL
President
National Catholic Bioethics Center

Ken Hackett
President
Catholic Relief Services

Jan R. Hemstad, MD
President
Catholic Medical Association

Rev. John Jenkins, CSC
President
University of Notre Dame

Patty Johnson
President
National Council of Catholic Women

James G. Lindsay
Executive Director
Catholic Volunteer Network

Stephen L. Mikochik, JD
Chair
National Catholic Partnership on Disability

Karen M. Ristau, EdD
President
National Catholic Educational Association

Geralyn C. Shelvin
Supreme Lady
Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary

Rev. Larry Snyder
President
Catholic Charities USA

Joanne Tomassi
National Regent
Catholic Daughters of the Americas

The Most Rev. José Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles
Chairman
Migration and Refugee Services

The Most Rev. Timothy Dolan
Archbishop of New York
President
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
US bishops’ agency denied federal grant to help victims

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Since 2006, the U.S. Catholic bishops’ Migration and Refugee Services has helped more than 2,700 victims of human trafficking obtain food, clothing and access to medical care.

That service has come to a halt because the agency recently learned it did not receive a new grant award for this work from the Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Refugee Resettlement. MRS’ prior contract for the trafficking program ended Oct. 10.

Mercy Sister Mary Ann Walsh, director of media relations for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, told Catholic News Service Oct. 11 that she hoped the Catholic Church’s “position against abortion, sterilization and artificial contraception has not entered into this decision” by the HHS refugee office to reject MRS’ application for a new grant, “especially since this administration has said it stands fully behind freedom of conscience.”

She noted that the MRS’s anti-trafficking program “will be said to be gone without these services” and said it would be “tragic if abortion politics harmed the men, women and children already at risk because of the crime and scandal of human trafficking.”

MRS officials had no immediate comment.

Jesse Moore, spokesman for Health and Human Services, simply told CNS in an Oct. 12 email that the “grantees were awarded funding to provide comprehensive human trafficking services for human trafficking victims through the National Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program.”

He added that the “competitive grant process is used across the government and allows federal agencies to consider a broad range of potential applicants and select those that can deliver services most effectively and efficiently.”

In 2009, the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for not making Catholic Community Services of the Diocese of Springfield, Mass., a Catholic bishops’ agency include referrals for abortion, sterilization and artificial contraception in its anti-trafficking program. That case is still pending.

Sister Mary Ann said in an email to CNS that MRS officials are concerned about their clients and hope they will “not suffer from a clumsy transition to new agencies or from limited or lack of services.”

MRS worked with various agencies in its anti-trafficking program across the United States. About one-third of these subcontractors were Catholic agencies; others included Lutheran Family Services, Jewish Family Services and anti-domestic violence groups.

Three groups were awarded federal grants for anti-trafficking programs. The groups are Tapestry, based in Atlanta, Heartland Human Care Services in Chicago and the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants based in Washington.

The groups were awarded a $5 million grant for the first year with the possibility of adding two additional years.

The U.S. bishops spoke of the relationship between MRS and HHS when they formed an Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty in late September to specifically address actions at various levels of government that pose dangers to the free exercise of religion.

In announcing the new committee, Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.SCCB, called into question the HHS requirement that MRS provide the “full range of reproductive service” — including abortion and contraception — to trafficking victims in its cooperative agreements and government contracts.

Archbishop Dolan also reiterated the U.S. bishops’ concern about HHS’ use of the phrase “contraception and sterilization” in all private health-insurance plans while failing to adequately exempt insurers and individuals that have religious or moral objections to the mandate.

Meanwhile, Catholic Charities agencies are listed as recipients of grants announced in early October for organizations that help support poor and vulnerable families and especially for those in a vulnerable fatherhood. The grants are distributed by HHS’ Administration for Children and Families.

The church’s role in ending human trafficking cannot be over-looked, according to Miguel H. Diaz, the U.S. ambassador to the Vatican.

In a conference May at the Vatican on building public-private partnerships in the battle against modern-day slavery, he said the only way to end this global human rights violation is for governments to enlist the help of religious leaders, businesses, consumers and other private entities.

Faith continued from page 1

Archbishop Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, talks with young people after an event with Pope Benedict XVI in Paul VI hall at the Vatican Oct. 15. Some 8,000 people, mainly from Catholic movements, turned out to support the pope’s call for a new evangelization.

The astrophysicist, Marco Bertinelli, used his own experience of wonder and awe before the cosmos as a lesson on the error of assuming that scientists cannot be faithful Christians and evangelizers.

The evening event, which featured a mini-concert by tenor Andrea Bocelli and a speech by Pope Benedict, also marked the official announcement of a new internet project by Jesus Colina, who recently resigned as head of the Legations of Christ’s Zenit news service.

The new platform, Aleteia.org, is designed to be a multimedia “community” where people can ask questions about Catholic faith and practices and receive answers they can be sure are in line with official Church teaching.

“The internet is where people go for answers today, even about God, religion and faith,” Colina told the assembly, announcing that the website would be launched Oct. 19.

He said the site would involve journalists and theologians from around the world and would link to “the best sites” for Catholic teaching and information.

Catholics “need to create networks on the net — not get more hits than one another,” he said.
WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. House Oct. 13 passed the Protect Life Act, which applies long-standing federal policies on abortion funding and conscience rights to the health-reform law. The measure passed with a bipartisan vote of 251 to 172. Its chief sponsors were Rep. Joe Pitts, R-Pa., chairman of the House Subcommittee on Energy and Commerce, and Rep. Dan Lipinski, D-Ill., who co-chairs the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus. The bill also had 144 co-sponsors. “The healthcare law made it clear that the current way we prevent taxpayer funding of abortion through insurance companies is seriously and dangerously fragile,” Lipinski said in January when the measure was introduced. “We must take action to prevent federal funding for abortion under the healthcare law and throughout the government, without exception.” In a statement released Oct. 14, Deirdre McQuade, spokeswoman for the U.S. bishop’s pro-life secretariat, said that by passing H.R. 358, “the House has taken an important step toward authentic healthcare reform that respects the dignity of all, from conception onward.” McQuade urged the Senate to likewise “help make healthcare reform life-affirming.” The Protect Life Act applies the Kennedy Amendment to healthcare reform “so federal funds will not be used to subsidize elective abortions,” McQuade said, would reverse the law “into line with other federal health programs such as Medicaid and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.” It also “help ensure that the government will not pressure health professionals to participate in abortion against their medical judgment, moral convictions or religious beliefs,” she added.

