Teens’ Faithfest affirms Jesus is the Way

BY DENISE FEDOROW

WARSAW — From the keynote speaker to the breakout sessions, high-school teens received affirmation time and again that Jesus Christ is the Way and God has abundant love for them.

Frankie and the Holy Rollers got the teens on their feet singing and clapping to high-energy worship music to kick off this year’s Faithfest held at Lakeview Middle School in Warsaw on Oct. 23.

Dominican Father Anthony Giombrone gave the keynote speech.

He spoke on the theme and posed the questions many ask — Is Jesus the way or a way? Is He the truth or an opinion? He spoke of the difference between dysfunctional diversity and healthy diversity.

“If there is nothing in common there can be no community, but the Catholic version of diversity is broad and universal as possible. To be Catholic is to be cosmic,” he said.

Father Giombrone said Protestants have an invisible unity; the Orthodox Church is tribal because it is as much about the ethnicity as it is their Christianity, but to be Roman Catholic is to be universal.

“The whole world and all its diversity is brought together in a single communion,” he said.

Jesus is the Way because Jesus is the bridge that carries all to God. He reminded the teens that before Christianity was named it was simply called The Way. People may say you can’t impose your faith on me and while that’s true, “It’s faith in a fact — Jesus is not an imaginary friend, the Resurrection is not an idea, it’s an event with witnesses,” he said.

“Some truths demand a decision, Jesus refuses to be

Media campaign invites Catholics to come home

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has long served the spiritual needs of its people by offering a Church-home steeped in the rich sacramental tradition of the Catholic faith. It continues to strive to welcome and embrace all its members, even those who may have stepped away from community worship.

In an effort to invite inactive Catholics to rediscover the fullness of their faith, a new media campaign has been approved by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, and will be launched across the diocese this late fall and winter, running from Dec. 17 through Jan. 31. The campaign will include the use of television ads, yard signs, banners and other signage that will direct people to the national and local websites of Catholics Come Home.

According to its website, www.catholicscomehome.org, Catholics Come Home, Inc. is an independent, nonprofit Catholic apostolate that creates and broadcasts media messages to evangelize inactive Catholics and others. The organization was founded by Tom Peterson and presents an interactive, easy-to-navigate website and a multitude of resources, including links to nearby parishes and ways to get involved.

The partnership between the diocese and Catholics Come Home organization is being coordinated by Natalie Kohrman, director of the Office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization, and Mary Glowaski, secretariat for Evangelization and Special Ministries.

Kohrman reports that the media campaign has been very successful in other dioceses with statistics showing a 10 percent increase in Mass attendance overall and increased numbers in the confessional. “The majority of folks just return to the sacraments,” says Kohrman.

The initiative capitalizes on research statistics that show the average American watches more than 40 hours of television each week, and TV has more impact and reaches more people than any other single advertising medium.

The four stirring commercials, to be aired on all local affiliates, “offer an invitation in a way that people can’t do one to one,” says Kohrman.

She adds that each commercial offers “traditional imagery meant to make people think back to youth and faith.”

“The whole world and all its diversity is brought together in a single communion,” he said.

Jesus is the Way because Jesus is the bridge that carries all to God. He reminded the teens that before Christianity was named it was simply called The Way. People may say you can’t impose your faith on me and while that’s true, “It’s faith in a fact — Jesus is not an imaginary friend, the Resurrection is not an idea, it’s an event with witnesses,” he said.

“Some truths demand a decision, Jesus refuses to be

All Saints and Poor Souls
Church triumphant and the Church suffering
Pages 2, 10-13

Archbishop Vigano
New nuncio named to the US
Page 3

Addressing the ‘hard question’
Peter Kreeft speaks at 40 Days for Life event
Page 4

Year of the Brother
Congregation of Holy Cross celebrates
Page 7
Honoring saints and praying for the dead

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

All Saints Day

This coming Tuesday, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of All Saints, a holy day of obligation. The origin of All Saints’ Day can be traced back to the 4th century, though its observance on November 1st dates back to the 8th or 9th century. It is a beautiful feast in which we rejoice in the great multitude of holy men, women and children of every time and place who share in the glory and joy of heaven.

The saints we honor on November 1st were believers like us who lived their everyday challenges and difficulties of this pilgrimage on earth. We look to them today as models for us of a life lived according to the Beatitudes of Jesus, a life of faith, hope and love. Opening ourselves to God’s love and grace, they listened to Jesus and sought to do God’s will.

The saints were not perfect, which gives all of us hope. Being holy does not mean being perfect. Holiness does not mean that we never err sin. It involves continual conversion, beginning anew, and growing in the virtues through the grace and mercy of God. Pope Benedict has said that “holiness increases with the capacity for conversion, repentance, willingness to begin again, and above all with the capacity for reconciliation and forgiveness. ... Thus, what makes us holy is not never having erred, but the capacity for reconciliation and pardon, And all of us can learn this road to holiness” (General Audience, January 31, 2007).

Another aspect of growth in holiness that is important to remember is that it always involves self-denial and sacrifice. This is the reality of love. Pope Benedict reminds us that “every form of holiness, even if it follows different paths, always passes through the Way of the Cross, the Way of self-denial” (Homily, November 1, 2006). The first canonization of America, Saint Rose of Lima, wrote that “apart from the cross, there is no other ladder of the Cross, the way of self-denial” (Homily, November 1, 2006). The first canonization of America, Saint Rose of Lima, wrote that “apart from the cross, there is no other ladder of the Cross, the way of self-denial” (Homily, November 1, 2006).

Pope Benedict XVI writes about purgatory. (in Latin, Speculis) in which Pope Benedict XVI writes about purgatory. “For the great majority of people — we may suppose — there remains in the depths of their being openness to truth, to love, to God. In the concrete choices of life, however, it is creased over by evil compromises with evil — much filth covers purity, but the thirst for purity remains and it still constantly re-emerges from all that is base and remains present in the soul. What happens to such individuals when they appear before the Judge?” At this point, the Holy Father reflects on Saint Paul’s words in his first letter to the Corinthians (3:12-15) and about our personally having to “pass through fire so as to become fully open to receiving God and able to take our place at the table of the eternal marriage-feast.”