Catholic organizations, universities place ad objecting to HHS mandate

WASHINGTON (CNS) — An unusual coalition of national Catholic organizations and universities took to the pages of two Capitol Hill publications Oct. 11 to protest the Obama administration’s plan to include contraceptives and sterilization among the mandated “preventive services” for women under the new health reform law. “As written, the rule will force Catholic organizations that play a vital role in providing healthcare and other services to violate their conscience or severely curtail those services,” the groups said in a full-page ad in Politico and The Hill newspapers. “It would require both religious freedom and access to health care.” The ad (on page 4 in Today’s Catholic) carried the headline “Support access to health care? Protect conscience rights.” Members of the coalition ranged from the heads of the National Catholic Educational Association and the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities to the leaders of Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities USA. The advertisement appeared less than two weeks after the close of a 60-day comment period on a proposed religious exemption to the Department of Health and Human Services’ inclusion of sterilization and all FDA-approved contraceptives among the preventive services required for all health plans. Many of the signers of the ad had already submitted comments to HHS on the mandate and the religious exemption that they have called too narrow. Under the HHS proposal, to qualify for a religious exemption, an organization would have to meet four criteria: (1) has the inculcation of religious values as its purpose; (2) primarily employs persons who share its religious tenets; (3) primarily serves persons who share its religious tenets; and (4) is a ‘religious organization’ under specific sections of the Internal Revenue Code. “The HHS mandate puts many faith-based organizations and individuals in an untenable position,” the ad said. “But it also harms society as a whole by undermining a long American tradition of respect for religious liberty and freedom of conscience.”

US House passes Protect Life Act in bipartisan vote

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A study gives solid evidence that Catholic newspaper readers are loyal to the print format. Catholic readers have wrestled with how to approach the hypothetical diocesan chief financial officer who would argue that “you can put this newspaper online and we can save a lot of money and it can be just as effective,” Walter told Catholic News Service. “What it verified for me, if you take away the print product, you don’t have another communications tool to reach them.”

Metro News Briefs

CARDINAL PELL DEDICATES ALTAR IN CHAPEL IN ROME

Cardinal George Pell of Sydney spreads oil as he dedicates the altar of St. Peter Chanel Chapel at Domus Australia in Rome Oct. 16. The new guest house, to be formally opened by Pope Benedict XVI Oct. 19, offers Australian pilgrims and others modern accommodation, daily Mass in English and an information center.
Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home seeks volunteers

FORT WAYNE — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home, a locally-based, not-for-profit hospice and palliative home care provider is seeking volunteers to assist in Hospice Home, Kentucky’s 14-bed inpatient unit dedicated to the needs of the terminally ill and their families.

This special work requires the ability to work a three- to four-hour shift on a regular basis. Volunteer work includes simple meal preparation and delivery, flower arranging, restocking and cookie baking. This active job requires emotional maturity, commitment and comfort with issues of death and dying. Various shifts are available with a special need on weekends. Volunteer clerks are also needed. Training will begin in November. For additional information, call Ann Blue, volunteer coordinator at (260) 435-3222 or email annblue@vnhh.org.

Mary Hilger receives art educator award

FORT WAYNE — The Art Education Association of Indiana, a professional education organization dedicated to promotion, advancement, and improvement of art education at all levels in the state of Indiana, will be holding its annual convention Nov. 4-6 in Indianapolis. Fort Wayne resident Mary Hilger has been selected to receive the Outstanding Art Educator of the Year award. Award recipients are teachers who show outstanding artistic achievement and service in education, and are nominated by their peers.

Hilger currently teaches art at Indian Springs Middle School in Cunningham City.

She is an active advocate for the arts, and provides multiples opportunities for her students to exhibit their work.

Hilger believes that “God is using me as an instrument to spread His love through the gift of art,” and she has worked with multiple churches and religious groups in her community doing live chalk drawings to bring in revenue.

Hilger drew a portrait in honor of Mother Teresa, which is displayed in Mother Teresa’s house in Calcutta.

Holy Cross College named to military friendly schools list

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College joins the elite ranks of schools listed as a “Military Friendly School” by G.I. Jobs, the premier magazine for military personnel ready to transition into civilian life.

Being named to the 2012 Military Friendly School list ranks Holy Cross College in the top 20 percent of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide.

The competition for our 2012 Military Friendly School list was fierce, and as a result we raised the stringent criteria even higher,” says Denise McNamara, government and military relations officer for G.I. Jobs.

The Military Friendly Schools list is determined through exhaustive research, which includes government agencies and private entities, which administer education benefits and a comprehensive survey administered by G.I. Jobs. Schools are awarded the Military Friendly distinction based on programs and policies that measure a school’s non-financial efforts to recruit and retain military and veteran students.

Holy Cross College appeals to military veterans because they can incorporate their experience directly into their education. Holy Cross College requires all students to complete four experiential learning programs, involving service projects, global study and professional internships. The final program, The Capstone Presentation, allows students to explain how their experiences have changed them and in what direction they are headed.

Brother Brisco professes simple vows in the Dominican Order

CINCINNATI, Ohio — A native of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is one of 16 men that made simple profession in the Dominican Order on Aug. 15 at St. Gertrude Church in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dominican Father John Langlois, vicar provincial of the Province of St. Joseph received the profession of Brother Patrick Mary Briscoe and the others during a Mass in St. Gertrude Church.

A native of Fort Wayne, Brother Briscoe graduated from Bishop Dwenger High School in 2006, and from Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota in 2010. His home parish is St. Charles Borromeo in Fort Wayne.

He entered the Dominican Order in August 2010 at St. Gertrude Priory in Cincinnati. He was assigned to the Dominican House of Studies in 2011 where he is currently pursuing studies for the priesthood.

Poet reading works for USF Books and Coffee series

FORT WAYNE — Poet Sister Eva Hooker will conduct a poetry reading on Tuesday, Nov. 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the Brooksidge Ballroom as part of the Books and Coffee series at the University of Saint Francis.

The visiting writer has authored “Notes for Survival in the Wilderness (or, A Wild Rose Can Be Eaten Raw)” and other poetry collections. She was Regents Professor of Poetry at Saint John’s University in Collegeville, Minn. and is now writer-in-residence and professor of English at Saint Mary’s College at Notre Dame. She has published in The Harvard Review, The Massachusetts Review and Shenandoah, among other publications. “Notes for Survival” was published by Chapelleau Press this year.

The Books and Coffee series, presented by the Department of English and Foreign Languages and the School of Arts and Sciences, is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School takes ‘Rachel’s Challenge’

FORT WAYNE — St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School dedicated part of a school day and evening to “Rachel’s Challenge,” a program that promotes kindness, compassion and respect towards others.

Adam Northam of Rachel’s Challenge made his presentation to two assemblies of students at both the St. Joseph and the St. Elizabeth campuses on Tuesday, Oct. 11. He spoke about Rachel Joy Scott, the first student killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999 in Littleton, Colo., during a school massacre that killed 12 students, one teacher and injured 24 others.

The Columbine High School tragedy is not what Rachel’s Challenge is about, Northam pointed out. “We’re not here to talk about how Rachel died, but how she lived,” Northam said.

Rachel Scott’s acts of kindness and compassion, coupled with the completion of her six diaries, other become the foundation for Rachel’s Challenge, a program that has been presented to 1.5 million students annually since 2000. Rachel’s Challenge was founded by Rachel’s father, Darrell Scott.