All Souls Day

On November 2nd (All Souls Day) and throughout the month of November, the Church prayerfully remembers our brothers and sisters “who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again” (Eucharistic Prayer II). Though we are not obliged to attend Mass on November 2nd, it is a special day to attend Mass for the faithful departed and also to pray at the graves of our deceased loved ones. I am looking forward to offering Holy Mass at the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne at noon on All Souls Day and welcome all who are able to participate, especially those who have loved ones buried in the Catholic Cemetery. I also invite you to attend the 12:05 p.m. Mass for the deceased clergy of our diocese which I will celebrate in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Monday, November 7th.

It is appropriate that on the day after we celebrate the glory of the saints in heaven we remember in prayer the souls in purgatory. As the Catechism teaches, these are our brothers and sisters who have died “in God’s grace and friendship,” but are still “imperfectly purified.” They are “undergoing purification for a limited time after death.” In November, we pray for all those who are in purgatory, that we may attain the beatific vision of God” (CCC 1032).

If you are looking for good spiritual reading during November, the month of the Holy Souls, I recommend the encyclical letter On Christian Hope (in Latin, Spe Solvi) in which Pope Benedict XVI writes about purgatory. "For the great majority of people — we may suppose — there remains in the depths of their being openness to truth, to love, to God. In the concrete choices of life, however, it is creased over by evil compromises with evil — much filth covers purity, but the thirst for purity remains and it still constantly re-emerges from all that is base and remains present in the soul. What happens to such individuals when they appear before the Judge?” At this point, the Holy Father reflects on Saint Paul’s words in his first letter to the Corinthians (3:12-15) and about our personally having to “pass through fire so as to become fully open to receiving God and able to take our place at the table of the eternal marriage-feast.”

In reflecting on purgatory, the Holy Father speaks of “a blessed pain, in which the holy power of God’s love sears us like a flame, enabling us to become totally ourselves and thus totally of God. ... At the moment of judgment we experience and absorb the overwhelming power of His love over all the evil in the world and in ourselves. The pain of love becomes our salvation and our joy.”

In November, we pray for all those who are being purified “as through fire,” the holy power of Christ’s love. Even after the death of our loved ones, we can play a part in their purification by our prayers. As Pope Benedict says, “it is never too late to touch the heart of another, nor is it ever in vain.”

May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace!
Pope names Archbishop Vigano new nuncio to the US

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI named Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, 70, to be the new nuncio to the United States.

In his most recent position, the Italian archbishop had served for two years as secretary-general of the commission governing Vatican City. He succeeds the late Archbishop Pietro Sambi in Washington.

Just minutes after his assignment was announced Oct. 19, Archbishop Vigano told Catholic News Service he hoped to get to the United States in time for the U.S. bishops’ general assembly Nov. 14-16.

The archbishop said being nuncio in the United States is an “important, vast and delicate” task; he said he was grateful to Pope Benedict for entrusting him with the mission and he felt called to renew “his trust in the Lord, who asks me to set out again” to a new country.

Being a nuncio, he said, is “a call to know this people, this country and come to love them.”

“For me to take the place of someone who was so loved, so committed, makes it an even greater challenge,” he said.

Archbishop Vigano said he knew a period of transition is coming up, but before he can say anything “I need to hear from the bishops and learn from them. The election is important for the country, the Church and the whole world.”

New York Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, sent a message of welcome to the new nuncio and said the bishops looked forward to meeting him at their November assembly in Baltimore.

Archbishop Dolan said that, as the pope’s representative in the U.S., Archbishop Vigano would “serve as a continuing sign to us of that source of renewal and hope that Pope Benedict brought to our country” during his April 2008 visit. Archbishop Dolan said the new nuncio’s variety of experiences would enable him “to see the intricacies involved in representing the Holy Father in both the Church and diplomatic worlds, especially now as they are lived out in America’s democratic society.”

A nuncio is a Vatican diplomat with the rank of ambassador. He is responsible for diplomatic relations with the government, but also serves as the pope’s representative to the Church in a given country, which includes responsibility for coordinating the search for and vetting of candidates to become bishops.

While at the commission governing Vatican City, Archbishop Vigano earned a reputation as a careful administrator, skilled at cutting costs and improving the efficiency of an office that oversees the canonization of 167 saints, as well as the Vatican post office, police force and the Vatican Museums.

“Dr. Vigano Varese, in Italy’s far north, he was ordained a priest in 1968 for the Diocese of Pavia. He entered the Vatican’s diplomatic service in 1973 and served at Vatican embassies in Iraq and in Great Britain before working in the Vatican Secretariat of State in 1976.

He was the Vatican’s permanent observer at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France, from 1989 to 1992, when Pope John Paul II named him an archbishop and nuncio to Nigeria. Pope John Paul personally ordained him a bishop.

Archbishop Vigano — who speaks Italian, French, Spanish and English — was still serving as nuncio to Nigeria in 1997 when Pope John Paul visited the country.

Returning to the Vatican Secretariat of State in 1998, Archbishop Vigano coordinated the appointments of nuncios and papal representatives around the world.

In 1999, he led a five-man Vatican delegation to Iraq to try — unsuccessfully, it turned out — to make arrangements for Pope John Paul to visit the country. The pope had wanted to go to Ur, the city thought to be the birthplace of Abraham, as part of a biblical pilgrimage for the year 2000. At that time, Iraq was under an economic embargo by the West and Ur was under a no-fly zone being enforced by U.S. and British military forces.

In November 2010 the archbishop was called upon to represent the Vatican at the general assembly of Inteypot, the international cooperative organization for police agencies. In his speech to the assembly, he highlighted the ongoing violence against Christians in Iraq, but also spoke more generally about the Vatican’s conviction that the promotion of human rights is the best strategy for combating inequalities that lead to crime and terrorism.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsor- ing World Priest Day on the last Sunday in October, which coincides with the Serra Club’s Priesthood Sunday. World Priest Day focuses on celebrating the ongoing affirmation of priests and building of relation- ships between couples and priests.

The mission and purpose of World Priest Day is to celebrate and affirm the men who commit their lives to the Church and the Church through the sacrament of Holy Orders. It is an opportunity for Catholic parishioners to thank, nurture and share their love and support for priests.

It is designed to be a day or several days to rejoice in the sac- rament of Holy Orders. On this day, or during the week preceding or following it, Catholics across the country are encouraged to develop one or several activi- ties to affirm priests. This will be a unique occasion for reaching out to priests.

Go to www.wwme.org for ideas that you can use. The World Priest Day National Coordinating Team encourages you to cel- ebrate the priests you know and love.

For more information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter or World Priest Day call (800) 795-5683 or visit their website at www.wwme.org.

Pope proclaims three saints, calls them models of Christian charity

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed three saints and said their lives demon- strated that true faith is charity in action.

“These three new saints allowed themselves to be transformed by divine charity,” the pope said at a canonization Mass in St. Peter’s Square Oct. 23.

“In different situations and with different gifts, they loved the Lord with all their heart and they loved their neighbor as themselves, in such a way as to become models for all believers,” he said.

All three founded religious orders in the 19th century, working in missionary areas and on behalf of society’s disadvantaged in Europe. The canonizations took place on World Mission Sunday, and the pope said their witness showed that love is at the center of the mission- ary task.

Tens of thousands of pilgrims filled the square on a splendid fall morning, many carrying holy cards, banners and images of the saints. Tapestries with portraits of the newly canonized hung from the facade of the basilica.

The new saints were:

• St. Guido Maria Conforti, an Italian who founded the Xavierian Foreign Missionary Society, dedi- cated to the sole purpose of evangelizing non-Christians. He sent missionaries to China in 1899 and personally traveled to China in 1928 to visit the order’s communities. Plagued by ill health, he also served as a diocesan bishop in Italy for many years, making religious instruction the priority of his pastoral ministry and establishing schools of Christian doctrine in his parishes.

• St. Louis Guanella, the Italian founder of the Servants of Charity, the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence, and the Confraternity of St. Joseph, whose members pledge to pray for the sick and dying. Having worked with young women in northern Italy, he came to Rome and founded an association of prayer for the dying.

• It is impossible to stop as long as there are poor people to be helped,” he would tell his colleagues. In 1912, at the age of 70, he traveled to the United States to work among Italian immigrants in North America.

Pope Benedict, in his homily, called them a “prophet and apostle of charity.”

1. St. Bonifacia Rodriguez Castro, a Spanish coed in San Ildefonso in Zamora, where she was welcomed by the bishop. Only in 1941 was she recognized as the foundress of her congregation.

A sung prayer during the Mass
Rome celebrates Blessed John Paul feast day: sainthood cause proceeds

By Cindy Wooden

ROME (CNS) — Thousands of Catholics in Rome celebrated the first feast of Blessed John Paul II Oct. 22 and the promoter of his sainthood cause said he has received several reports of healings that could be the miracle needed for the late pope’s canonization.

Mgr. Slawomir Oder, the postulator of Pope John Paul’s sainthood cause, told Vatican Radio, “I have received several very significant testimonies and am waiting for the complete documentation” that would allow him to judge which would be the most appropriate to submit to the Vatican.

“I was particularly struck by the healing of a little girl who was in an almost desperate situation and another very touching testimony regarding the healing of a priest,” he told the radio Oct. 22.

The Polish priest also noted that for the first time many little boys and girls named Karol or Carolina or John Paul, Jean Pierre or Giovanni Paolo were able to celebrate their name day, an important day in many countries and cultures.

He said that after Pope John Paul died in April 2005, “many people asked his intercession to obtain the grace of maternity and matrimony, and having received that grace, they honored him by naming their children after him.”

In Rome, Blessed John Paul’s feast was marked with two particularly large celebrations: the Diocese of Rome held a prayer vigil and Mass at the Basilica of St. John Lateran, the diocesan cathedral.

The Church of the Holy Spirit near the Vatican, known for its dedication to the Divine Mercy devotion promoted by Pope John Paul, hosted a special Mass and a concert featuring important texts written by the late pope set to music.

People gather for a vigil marking the feast day of Blessed John Paul II outside the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome Oct. 22, the first observance of the Polish pope’s feast. The date marks the anniversary of the inauguration of his pontificate in 1978.

HOME

Continued from Page 1

The local website launching soon, will work in conjunction with the media ads and signs, and will feature a welcome video from Bishop Rhodes, answers to frequently asked questions about the Church, and groups and activities occurring across the diocese.

Glowaski says the campaign will have an impact not only on inactive Catholics but practicing Catholics as well.

“The campaign stirs the desire for faith. And it encourages Catholics to extend themselves to others in the family,” Glowaski says.

Kohrman and Glowaski agree that Catholics leave the Church for a myriad reasons including life changes such as job shift changes, divorce, moves, misinformation and even woundedness. Glowaski stresses, “There are people who are deeply wounded and they are important to us. We want them to know we are here.”

She adds, thoughtfully, “The Church is impoverished without the members of its body. If they are missing, we are not whole!”

Promotion has already begun in-house presentations to diocesan and parish staff and clergy. Mass attendance numbers will be counted in October and then in February for statistical results. The campaign offers many simple ways to invite inactive Catholics back.

“It takes a welcoming spirit,” says Kohrman, who adds that basic acts, like an invitation, a ready smile in church, holding the door or making room in the pew if someone new arrives, will help in this effort.

Glowaski adds, “As many Catholics as there are, there are that many ways to come back. People invite me all the time to be a better me … That’s what this is — inviting each other to be more Christlike. … It’s about changing hearts — changing our hearts.”