Rachel Scott’s ideas of dreaming big, writing down goals, saying a journal and speaking with kindness are the simple yet effective steps of “Rachel’s Challenge,” Rachel Scott wrote shortly before her death. “I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same.”

USF presenting wood type and letterpress print, exhibition

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will present a wood type and letterpress print and exhibition in collaboration with the Hamilton Wood Type and Printing Museum of Two Rivers, Wis.

Jim Moran, museum executive director, will speak about the museum’s collection and unique work on Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium as part of the university’s Closer Look Lecture Series.

The Hamilton Museum has over 1.5 million pieces of hand-carved wood type and over 1,000 styles and sizes of patterns, making it one of the largest collections of its kind.

The exhibition will open Saturday, Oct. 29, from 6-9 p.m. in the Weatherhead Gallery in the Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center. The collection will remain on display through Nov. 27 and will feature an original poster collection from the Hamilton Wood Type Museum. The posters were hand-set from vintage Hamilton collection wood type by award-winning designers and typesetters from around the world.

Also on display will be a letterpress installation by museum assistant director Stephanie (Fenstermaker) Carpenter, a University of Saint Francis graduate who also earned a master’s degree in fine arts from Indiana University, Bloomington.

Courier Printing Company of Grabill will also display a collection of letterpress-printed pieces by, one of the only letterpress printers in the region, is the corporate and printing sponsor for this exhibition.

The lecture and exhibit are free and open to the public. For more information, call (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001 or visit www.sf.edu/art.
Hispanic Catholic community still growing

BY LAURIE KIEFABER

FORT WAYNE — Just as Catholic priests traveled to serve rural Americans in pioneer days, diocesan priests and seminarians went to the Hispanic community at first to minister to their needs.

Holy Cross Father Thomas Lemos, now associate pastor of St. Adalbert Church in South Bend, first got involved with Hispanic ministry in South Bend while a third-year seminarian at Moreau Seminary in 1967. “Father Peter Forrestal was a Holy Cross priest who taught Spanish in Texas and taught at Notre Dame,” Father Lemos recalled. “I don’t know all the details, but he went out on his own to the people living on the farms to minister to them. Joe Ruiz (father of Father Ed Ruiz) of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Father Forrestal were a team, and ministered to Hispanic families for their pastoral and social needs.

Father Lemos explained that Hispanics came from Texas in the 1940s, ‘50s and ‘60s to pick crops and work on farms. They stayed in camps on or near farms, working long hours for their pay. Many in the camps would not have made it to the farms to transport the migrant workers to St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in New Carlisle and then to Holy Family Church, he said. Hispanics could attend Mass and the children could attend religious-education classes. The seminarians would teach children to play the guitar and music for Mass, take groups on picnics and organize other activities. Father Forrestal helped the women form the Guadalupana Society, an Hispanic prayer group.

“They prayed and worked for the day when they would have an Hispanic parish,” Father Lemos said. By 1968, Father Lemos said the Hispanic community was growing in the South Bend area and many were moving from the farms to live in South Bend. “Father Forrestal knew he needed to get a home for the Hispanic community that was growing ...,” Father Lemos said.

In April of 1968, members of the Guadalupana Society celebrated the community’s first Mass at St. Stephen King of Hungary Parish. Father Forrestal had also celebrated Mass in Spanish at St. Mary of the Assumption.

Many of the seminarians involved at the time either knew Spanish or were studying it and went on to become missionaries in Chile, South America. Father Lemos had an advantage in learning the language; having grown up in California, he started learning Spanish in seventh grade.

Still, working with the Hispanics in South Bend “helped me learn my Spanish,” he said.

At this point, Father Forrestal was aging, so some Spanish-speaking priests studying at Notre Dame helped out at Masses, Father Lemos said. Then with Vincent II, Mass went from being said in Latin to English and Spanish.

By 1972, Bishop Leo Puskarz saw how the Hispanic population had grown and the diocese purchased a car service station in the Milford area, Father Lemos said. The site became the home of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish about a year later.

Holy Cross Father Bob Baker was hired by the diocese to be the vicar for the Hispanic ministry from Milford and Plymouth to South Bend in 1972, Father Lemos said. Hispanic ministry offices were opened in South Bend and Fort Wayne and Father Baker was consid¬ered the administrator of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The pastoral team of the Spanish Speaking Ministry Office worked out of the South Bend Catholic Charities building, while Father Carlos Rozas worked as vicar for Hispanic Ministry at St. Paul’s Parish in Fort Wayne. In the meantime, Father Lemos, Holy Cross Father John Korcsnar, andHoly Cross Father John Lach, who had been moved into their second year of theology and continued to reach out to the Hispanic community in South Bend, Plymouth, and the Goshen/Milford area.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis also got involved with the community. By 1973, the need for youth ministry was becoming apparent, Father Lemos said. Father Phalen helped start a singing group with Beato and Berta Salazar and a youth group was started around singing called “La Vida” (the life). Later, a place was needed for the gathering youth so a house, which had been an old Polish neighborhood department store, became La Casa de Amistad, Father Lemos said. This grew into a youth center, which still exists but is no longer formally connected to the Church.

Father Lemos, Father Korcecsnar and Father Phalen were ordained priests in 1974, and Father Lemos and Father Phalen worked to develop...
Latinos renew faith at World Youth Day

BY KAY COZAD

Madrid, Spain, overflowed with Catholic youth and young adults from cultures all across the world during a week in mid-August as an estimated 2 million pilgrims converged on the city to celebrate their faith. The Latino community of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend was well represented when a group of several youth and young adults traveled to Spain to receive Pope Benedict XVI’s blessing.

The youth were part of the group of 120 young pilgrims from throughout the diocese who boarded buses and planes to traverse the globe for spiritual renewal. Twenty-two-year-old Carolina Figueroa, of St. Michael Parish in Waterloo, speaks fluent Spanish and felt traveling with the group was a fulfilling experience. She said, “I honestly did not know what to expect, but being there with the group I was with really helped me feel comfortable.”

The first stop on this expansive pilgrimage was Lourdes, France, where the pilgrims were touched and inspired by the sights and sounds of the town that boasts the 13th century grotto where St. Bernadette was inspired by the sights and sounds of the town she visited since.

Figueroa was awe inspired to be at Lourdes, and said, “The experience was amazing, the town itself, Lourdes, was just so spiritual and we were very focused on learning about St. Bernadette and the apparitions of the Immaculate Conception. . . . The most memorable part of this trip was getting bathed in the holy waters.” Another member of the Latino group, 18-year-old Sarai Rodriguez, parishioner of St. Adalbert Parish in South Bend, was also touched by the beauty of Lourdes and said, “Lourdes was awesome, beautiful! To know that that was the spot where Our Mother appeared.”

Ana Díaz-Aguilar, 20, also from St. Adalbert, enjoyed the torch-light ceremony at Lourdes. She said, “The singing and raising of candles — to look around and see the nighttime lit by candles and to see the pilgrims was really moving.” A student at Saint Mary’s College, Díaz-Aguilar was grateful that she was able to join the World Youth Day pilgrimage.

Following two days at Lourdes the pilgrims boarded more buses headed for a visit to Loyola where St. Ignatius experienced his profound conversion in the 1520s. More travel took them to Burgos, Spain, where they spent the night investigating the quaint village that boasts the 13th century gothic-style cathedral in which they celebrated Mass the next morning.

Their expedition through the landscape of Spain led the pilgrims to its capital of Madrid where they experienced six days of catechesis sessions, concerts, special Masses and reconciliation, and Eucharistic Adoration that culminated in an outdoor prayer vigil at Cuatro Vientos airfield where Pope Benedict consecrated the youth of the world to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The Latino group members were able to battle the masses of pilgrims who rode the metro system to the airfield in hopes of finding their assigned area to camp.

Figueras recalls, “Everyone was going to walk together from the Tryp Hotel to the vigil, but our small group did things a bit different. We decided to take the subway and the bus, because it was too hot to walk and it was a very far distance to walk.” Díaz-Aguilar remembers the 100 plus-degree temperatures and crowds of the metro ride to the airfield saying, “We were packed in there.”

Upon arrival at the airfield, the group made their way to their spot, which had already been invaded by pilgrims from Italy, Portugal and Spain. But they held their ground and made camp. Unfortunately, the others from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend were unable to gain entrance to the inner field leaving the Latino group to safeguard their space alone in the packed airfield.

Díaz-Aguilar remembers the 100 plus-degree temperatures and crowds of the metro ride to the airfield saying, “We were packed in there.”

Sarai Rodriguez said of the enormous gathering, “Being inside the airfield and actually seeing how many people were there was pretty awesome.” She was thrilled to speak with some of the pilgrims from abroad.

Though the Saturday night vigil with Pope Benedict was temporarily halted by a thunderstorm that raged through the area, the pilgrims were delighted by the pope’s humor following the storm when he said that they had asked for water all day and finally got some.

The Latino group, along with millions of other pilgrims, watched in awe as the pope blessed the youth, most from big screens strategically placed around the airfield. Rodriguez was touched by the pope’s visit and said, “He came all this way to speak to us!”

In the morning Pope Benedict celebrated Mass with dozens of priests and bishops from around the world and offered a special blessing for all items held by the pilgrims.

The group of pilgrims all felt a sense of deepening faith and change from World Youth Day experience. Of the trip Rodriguez said, “It strengthened my faith and everything I believe in.” Díaz-Aguilar, who has since become more involved in campus ministry and her parish youth group agreed, saying, “I feel more committed to the pope and the Church, more dedicated to prayer.”

Lourdes Silva, associate director of the diocesan Hispanic Ministry Office, who chaperoned the group along with director Enid Roman-DeJesus, throughout the World youth day pilgrimage, summed it up by saying, “The pilgrimage continues, in the Eucharistic celebrations and familiar faces of priests and laity throughout the various diocesan churches I’ve visited since.”

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From the White House to his own house, with his wife and seven children, Mark continues to inspire the world with his music.
Warriors for life must be unyielding, uncompromising, says keynote speaker

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — Tony Perkins, keynote speaker for the 14th annual Allen County Banquet for Life held recently at the Grand Wayne Center, sounded a clarion call for the more than 700 audience members to be steadfast, unyielding and uncompromising in the battle for life.

Perkins is president of the Washington, D.C.-based Family Research Council, which was founded by Dr. James Dobson of Focus on the Family in 1980. Perkins is a friend and counselor to senators, congressmen and policy makers and uses his influence to promote the pro-life agenda on the national stage.

“My friends, we know the truth,” he declared. “Every person is made in the image of God. In the words of Mother Teresa, ‘Human life is a gift of immeasurable worth and deserves to be treated with dignity.’”

President Barack Obama insists that the 2012 election will be a contest of values, said Perkins. But the president once said, “If my daughters make a mistake, I don’t want them punished with a baby.”

Since nothing defines a person more than his stance on life, Perkins asked his listeners to consider whose values should lead us into the future.

He closed his remarks to the evening’s audience by saying, “Our heavenly Father is inviting us to join Him, unyielding, uncompromising, as we face the future.”

In an earlier interview, speaker Perkins was effusive in his praise for the “bold … stand for life” being taken in the state of Indiana, especially the attempt to defund Planned Parenthood.

“It’s encouraging to see the leading role they’re taking” in this effort, he said.

Pro-life victories in the 2011 Indiana General Assembly include House Bill 1210, which opts out of the abortion provision of the federal Patient Safety Affordable Care Act, requires hospital admitting privileges for abortionists and removes state funding to any entity that performs abortions. Another piece of legislation, House Bill 1474, tightens reporting requirements on the termination of pregnancy form, making it more difficult to cover up child sexual molestation.

Nationally, Perkins supports the official inquiry by the U.S. Committee on Energy and Commerce into Planned Parenthood’s possible misuse of taxpayer funds to support abortion and their request for evidence that the organization properly reports cases of sexual abuse and sex trafficking. With other questionable government practices just now coming to light, this is certainly “worth looking into,” he asserted.

A highlight of the evening was the announcement of this year’s winner of the coveted Telemachus Award. It is named for a 4th-century monk who was killed protesting the senseless slaughter of gladiators in the Roman Forum and is bestowed annually on a person who contributes in a special way to the pro-life cause.

This year the award went to Dr. Dean Wenthe, former president of Concordia Theological Seminary and long-time proponent of the right to life movement. It was given to him by Bishop John M. D’Arcy, bishop emeritus of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, who said he was delighted to honor a dear friend in doing so.

“He has always supported the dignity of every person, especially the unborn,” said Bishop D’Arcy.

Another award, the Daniel Telemachus Award for Excellence in Pro-Life Public Policy, went to U.S. 6th District Congressman Mike Pence. Named for the Old Testament figure who followed God’s will in his role as the king’s counselor without regard for his personal safety, it recognizes a public official who invests his political influence for the cause of life.

New this year, a live auction of dinners for eight prepared and served by professional chefs and hosted by six Pastors for Life proved to be a crowd-pleaser and successful fundraiser, as the auction netted $14,500 for Allen County Right to Life and Allen County Right to Life activities.

Hosts of this year’s banquet were Senator and Mrs. Jim Banks and Senator and Mrs. Dennis Kruse, the Three Rivers Educational Trust Fund and Allen County Right to Life.

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(Here’s your chance, do it World Priest Day October 30)

Dear Father__________________________

Thank you for________________________

Our grateful love and prayers in celebration of your inspiring commitment and all you are for us.

[Please cut out, fill in a special quality or action that you especially appreciate, and give it to your priest in person or place in the Offertory collection at Mass.]

Sponsored by couples and priests supporting Worldwide Marriage Encounter in the Diocese of Fort Wayne/South Bend
Tim Tebow and Christophobia

True discipleship balanced in love

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

Mt 22:34-40

George Weigel

Weigel Page 12

The penitential act in the new translation: Why change the Confiteor?