Peter Kreeft addresses ‘hard question’

By Ann Carey

GRANGER — Philosophy Professor Peter Kreeft has given many pro-life talks, but the topic he addressed on Oct. 14 at St. Pius X Parish — how to change people’s minds about abortion — was a first for him. The Boston College and Kings College professor nevertheless embraced the topic because, he said, “I like hard questions.”

That “hard question” was put to him by the local organizers of the 40 Days for Life fall campaign. The 40 Days for Life is a national movement to pray, fast and witness for an end to abortion. Its fall campaign started Sept. 28 and runs through Nov. 6, and Kreeft’s talk at St. Pius X Parish Center marked the halfway point of this fall’s campaign.

Kreeft said that his topic was a “hard question” because people “aren’t simple, and life itself is spiritual warfare involving a conflict of ideas, spirits, souls, persons and supernatual persons. Yet, Kreeft observed, if even one person got one idea from him to put into practice, the lifesaving potential would be enormous.

“If one person on one occasion will change one person’s mind about getting an abortion, and therefore that one baby will be saved, will grow up and get married and have kids, and they’ll have kids … and who knows? … you might save millions of lives tonight if I happen to mention one practical thing.”

Rather than deal with abstract ideas, pro-life supporters have to ask the question “What is abortion?” Kreeft said. This question is especially difficult and threatening for pro-choice people, for it forces them to look at the reality of what it is they are aborting, he explained.

In addition to this “practical logic,” Kreeft said pro-life people must also realize that physical and mental wounds are present in the minds of pro-choice people.

“We want to heal wounds,” Kreeft said. “We want to heal not only the wound of death inflicted on unborn children, and the wound of abortion inflicted on society, and the wound of approval of abortion inflicted on human consciences, but we also want to heal the mental wound that is present in the minds of pro-choice-ers.”

Women are instinctively geared toward having babies, he continued, and those who choose abortion do so out of fear. Unwanted pregnancy almost inevitably causes confusion and uncertainty, and most women later regret their abortion, he said, but the pro-choice side doesn’t tell women that fact.

Pro-life people can try to lessen women’s existing fear of giving birth by showing the women alternatives, as crisis pregnancy centers do, Kreeft continued. These centers show love, and “Perfect love casts out fear,” he explained.

Kreeft added that, while one must acknowledge the fear of women considering abortion and listen to the person, one must also be honest and maintain two essential premises: It is always morally wrong to deliberately kill a human being, and abortion is wrong because it kills a human being.

Philosophers try to deny the premise that abortion kills innocent humans, Kreeft said, so they try to redefine who a human is in the same way that Hitler dehumanized Jews. One has to dehumanize the person before killing him — mental murder — before performing the physical murder, he explained.

“What terrifies me is the change in the thinking of the pro-choice community since Roe v. Wade,” Kreeft said. “Almost all pro-choicers at first denied the second premise, that the fetus is a human being. Now, increasingly they’re denying the first premise — because the scientific data is very clear that the fetus is human … so they have to deny the first premise. So they say ‘it’s not always wrong to kill human beings, even though they’re innocent.’ In order to say that, you have to twist your basic moral intuitions into pretzels.”

If people think logically about abortion, they won’t remain pro-choice for long, Kreeft said, but getting people to think is the most difficult task. He then presented several strategies for changing people’s minds about abortion:

• When talking to pro-choice people, talk with absolute seriousness and show that abortion is a central issue of life and death, but don’t compromise the Christian absolutes of truth and love.

• Don’t focus on the legalities or politics. You can’t do everything at once, so focus on the concrete person in that concrete situation, for the person has a soul who will live forever.

• Take truth and love with seriousness, but respect and affirm the other person’s feelings, or you won’t get them to listen.

• Pray before and after you talk to people, realizing you are praying to our Father, who can totally trust.

• Have patience, which leads to persistence. Patience is not weakness: “Never, never, give up.”

• Don’t require that person to change his mind, convert and admit it to you. Just hope that you plant doubts in the person’s mind so maybe he will admit to himself he has been wrong.

• Ask questions, which is less threatening than giving a lot of answers.

• Be creative and improvise, for most of life is unpredictable.

• Appeal to feminine principles: Listen to the inner woman and her intuition, and get her to realize that an unborn baby isn’t a problem to fix, but a tiny person in her care.

• Be there personally for them; make friends; sacrifice your time, your life. And who knows ... you might save millions.

• Pray before and after you talk to people, realizing you are praying to our Father, who can totally trust.

• Have patience, which leads to persistence. Patience is not weakness: “Never, never, give up.”

• Don’t require that person to change his mind, convert and admit it to you. Just hope that you plant doubts in the person’s mind so maybe he will admit to himself he has been wrong.

• Ask questions, which is less threatening than giving a lot of answers.

• Be creative and improvise, for most of life is unpredictable.

• Appeal to feminine principles: Listen to the inner woman and her intuition, and get her to realize that an unborn baby isn’t a problem to fix, but a tiny person in her care.

• Be there personally for them; make friends; sacrifice your time, your life. And who knows ... you might save millions.

• Pray before and after you talk to people, realizing you are praying to our Father, who can totally trust.

• Have patience, which leads to persistence. Patience is not weakness: “Never, never, give up.”

• Don’t require that person to change his mind, convert and admit it to you. Just hope that you plant doubts in the person’s mind so maybe he will admit to himself he has been wrong.

• Ask questions, which is less threatening than giving a lot of answers.

• Be creative and improvise, for most of life is unpredictable.

• Appeal to feminine principles: Listen to the inner woman and her intuition, and get her to realize that an unborn baby isn’t a problem to fix, but a tiny person in her care.

• Be there personally for them; make friends; sacrifice your time, your life. And who knows ... you might save millions.
Rural life conference calls for ‘new food system’ to guide agriculture

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — “No one should go hungry wherever they live in the world,” said the National Catholic Rural Life Conference in the first of a six-part essay series in which it issued “a Catholic call for a new agriculture.”