F

inally, I was old enough to

see an altar boy. The liturgy

was still in Latin, and I

worked hard to memorize those

Latin prayers.

I have to admit, we altar boys

would race to see who could rat-
t

t

tle the prayers faster. But one

prayer forced us to put the

brakes on for at least a minute.

So why the striking of our

breasts as we recall our fault? Is

being Catholic all about beating

ourselves up?

For the answer, we again need
to turn to Scripture.

In Luke 18, we meet a very
pious Pharisee who congratu-
lates God for having him as a
most worthy servant. And then
there is a publican, a tax collec-
tor, who strikes his breast as he
comes before the Lord saying, “O
God, be merciful to me, a sinner”
(18:13).

In striking our breast, we dis-
tance ourselves from the Pharisee
and stand — or rather bow —
with the publican, acknowledging
our unworthiness before the awe-
some majesty and perfect holiness
of the living God.

It is not about self-hatred but
about humility. And to be humble
means to get in touch with reality,

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Advance of same-sex marriage deepens concern for religious liberty

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The widening campaign by gay rights advocates to promote same-sex marriage as a civil rights issue is forcing Catholic religious institutions to confront charges of intolerance and discrimination.

Also at risk, say Church officials working on the legal front, is the way religious institutions and individuals opposed to same-sex marriage conduct business, such as hall rentals to receiving government contracts for social services.

Recently, the Diocese of Peoria, Ill., withdrew from all state-funded social service contracts, citing increasing clashes between state law and Church teaching on same-sex relationships. The Diocese of Rockford stopped offering state-funded adoptions and foster-care services when the Illinois civil unions legislation took effect in 2011.

Catholic Bishops in the dioceses of Joliet and Springfield and Catholic Social Services of Southern Illinois in Belleville also have been involved in legal proceedings with the state since then.

In 2006, Catholic Charities in San Francisco and Boston stopped adoption placements when laws required equal treatment of applicants in same-sex relationships.

Elsewhere, including New York where a same-sex marriage law took effect July 24, church institutions are carefully monitoring how such laws are being applied and are vigilant for threats to religious liberty in the areas of taxes, housing, education and employment.

“The general issue is the definition of marriage creates many many rights, not just one,” explained Anthony R. Picarello Jr., general counsel for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. “So changing the definition of marriage creates changes throughout the legal system.”

Those changes can affect a wide range of practices far beyond marriage such as whether:

• A private individual can deny renting an apartment to a same-sex couple on religious grounds.
• A public school teacher who refuses to talk about same-sex marriage as a justice issue can continue to teach.
• A counselor’s license can be revoked for declining to accept same-sex couples as clients.
• A religious organization that does not recognize same-sex marriage can be considered discriminatory by a state or local government and lose any contract for services.

“Redefining marriage has a multiplier effect,” Picarello explained to Catholic News Service. “The problems that we see under mere sexual orientation anti-discrimination laws multiply by order of magnitude when marriage is redefined.

“Marriage is a legal lever, because in our society we have a legal infrastructure that rewards those who support marriage, and punishes those who oppose it. When that legal structure then applied to a relationship that isn’t marriage, the people object to that definition are going to suffer severe disadvantages, he added.

Picarello pointed to the February announcement by the Justice Department that it would no longer defend the Defense of Marriage Act — DOMA — because it is biased and prejudicial against homosexuals and therefore violates its own constitution among the mounting challenges facing religious institutions opposed to same-sex marriage.

“Some may suggest we have that any law that distinguishes between same-sex couples and different sex couples, whether it’s for purposes of marriage or anything else, violates the Constitution if the government is doing it, (that) the government can’t make such distinctions,” Picarello said.

“But all DOMA does is define marriage as it’s always been defined,” Picarello said. “The Church stands behind that definition and now the Church has been lumped in with bigots and haters.”

For states to imply such a comparison is a major leap because it dismises religious tradition and the morality of same-sex relationships while portraying religious objections to same-sex marriage as equivalent to racial discrimination.

The religious liberty issue has largely been played out at the state level. Same-sex marriage, has been legalized through legislation or by court decisions in Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont and the District of Columbia. Illinois and Rhode Island this year enacted civil union laws; come Jan. 1 civil unions will become legal in Delaware and Hawaii.

In California, Proposition 8, a ballot initiative approved by voters in 2008 to ban same-sex marriage remains in the courts and may end up at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Same-sex marriage is banned by law or constitutional amendment in the remaining 40 states.

In states where same-sex marriage has been enacted by law, at least a basic religious exemption has been included. The breadth of the exemption varies with some jurisdictions offering a general exemption from performing same-sex marriage services to wide-ranging protections like those in Connecticut that spell out specific protections for religious institutions.

Michael C. Culhane, executive director of the Catholic Conference, lobbied for three exemptions following the state Supreme Court’s 2008 decision that legalized same-sex marriage.

In addition to the normal exemption for clergy from participating in a same-sex marriage ceremony, there’s one provision protecting fraternal societies from providing insurance benefits to anyone if doing so violates the society’s beliefs, and another safeguarding the rights of a religious organization in the delivery of adoption, foster care or social services as long as government funds are not involved.

“In the long hours we ended up writing this one provision,” Culhane said. “We were very, very happy.”

In Iowa, where the state Supreme Court in 2009 held that same-sex marriage is legal, Tom Chapman, executive director of the Iowa Catholic Conference, said the Church has been minimally affected by the court’s decision.

“We have the same concerns a lot of people do and would have,” he said. “For example, Catholic schools in Iowa are accredited by the state. So anything that can be required of public schools can be required in Catholic schools as well.”

The likelihood that the issue will be addressed by the legislature is slim, Chapman told CNS.

“My own feeling is there is a desire on everybody’s part who wants same-sex marriage to leave it alone because they don’t want us to have a defense of marriage amendment or legislation (that could restrict same-sex marriage),” he said.

Such an exemption in Illinois’ civil unions law failed to resolve the dilemma faced by the Peoria Diocese. The present exemption arose when state Department of Children and Family Services mandated that the diocesan Catholic Charities System end the practice of referring adoptions and foster placements to same-sex couples to another agency.

Catholic Charities appealed, but lost in court, leading the diocese to back out of all state contracts for social services.

Robert Gilliam, executive director of the Catholic Conference of Illinois, told CNS that state law affords protections for religious practice, but that the state has the right to contract with any agency for the delivery of services.

“The danger is that faith-based organizations will get crowded out of the provision of services that are desperately needed,” he said.

Even with specific exemptions for religious institutions, individuals everywhere face possible infringements on the practice of their faith, said Daniel Avila, policy adviser for marriage and family for the U.S. bishops’ Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage.

“Even if you think you’re protected and this is not an issue in your own state, given you have a state DOMA, they should be quite aware of events happening at the national level that could then bring these very issues and problems into their own lives,” he said.

Avila suggested that at least two cases, including California’s legal struggle over Proposition 8, will likely make their way to the U.S. Supreme Court and determine the legal status of same-sex marriage in the country.

The cases are likely two years away, he said.