But “by the end of this year, weather disruptions and rising food prices may drive” the number of hungry people in the world “back to 1 billion, where it last peaked in 2008 due to a spike in food prices,” the conference said. “That’s one in every seven people.”

The rural life conference, based in Des Moines, Iowa, issued the first five essays on “Food Security & Economic Justice: Catholic Call for a New Food System” this fall. “It is not good for America to plow under the natural affluency of people to the land. It does not serve our nation as a beacon to other nations to do that which is best to their people and lands,” it said.

“Let us right ourselves and begin again to work with nature’s God to secure bread and dignity for all.”

In calling for “a new agricultural ethic,” it said that one linchpin of such an ethic would be the concept of “food sovereignty,” where “stakeholders strive to participate in policy decisions concerning their food and how it is managed. Their focus is on social justice and improving the opportunities for everyone to produce and consume the type of food commensurate with their local culture. They see agribusiness corporations as interfering in their nation’s food system, not enhancing it.”

Coupled with food sovereignty is food security, “a basic calculation of how much food needs to be produced by farmers in order to meet the caloric needs of their population,” the rural life conference said.

“The bottom line is sustainability for local farmers, for the diverse cultures of eaters,” it added. “The teachings of the Church call for a fair distribution of the goods of the earth; the next step is how to put this into action.”

One essay invoked words spoken by Pope Benedict XVI in an Angelus message from last November: "Everyone should be taught to consume in a wiser and more responsible way. We should promote personal responsibility along with a social dimension of rural activities based on the undying values of hospitality, solidarity and sharing the toil of labor.”

The rural life conference said another aspect of a new food system includes “sustain-able and diversified agriculture that directly fits local needs. This means focused attention on small-scale farmers — both women and men — in order to achieve food security and poverty reduction in the world.”

It added that Pope Benedict XVI had spoken of his own worries about the lack of diversity in food production. “His fear,” it said, “that this would create situations of extreme poverty among the masses, and the depletion of the natural resources of the earth.”

“We believe the global food system as dominated by transnational corporations and industrial interests is leading the world away from food security,” the rural life conference said. “A new balance is needed in farming, industry and services so that no one will lack in bread or work.”

“Our demands keep rising — more people eating meat, growing demand for biofuels — and thus pushing production of the land to its limits,” the rural life conference said. “If we want any hope of keeping up with these demands, the world will need to double, perhaps triple, agricultural production in the next 30 to 40 years.”

However, the rural life conference argued, “by our choices and understandings about food, we can begin to influence others. We can teach our children to know where their food comes from and why it is important to be thankful for farmers and food workers. We also begin to see the need to support a world agricultural system of small farmers because viable livelihoods are the only way to end poverty and hunger at the local level.”

The rural life conference said it would issue a sixth essay on the topic of using food as biofuels.

Continued from Page 3

SAINTS

proclaimed: “The mission of Bonifacia is not finished: In God she looks after the dignity of the women workers of the world.”

In his sermon, the pope said the lives of the new saints underscored that love is the essence of the Christian message.

“The visible sign that Christians can show the world to witness Christ’s love is love for one’s brothers and sisters,” he said. These saints, he said, demonstrated that when faith is strong, there is a sense of urgency in announcing this love to all.

The liturgy had a U.S. connection. Carrying relics of St. Guanella to the altar was William Glisson, a 30-year-old Pennsylvania man, whose healing after a rollerblading accident nine years ago was accepted by the Vatican as the miracle needed for the saint’s canonization.

Glisson, who had been skating backward without a helmet, hit his head and was in a coma for nine days. Doctors gave him little hope for recovery. A family friend, meanwhile, gave Glisson’s mother two relics of Blessed Guanella, and the prayers began. Glisson recovered unexpectedly and was released from the hospital less than a month after the accident.

Toward the end of the Mass, a man stood on the upper ledge of the colonnade above the square and burned pages of a Bible before tossing it down among the faithful. After nearly a half hour, Vatican security agents, assisted by a bishop, were able to convince the man to step inside the railing of the colonnade and he was led away.

The pope did not react to the incident. The man was later identified as Iulian Jugarean, a Romanian, whose healing after a rollerblading accident nine years ago was accepted by the Vatican as the miracle needed for the saint’s canonization.

William Glisson of Pennsylvania, whose recovery from a rollerblading accident was accepted as the miracle needed for St. Louis Guanella’s canonization, is pictured in front of an image of St. Guanella hanging from St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 23. The pope proclaimed three new saints during a special Mass that day. They are St. Guido Maria Conforti, an Italian who founded the Xaverian Foreign Missionary Society; St. Louis Guanella, the Italian founder of the Servants of Charity, the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence and the Confraternity of St. Joseph; and St. Bonifacia Rodriguez Castro, a Spanish cord maker in Salamanca who gathered working women for spiritual encounters in her house-shop.

Thanked Your Priest Lately? (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 to your priest in person or place in the Offertory collection of Mass.)

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

AQUINAS

2306 Mishawaka Avenue - South Bend 46615

(574) 287-1091

START A TRADITION WITH FONTANINI

From: our family To: your family

Start your family tradition with Fontanini. Choose from Nativity sets, figures, village buildings, accessories, and giftware items. See the entire collection at:

AQUINAS

2306 Mishawaka Avenue - South Bend 46615

(574) 287-1091
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The new English translation of the Mass is the result of a long process of international cooperation and is meant to help Catholics pray better, Pope Benedict XVI told Australia’s bishops. The new translation, which most Australian dioceses began introducing in parishes on Pentecost in June, “is intended to enrich and deepen the sacrifice of praise offered to God by his people,” the pope said Oct. 20. The morning after joining the bishops for the inauguration of the Domus Australia, a pilgrim center in Rome, the pope welcomed the bishops to the apostolic palace for the main talk of the “ad limina” visits, which bishops make to report on the Church in their dioceses.