That leaves states to follow their own course on what actions are discriminatory and what are not, and religious organizations guessing which way they will go.

The Washington Letter

DENIS SADOWSKI

State of Marriage

The majority of states define marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

- permits same-sex marriage
- permits civil unions or domestic partnerships for same-sex couples
- civil unions will become legal on Jan. 1, 2012
- has constitutional amendment defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman
- has law banning same-sex marriage

WEIGEL

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command respect in the moral and cultural free-fire zone of an NFL locker room (not to mention the Southeastern Conference, which hardly resembles a network of Carthusian monasteries) is not likely to be shaken by a serious conversation about his understanding of how the Lord Jesus and His Father might effect the salvation of those who do not explicitly aows faith in Lord Jesus and His Father.

No. Tebow is a target of irrational hatred, not because he’s an iffy quarterback at the NFL level, or a creep personally, or an otherwise, in-your-face, self-righteous proselytizer. He draws hatred because he is an unabashed Christian, whose calmness and decency in the face of his Christophobic detractors drives them crazy. Tebow, in other words, is a prime example of why Christophobia — a neologism first coined by a world-class comparative constitutional law scholar, J.H.H. Weiler, himself an Orthodox Jew — is a serious cultural problem in these United States.

It simply is unimaginable that any prominent Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist or Sikh quarterback, should such a fantasy of anthropology exist, would be subjected to the vilification that is pummeled on Tebow.

Tolerance, that supreme virtue of the culture of radical relativism, does not extend to evangelical Christians, it seems. And if it does not extend to evangelicals who unapologetically proclaim their faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior and who live their commitment to the dignity of human life from conception and natural death, it will not extend to Catholics who make that same profession of faith and that same moral commitment. Whatever we think of Tebow’s theology of marriage, Tebow and serious Catholics are both fated to be targets of the Christophobes.

Wherever the Gospel is proclaimed with fervor, it draws opposition. The ultimate source of that opposition is the Evil One, but we know what his name will be. What we don’t know is how democracy can survive widespread, radical Christophobia.

George Weigel is a senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.
Sports

After playoffs, ICCL Blazers look to semifinals

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — When on a brisk Sunday afternoon, the winter clouds scoured and hats were donned at Marian High School’s Otolski Field, it could only mean one thing — Inter-City Catholic League football playoff time.

The first matchup of the post season saw a much-improved West Side Catholic (Holy Family/Corpus Christi/St. John) Cardinals squad facing probably one of the most dangerous teams in the league — the St. Matthew (Our Lady of Hungary/St. Jude) Blazers.

The Blazers owned the victory between the two combatants during the regular season, 36-24; the winner would have the privilege of playing against the undefeated regular-season champs next week in the semifinals.

The Blazers’ opening drive started at their own 32-yard line, but runs of 11 and 25 by Davante Newbill had St. Matthew rolling. On the third play from scrimmage a Timmy Greci 31-yard job into the end zone bolted the Blazers into the lead, 6-0, with just 1:13 off the clock.

West Side Catholic tried to muster a drive against the big line of St. Matthew, but were turned away on downs giving the Blazers the ball at the 47.

Again more of the same high-powered running game with Newbill, Greci and Chris Scales churning up yards until Newbill had the football in the lap of quarterback Coach Timmy Greci for a 10-yard run to paydirt. Patrick Ernst and Austin Szmanda finished the task with a punishing 15-yard run to round out the score of 13-0.

West Side Catholic’s “never say die” attitude would surface to start the second half as they deployed the swinging gate formation and promptly scored on a 70-yard pass play, Stopczynski to Lucas Voldman, breaking their scoring drought.

The Cardinal defense also found its groove shutting down the potent Blazer attack and giving their offense opportunities, one of them being in the legs of tailback Courtney Rowell, who broke through the line and dashed 45 yards for a touchdown making the score, 3-12, with 3:16 left in the contest.

All doubt was put to rest as on the last play of the game, St. Matthew’s defensive back Robbie Sink intercepted a pass as the horn sounded securing the win for the black-and-orange clad victors.

“Coach Giles Horban and his assistants did a great job giving us different looks and keeping our defense on its toes,” said Blazer Coach Mike Ernst. “I’m so proud of our linemen — Ryan Quinn, Rogelio Rodela, Dillon Heimann, Patrick Ernst and Austin Szmanda — for paving the road for our backs who ran with a purpose today.”

“We will look forward for the challenge of facing the league champions, Holy Cross/Christ the King next Sunday,” added Ernst. “They have a good team with skilled players that are well coached.”

“Our hats go off to the St. Matthew squad. They played well, not taking anything away from our kids. They took advantage of the size and speed matchups and deserved the win,” said Horban.

“Our kids have a lot of heart and losing fumbles against this team isn’t the way for success.”

“We are in the middle of a building process that is starting at the lower levels,” added Horban, “I believe that as a program we will get better and better and it will turn into wins in the future.”

The semifinals will be Sunday at Otolski Field starting at 4 p.m with the Blazers squaring off against the undefeated Crusaders and following that game the St. Anthony (St. Pius/St. Joseph, South Bend) Panthers will take on the Mishawaka Catholic Saints.

ICCL SOCCER SCORES Inter-City Catholic League playoff soccer action on Oct. 16 produced the following results. In boys’ varsity, St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart, defeated St. Matthew, 4-1; St. Pius X, Granger, Green, beat Christ the King, 4-2; Holy Cross beat St. Anthony, 8-1; and St. Joseph, South Bend, defeated St. Pius X, 4-0; Corpus Christi beat Holy Cross, 6-1; Mishawaka Catholic beat St. Jude, 4-3. Playoff games continue Sunday, Oct. 23, at Marian Field.

St. Charles, Holy Cross to battle for championship

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Rookie season Coach Chris Tippmann, of St. John the Baptist, New Haven, may not have been on the winning side this season with just eight eighth-graders in a tough Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) league, but Coach Tippmann explained, “The boys played their guts out week after week and we saw a lot of improvement.”

The Raiders were quarterbacked by seventh-grader Zach Vachon and had great leadership from their eighth graders — Danny TiChuc, a lead blocker; Fabian Myles and Evan Schmucker, lead tacklers; Joe Kayser, leading rusher; Luke Recidy and Austin Pranger, leading receivers; Billy Ball, great runner both ways; and Josh Nagy, defensive corner.

The Raiders bowed out in first-round action to Holy Cross, the 2010 champs, who advanced to the CYO championship game with a win over St. John, Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SIFW) on Sunday, Oct. 16.

Holy Cross will face the undefeated St. Charles Cardinals, who got by a tough group from St. Vincent in the semi-finals. The much-anticipated barn burner is slated for 2:30 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis on Sunday, Oct. 23, following the 1 p.m. junior varsity CYO title game.

In his 99th straight outing as head coach of the SIFW, Jim Carroll and his Eagles came up just short of a trip to the final contest.

Carroll explained, “It was a crazy game with a lot of effort but a few breakdowns that, unfortunately, kept us from the win.”