Pope Benedict said the new liturgical translation was “the fruit of a remarkable cooperation of the Holy See, the bishops and experts from all over the world.” He asked the bishops to help their priests appreciate the new text and help catechists and musicians do their part to make the Mass “a moment of greater grace and beauty, worthy of the Lord and spiritually enriching for everyone.”

Australian Cardinal George Pell of Sydney, the chairman of the Vox Clara Commission, an international body established by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, to assist in the evaluation of English liturgical translations. The cardinal told Catholic News Service Oct. 19, “I think a good percentage of the people didn’t notice the difference” when he began using the new text at the Sydney cathedral. “There are pockets of dissatisfaction, but overwhelmingly the priests and people are happy and they will get used to it. The prayers are immensely richer and there’s much less banality.”

Father Pavone seeks mediation with bishop of Amarillo, Texas

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Saying that communication has broken down between Bishop Patrick J. Zurek of Amarillo, Texas, and himself, pro-life activist Father Frank Pavone is seeking mediation to resolve differences stemming from questions over ministry outside the diocese, saying he received a favorable response to that, he said. Several phone calls from CNS to the Amarillo Diocese seeking comment were not returned. Although Father Pavone remains in good standing in the diocese, Bishop Zurek suspended him in September from ministry outside the diocese, saying he was needed for work in Texas. In a statement posted on the Priests for Life website, Father Pavone’s canon lawyer said: “The details and history of the present situation are such that moving forward to a resolution is no longer simply a matter of getting together and talking.” Several Church officials have made it clear that they believe mediation is necessary, and that they are willing to undertake a role as mediators,” Father Deibel wrote. “Unfortunately, Bishop Zurek has not responded to or even acknowledged any of these requests.”

Vatican: gadhafi’s death marks end of ‘harsh and oppressive regime’

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican said the death of Libyan strongman Moammar Gadafi marked the end of a “harsh and oppressive regime” that was based on power instead of human dignity. It expressed hope that the bloodshed would end in the North African country, and that the new Libyan government would open a rebuilding phase based on “a spirit of inclusion” and social justice. The statement was issued by the Vatican press office late Oct. 20, several hours after Gadafi was reported killed in his coastal hometown of Sirte, where he had been barricaded with loyalist troops. His death came after months of bloody civil strife and NATO airstrikes in support of Libyan rebels. The Vatican said the Libyan conflict had been “too long and tragic” and should prompt reflection on the “cost of immense human suffering” that accompanies the collapse of systems not founded on respect for human rights. It encouraged the new Libyan government to try to prevent further violence caused by a spirit of revenge and to begin a program of pacification. The international community, it said, should provide generous aid toward the reconstruction of the country. For its part, the minority Catholic community in Libya will continue to offer “its witness and its unselﬁsh service, especially in the areas of charity and health care,” it said. The Vatican said it would work in favor of the Libyan people in the international diplomatic arena. The statement said the Vatican considers the transitional government as the legitimate representative of the Libyan people.

Vatican document calls for global authority to regulate markets

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A Vatican document called for the gradual creation of a world political authority with broad powers to regulate financial markets and rein in the “inequalities and distortions of capitalist development.” The document said the current global ﬁnancial crisis has revealed “selfishness, collective greed and the hoarding of goods on a great scale.” A supranational authority, it said, is needed to place the common good at the center of international economic activity. The 41-page text was titled, “Toward Reforming the International Financial and Monetary Systems in the Context of Global Public Authority.” Prepared by the Pontiﬁcal Council for Justice and Peace, it was released Oct. 24 in several languages, including a provisional translation in English. The document cited the teachings of popes over the last 40 years on the need for a universal public authority that would transcend national interests. The current economic crisis, which has seen growing inequality between the rich and poor of the world, underlines the necessity to take concrete steps toward creating such an authority, it said. One major step, it said, should be reform of the international monetary system in a way that involves developing countries.

Illinois bill seeks to allow Catholic Charities to continue adoptions

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (CNS) — A bill introduced in mid-October by an Illinois state senator seeks to allow state Catholic Charities agencies to continue their foster care and adoption services only to married couples and single individuals who are not living together. The bill, introduced by a Republican state senator, would prevent the state from discriminating against religious organizations that handle state contracts for foster care. It would also amend the Illinois Child Welfare Services Act to allow religious-based foster care agencies to refer same-sex couples wishing to adopt to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Peter Deibel, executive director of the More Society representing Catholic Charities agencies, said the bill “is intended to wreak havoc on the efforts of religious-based foster care agencies driven out of business by period,” Breen said in a statement.
Dwenger student earns status as member of Army marching band

WHARTON, N.J. — Lauren Blakey of Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, has been selected to be a member of the 2012 U.S. Army All-American Marching Band. Blakey will join an elite group of musicians who will perform during halftime of the U.S. Army All-American Bowl at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas, and will be presented by American Family Insurance.

“The U.S. Army has a distinguished musical history with numerous bands and musical acts still performing around the world today,” said John Myers, director of strategic communications, marketing and outreach, U.S. Army All-American Bowl. “The skills and strengths necessary to be a successful band member are mirrored in Army Strong Soldiers. Only the strongest wear the Army colors, which is why we are proud to honor all of our 2012 U.S. Army All-American Band members and congratulate each of them on their selection.

The U.S. Army All-American Marching Band recognizes the top 125 high school senior marching musicians and color guard members from across the country, showcasing their talents during the largest celebration of high school football in America. It would like to be a piece that would shine in a larger and more formal venue like the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. I also held before me the possibility of the Congregations of Holy Cross, which in Latin is “Ave Crux Spes Unica!” or “Hail to the Cross, Our Only Hope.” The refrain of the piece is: “Cross of our hope, and tree of our salvation.

Sown in our land, and spread near and far.
Life-giving fruit, our portion and our promise.
Ave Crux! Spes Unica!”

Regina Chapel of Regina Hall on the Saint Mary's College campus on "Crafting 'Cross of Our Hope': The Story of a Song and Saint Mary's College's Assosiations.