Down, 20-6, late in the third quarter, SIFW never quit and battled back scoring twice in the fourth.

Missing both extra-point attempts, the Eagles were still down by two forcing Holy Cross to punt deep to their side. A punt block and safety later, the score was all knotted up at 20 making for a wild final minute of regulation that ended in the deadlock.

SIFW scored first on just two tries in the overtime ticks, but Holy Cross answered back on a completed pass and hit their kick. In the heartbreaker, the final score was 28-26, Holy Cross. In the loss, Seth Wyss and Jaquavious Williams each got by big chunks of yardage, Newbill again broke free.

On an incomplete pass, a quarterback sack by Greci for a loss, Blazer Kenny Derucki mer属于自己.
CONTAINED FROM PAGE 13

scored twice.

The Eagles will continue on as one of the CYO representatives in the diocesan showdown. Carroll
detailed, “This is a special group of young Eagle men. It has been a
pleasure to coach my son, Nick, and
all his tough buddies.”

Over the years, Carroll has
enjoyed watching the success of his
players as they moved on to high
school and even the college level.
He has been very proud of the solid
young men and football players his
players have become.

“I love seeing them in the com-

munity, at church or receiving the
many kind messages they have sent
back after graduating,” Carroll said.

Summarizing his career to date,

Carroll, who has compiled a 75-24
record over the last decade, added,
“We have won a lot of close games
and lost a few close ones as well.
They have all been great because
it is still football. We have preached
about life — the importance of
prayer and putting God first and
foremost in their lives. We have
prayed to both Jesus and Mary
every practice for 10 years. Then we
rapped it on, buckled up tight and
hopefully, knocked you on the turf.”

Carroll one of the CYO representatives in
scored twice.

Marian, Saint Joseph’s
capture regional Soccer titles

SOUTH BEND, MISHAWAKA — Just 16 girls soccer teams
remain in the Indiana state high school tournament, but two of
them are Fort Wayne-South Bend
diocesan schools.

Saint Joseph’s and Marian both
captured regional titles Saturday,
advancing to this weekend’s semi-
state round. Saint Joseph’s defeated
Penn, 4-1, in Class 2A, while
Marian moved forward with a 2-0
triumph over Westview in Class
1-A.

Defending state champion
Saint Joseph’s showed its poise
to rally from an early deficit in
the regional championship. Ryan
Durham, Maddie Turner, Karoline
Langheinrich and Catherine Raster
all scored goals for coach Johan
Kuitse’s Indians. Saint Joseph’s will
now face Crown Point in the Fort
Wayne semistate, needing two wins
on Saturday to return to the state
finals.

Marian’s stingy defense kept

Westview locked up in its regional
title tilt, but the Knights were kept
scoreless themselves until the sec-
ond half. That’s when Madeline
Ladue and Maggie Hartnagel scored
goals six minutes apart to help
coach Djamel Charnat’s squad to
its first regional crown since 2006.
The Knights will meet Argos on the
Dragons’ home field Saturday
at noon.

Because this is the initial year
of the two-class system in Indiana,
its the first time that both
schools have reached the semistate
in the same season.

—Chuck Freeby

2011 Fall Sharathon

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7:00 am Catholic Charities
Debbie Schmidt Women’s Care Center Dr. Andrew Landrigan St. Mary, St. Peter Fr. Widmann

8:00 am Allen County Right to Life Cathie Humbarger Our Sunday Visitor: 100 Years Kevin Noll, Greg Erlanson TBA

9:00 am Franciscan Center Tony Ley Catholic Schools Dr. Mark Myers & Principals Grimm, Klinker and Robinson Knights of Columbus

10:00 am Bishop Luers Hour Mary Keefler and Friends The Tippmann Hour John Tippmann, Sr. St. Jude Fr. Tom Shoemaker

11:00 am Bishop Dwenger Hour Jason Schiffli and Friends Huntington Hour Fr. John Pfister, Fr. Ron Rieder St. Vincent de Paul Fr. Andrew Budzinski


1:00 pm Cathedral Immaculate Conception Msgr. Robert Schulte Most Precious Blood Fr. Joe Gaughan St. Charles Borromeo Msgr. John Suelter, Fr. Tony Steinacker

2:00 pm Bishop Kevin Rhoades St. Mary’s – Decatur Fr. Dave Voors St. Anthony – Angola Msgr. Bernie Zajdel

3:00 pm St. Joseph, St. Catherine Fr. Ken Sarrazine Msgr. Bernie Galic St. Aloysius and Vocations St. Francis Sisters of Perpetual Adoption – Mishawaka

4:00 pm St. Mary – Avilla Fr. Ed Erpelding Bishop Emeritus John D’Arcy Christ Child Society St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Fr. Drew Curry

5:00 pm Youth and Campus Ministry Fr. Jason Freiburger Franciscan Brothers Minor Fr. David Mary Engo Man Alive! Dr. Tom McGovern and Friends

6:00 pm St. Henry Fr. Dan Durkin Redeemer Radio Sports R U Ready to Talk Football? Rekindle The Fire

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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 email: fogan@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.

FUND RAISERS
Knights of Columbus host fish fry
Plymouth — The Knights of Columbus Council 1975 will have a fish dinner on Friday, Oct. 26, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 901 E. Jefferson from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults, $4 for children 5-10 and children under 4 are free. The fish will be prepared by Tyner Oddfellows. Proceeds from the event will benefit local charities.

Chili supper
Monroeville — St. Rose Parish will host a chili supper Saturday, Oct. 27, from 3-7 p.m. in the school basement. A children’s carnival will also be offered from 3-4:30 p.m. with a cake walk.

MISC. happenings
Memorial Mass offered
Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Parish will offer a memorial Mass Sunday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m. for members who have died.

Stage Door to be presented
South Bend — Saint Joseph’s High School Players will present “Stage Door” Thursday, Oct. 20, and Friday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall on the campus of Notre Dame. Tickets are $5 and may be purchased at the door.

DCOW to meet in October
Fort Wayne — The Deeney Council of Catholic Women will have an October meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 25, at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Hospital. All women are invited. Sorting and packing new socks and underwear for distribution to the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission and Charis House will take place. A collection box is located at St. Joseph, Bluffton.

Open house planned
South Bend — Saint Joseph’s High School will have an open house Sunday, Nov. 13, from 1-3 p.m. Join the faculty and staff to discover the benefits of a Saint Joseph’s High School education.

Please join Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in a Pro-life Mass and Rosary Rally
All are invited to join Bishop Rhoades and Franciscan Father David Mary in a Respect Life Mass at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, October 27, 2011 at St. Andrew Church
2610 New Haven Avenue, Fort Wayne
After Mass, a Rosary Rally will be held at the abortion clinic at 2210 Inwood Drive, Fort Wayne

SAINTS AND CITIZENS
Catholic Sisters in American History
Will be presented by Kathleen Sprous Cummings, PhD as the 2011 Hesburgh Lecture of the Notre Dame Clubs of St. Joseph Valley on Sunday, October 30 at the Center for History, 808 West Washington St., South Bend. The lecture is being held in conjunction with Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters America, a traveling national exhibit chronicling the 300-year history of Catholic sisters in America.