Warner is the founder and director of Notre Dame Folk Choir and director of liturgy resources for residence halls at the University of Notre Dame. He has also been a member of the university’s campus ministry staff since 1979.

He began writing "Cross of Our Hope" in anticipation of the beatification of Moreau on Sept. 15, 2007. When I wrote the song, I wanted to achieve several things," Warner said. "First, write a piece that would work for both guitar and organ, so that it could be done simply (for instance, in our residence halls). But it also had to be a piece that would shine in a larger and more formal venue like the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. I also had before me the prospect of writing the piece in several languages because the Holy Cross family embraces several continents and many cultures. In its full form, 'Cross of Our Hope' exists in English, French and Spanish.

"Finally, I wanted to base the song directly on missionary exhortations of Father Moreau. Reading his letters, there is an unfinished zeal that he constantly shared with his community. It was my goal to create a piece that reflected that zeal."

Saint Mary’s College was founded and is sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. "Cross of Our Hope" comes from the motto of the Congregations of Holy Cross, which in Latin is "Ave Crux Spes Unica!" or "Hail to the Cross, Our Only Hope.

The refrain of the piece is: "Cross of our hope, and tree of our salvation.
Sown in our land, and spread near and far.
Life-giving fruit, our portion and our promise.
Ave Crux! Spes Unica!"

USF tour of Italy open to students, community

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) at the University of Saint Francis will offer an escorted trip, the Grand Tour of Italy, to students and the community on May 7-17, 2012. The tour will provide travelers an opportunity to experience Venice, Florence, Assisi and Rome under the leadership of a professional tour guide and direction by SOCA Dean Rick Cartwright. Flights, transportation, hotels, most meals and museum admissions are included in the trip package. A number of people from the local community have participated in SOCA trips in the past and have enjoyed the experience, said department coordinator Molly McGowan.

This trip will satisfy course credit for art appreciation and art history courses for USF students. Students and community members interested in the tour can contact McGowan at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001 or mcallen@sfedu.

Bishop Luers to update technology with grant

FORT WAYNE — The M.E. Raker Foundation has awarded Bishop Luers High School with a grant to purchase a new server and computer lab, which will provide the school with the resources it needs to continue offering cutting-edge technology to students.

A new lab will accommodate larger class sizes. Computer application courses benefit from the new computer lab along with world language, English, math and science classes. New equipment demands less maintenance, providing cost savings and less downtime. More efficient use of time will better prepare students for the future.

With the addition of Indiana online testing, the new lab will enable Bishop Luers to accommodate a larger number of concurrent testers. This will allow for more flexibility in the scheduling of mandated tests. The new computers and flat monitors use less energy, which will provide a savings to energy costs.

A total of $20,000 was granted to the school over a two-year period. The school will receive the initial $10,000 this year with the remainder received next fall. Work will begin immediately to update the computer lab and a new server will be purchased.

Composer of 'Cross of Our Hope' speaks at Saint Mary's College

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary’s College hosted a lecture by Steven Warner, the composer of "Cross of Our Hope," a song that celebrates the tradition of the Congregations of Holy Cross and its founder Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau.

Warner spoke Oct. 26 in Regina Chapel of Regina Hall on the Saint Mary’s College campus on "Crafting 'Cross of Our Hope': The Story of a Song and Saint Mary’s College’s Assosiations."

Warner is the founder and director of Notre Dame Folk Choir and director of liturgy resources for residence halls at the University of Notre Dame. He has also been a member of the university’s campus ministry staff since 1979.

He began writing "Cross of Our Hope" in anticipation of the beatification of Moreau on Sept. 15, 2007. When I wrote the song, I wanted to achieve several things," Warner said. "First, write a piece that would work for both guitar and organ, so that it could be done simply (for instance, in our residence halls). But it also had to be a piece that would shine in a larger and more formal venue like the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. I also held before me the possibility of the Congregations of Holy Cross, which in Latin is “Ave Crux Spes Unica!” or “Hail to the Cross, Our Only Hope.” The refrain of the piece is: "Cross of our hope, and tree of our salvation.

Sown in our land, and spread near and far.
Life-giving fruit, our portion and our promise.
Ave Crux! Spes Unica!"

USF tour of Italy open to students, community

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) at the University of Saint Francis will offer an escorted trip, the Grand Tour of Italy, to students and the community on May 7-17, 2012. The tour will provide travelers an opportunity to experience Venice, Florence, Assisi and Rome under the leadership of a professional tour guide and direction by SOCA Dean Rick Cartwright. Flights, transportation, hotels, most meals and museum admissions are included in the trip package. A number of people from the local community have participated in SOCA trips in the past and have enjoyed the experience, said department coordinator Molly McGowan.

This trip will satisfy course credit for art appreciation and art history courses for USF students. Students and community members interested in the tour can contact McGowan at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001 or mcallen@sfedu.

Bishop Luers to update technology with grant

FORT WAYNE — The M.E. Raker Foundation has awarded Bishop Luers High School with a grant to purchase a new server and computer lab, which will provide the school with the resources it needs to continue offering cutting-edge technology to students.

A new lab will accommodate larger class sizes. Computer application courses benefit from the new computer lab along with world language, English, math and science classes. New equipment demands less maintenance, providing cost savings and less downtime. More efficient use of time will better prepare students for the future.

With the addition of Indiana online testing, the new lab will enable Bishop Luers to accommodate a larger number of concurrent testers. This will allow for more flexibility in the scheduling of mandated tests. The new computers and flat monitors use less energy, which will provide a savings to energy costs.

A total of $20,000 was granted to the school over a two-year period. The school will receive the initial $10,000 this year with the remainder received next fall. Work will begin immediately to update the computer lab and a new server will be purchased.

Composer of 'Cross of Our Hope' speaks at Saint Mary's College

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary’s College hosted a lecture by Steven Warner, the composer of “Cross of Our Hope,” a song that celebrates the tradition of the Congregations of Holy Cross and its founder Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau.