Doors will open for the event at 3:00 p.m. with self-guided tours of the exhibit. At 4:00 p.m., the Rev. Paul Doyle, CSC will offer a Mass, followed by the Hesburgh Lecture at 4:45 p.m. The afternoon will conclude with a reception and additional time for self-guided tours.

This event is free of charge and open to the public through sponsorship from the Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley, ND Women Connect, and the Center for History. Reservations are preferred. To RSVP or for additional information, contact Ryan Trzaskowski at rjtraz@alumni.nd.edu or (574) 850-1855.

Professor Cummings is the associate director of the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism at the University of Notre Dame. She is an assistant professor of American Studies and holds concurrent appointments in the departments of history and theology. Her teaching and research interests include the history of women and American religion and the study of U.S. Catholicism. Her first book, “New Women of the Old Faith: Gender and American Catholicism in the Progressive Era”, appeared last year with the University of North Carolina Press. Cummings is also working on a new book, “Citizen Saints: Catholics and Canonization in American Culture”.

REST IN PEACE

Angola
Yolanda L. Caccamo, 86, St. Anthony of Padua
Columbia City
Gordon H. Anspsch, 75, St. Paul of the Cross
Decatur
Amy L. Bemus, 76, St. Mary of the Assumption
Fort Wayne
Donna Jean Harris, 83, Sacred Heart
Rosemary P. Presswood, 69, Most Precious Blood
Rosemary A. Gaskell, 96, St. Charles Borromeo
Mary Elizabeth Imler, 83, St. Peter
Lynn E. Pequignot, 75, St. Vincent de Paul

Marie E. Gonzalez, 85, St. Patrick
Barbara J. Shumm, 90, St. Therese
Michael J. Niedeffer, 81, Queen of Angels
Gertrude E. Didion, 84, Most Precious Blood

Goshen
John Stack, 87, St. John the Evangelist
Huntington
Shirley Marie Bradin, 83, Ss. Peter and Paul
Mary K. Hoch, 84, Ss. Peter and Paul
Ligonier
Daniel Garza Jr., 21, St. Patrick
Notre Dame
Brother Frederick Tancred Choquette, CSC, 95, Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel

Ronald A. Gerencher, 70, Basilica of the Sacred Heart
South Bend
James Joseph McLaughlin, 88, St. Matthews Cathedral
Mary Lou Miller, 76, St. Matthews Cathedral
David L. Hurd Sr., 53, Little Flower
Lawrence McGowan, 70, Holy Family
William J. Tschida, 89, St. Casimir
Eileen H. Rybicki, 89, Corpus Christi
Doris H. Koloszar, 82, Our Lady of Hungary
Sister Celine Clark, CSJ, 98, St. Joseph Center Chapel, Tipton. Sister served at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend.

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Thanks to the generosity of a Notre Dame benefactor, we are pleased to announce the future award of a Notre Dame MBA merit-based fellowship for a resident of Allen County, Indiana. The fellowship amount will range from $5,000 to $25,000 based on the applicant’s qualifications. A separate fellowship application is not required. All applicants to the One-Year or Two-Year Notre Dame MBA program who reside in Allen County will be considered for the fellowship award. Learn more about the Notre Dame MBA at mba.nd.edu or contact the Admissions Office at 574-631-8468.
“Every husband and wife is called to be thankful for their spouse as a gift they have received. You are a gift to each other,” Bishop Rhoades said. “And ultimately this gift of the other comes from God’s awesome love for each of you. If you have been blessed with children, this is also a cause for thanksgiving.”

Following the Mass at the cathedral, couples continued the celebration at the Grand Wayne Center. Some told Today’s Catholic that their marriages are sustained by these virtues.

For Judy and Jack Diugostino of St. Peter Parish in Fort Wayne, they said kindness and patience ring true for their marriage of 50 years — and “patience tops all others.” The couple has five children, who all live in Indianapolis, and 16 grandchildren.

Jim and Regina Bodette of St. Joseph Parish-Hessen Cassel felt respect for one another was the top virtue that sustained their marriage of 50 years.

“I think patience and asking forgiveness” were also important, Regina and Jim noted.

“Basically, you need to keep God in the center, because when anything goes wrong, you always go back to God,” Regina said. The couple said asking forgiveness and keeping God in the center was important.

“The couple has four children and seven grandchildren.”

“Whenever you spend 50 years together, you have to have some compassion and love,” Jim added.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates the wedding anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Oct. 16. In his homily, he spoke how Marriage is a holy journey, a means in which couples lead one another to heaven.

Clara and Norbert Sarrazine of St. Louis Parish-Besancon were celebrating 50 years of Marriage. Norbert is the brother of Father Ken Sarrazine, pastor of St. Joseph, Roanoke, and St. Catherine-Nix Settlement.

Clara remarked how prayers for support for each other sustained them through sickness and the death of one of their nine children. They lost the son who was to take over the family farm business. Norbert, at one point in their marriage, lost his job at International Harvester.

“I remember that we are not alone in our struggles as a married couple,” Clara added. “It is 50-50.” Clara added. “It is 100-100. Both partners need to give for their all. Sometimes one or the other feels like they are giving more, but other times, all you have to give isn’t very much, and the spouse gives a little more.”

The Sarrazines have 12 grandchildren.

Kay and Bob Schneider of St. Joseph Parish, Roanoke, were celebrating 50 years.

“Patience is the big one,” said Kay, who has worked many years with the diocese as a teacher and principal. She is the religious education director at St. Joseph Parish.

Bob added, “When you’re married so long, sometimes it’s very difficult to think about the virtues the Lord has provided us. Because you are so busy with everyday family life and the days go by so fast, we don’t even have time to argue. Here it is 50 years later and we’re still wondering, where did the time go?”

“But it was certainly a great ceremony to remind us of how the great virtues and holiness is provided to us,” Bob added.

The Schneiders have four children and 18 grandchildren. “It’s a full house at Thanksgiving,” Kay noted. They feel blessed that their four children are practicing Catholics, Bob noted.

David and Peg Springer of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, were celebrating their 25th anniversary. “The virtue of patience is very important for me — something very important and learned,” said Peg. “And I continue to work on patience and temperament.”

The Springer’s son, Brad, celebrated with his parents at the Mass while their daughter Katelyn is away at college.

David said compassion is the virtue that sustains their marriage and “love for each other even on the tough days. ... Patience again is important to both of us. In any marriage, you go through the tough times and you get through them having God number one and you as a couple as number two. You always keep God as number one in your life and in your marriage.”

At the end of the homily, Bishop Rhoades said, “At every Mass, we celebrate the memorial of the love with which Christ loved us to the end, even to the giving of his life. In the Eucharist, you who are married meet the One who is the source of your marriage. You encounter the love that animates and sustains your marriage, the love of Christ for his Church.”