Warner spoke Oct. 26 in Regina Chapel of Regina Hall on the Saint Mary’s College campus on “Crafting ‘Cross of Our Hope’: The Story of a Song and Saint Mary’s College’s Assosiations."

Warner is the founder and director of Notre Dame Folk Choir and director of liturgy resources for residence halls at the University of Notre Dame. He has also been a member of the university’s campus ministry staff since 1979.

He began writing “Cross of Our Hope” in anticipation of the beatification of Moreau on Sept. 15, 2007. When I wrote the song, I wanted to achieve several things,” Warner said. “First, write a piece that would work for both guitar and organ, so that it could be done simply (for instance, in our residence halls). But it also had to be a piece that would shine in a larger and more formal venue like the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. I also held before me the prospect of writing the piece in several languages because the Holy Cross family embraces several continents and many cultures. In its full form, ‘Cross of Our Hope’ exists in English, French and Spanish.

“Finally, I wanted to base the song directly on missionary exhortations of Father Moreau. Reading his letters, there is an unfinished zeal that he constantly shared with his community. It was my goal to create a piece that reflected that zeal.”

Saint Mary’s College was founded and is sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. “Cross of Our Hope” comes from the motto of the Congregations of Holy Cross, which in Latin is “Ave Crux Spes Unica!” or “Hail to the Cross, Our Only Hope.” The refrain of the piece is: “Cross of our hope, and tree of our salvation.

Sown in our land, and spread near and far.
Life-giving fruit, our portion and our promise.
Ave Crux! Spes Unica!”

USF tour of Italy open to students, community

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts (SOCA) at the University of Saint Francis will offer an escorted trip, the Grand Tour of Italy, to students and the community on May 7-17, 2012. The tour will provide travelers an opportunity to experience Venice, Florence, Assisi and Rome under the leadership of a professional tour guide and direction by SOCA Dean Rick Cartwright. Flights, transportation, hotels, most meals and museum admissions are included in the trip package. A number of people from the local community have participated in SOCA trips in the past and have enjoyed the experience, said department coordinator Molly McGowan.

This trip will satisfy course credit for art appreciation and art history courses for USF students. Students and community members interested in the tour can contact McGowan at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001 or mcallen@sfedu.
University of Saint Francis students, faculty and staff joined other area colleges and universities Sunday, Oct. 23, for a Better Together Day of Service, working with Fort Wayne refugee populations to improve their lives and neighborhoods. Here, USF students work in a bulb garden created at St. Henry’s Catholic Church. The Better Together Day of Service, working with Fort Wayne refugee populations to improve their lives and neighborhoods. Here, USF students work in a bulb garden created at St. Henry’s Catholic Church.
BY TOM UEBBING

SOUTH BEND — As a young boy of six, Joe Scheidler was deeply impressed with an image of an angel with a spear he saw at Sacred Heart Church at Notre Dame and a picture of St. George slaying the dragon he saw at his uncle’s house.

He asked his aunt what these figures were doing, and she replied that they were fighting Satan.

“Wow!” the youth exclaimed. “This is the Church to belong to!”

Scheidler commented, “That’s exactly what we are. We are the Church militant, not the Church millennially.”

Scheidler was the keynote speaker at the 20th annual Saint Joseph County Right to Life dinner Oct. 6, in South Bend. He would grow up to be one of the most effective soldiers in the battle against abortion.

Scheidler founded the Pro-Life Action League in 1980. His pro-life activities were so effective that the National Organization of Women (NOW) declared a boycott against the organization in 1980, using anti-racketeering RICO law against him. Originally found not guilty in the ensuing legal battles, Scheidler’s perspective is that we are fortunate to be born in a time of crisis because we know exactly what we have to do.

The veteran pro-life encouraged his listeners to continue to persevere and to strengthen their faith. He underscored that numbers are important in the battle. Pro-life activism also brings wonderful results.

“We’ve saved thousands of lives,” he continued. Abortionists and clinic workers have been converted.

Scheidler said that showing the public pictures of aborted babies plays an important role in ending abortion. He pointed out that it was only after actual photos of child labor were published that child labor laws were passed. The slave trade was ended in Great Britain when people saw pictures of slaves in chains packed into galleys.

Honorary dinner chairman Mark Jamrog put the abortion crisis in perspective with some statistics. Since 1973, approximately 86,600,000 American babies have been killed. Notre Dame stadium holds 80,795 people. The stadium would have to be filled and emptied every day for almost two years before the number of abortion victims would be equaled.

The figure for Saint Joseph County is between 35,000 and 41,000 deaths, about 40 percent of the population of South Bend, or one-half of Notre Dame stadium.

Jamrog appealed for prayer, financial support and volunteer work to support Saint Joseph County Right to Life. A major goal of the fund-raiser dinner is to pay for two pro-life billboards on either side of the approach to the South Bend abortion business that cost $30,000 annually.

The organization’s president, Tom Gill, said that “since you got up this morning,” 58,000 babies have been killed by abortion worldwide, 115,000 every full day and 42,000,000 every year. “There is a real danger that we become desensitized. We need to get people to come back to this issue,” Gill said.

He lamented that attendance at pro-life demonstrations has fallen off considerably in recent years. He asked everyone there to commit to come to the October Life Chain event and the South Bend federal courthouse march in January. He underscored that numbers are important and that people need to stay engaged in the battle.

Virginia Black was posthumously honored with the Anneta M. Macknick Courage Award. Ray and Anne Black were presented with the Pillar of Life Award. The Brother John Lavelle, CSC, Scholarship was awarded to Cortie Ann Belobraydich, president of Bethel College Students for Life.

Scheidler concluded his talk with a quote from Shakespeare’s Henry V. The scene is the morning of the Battle of Agincourt in 1415. The king addresses his relatively small force of warriors about to face off with a better equipped French army about five times their size. Speaking of the battle soon to take place he said:

But we in it shall be remembered — We few, we happy few, we band of brothers; For he today that sheds his blood with me Shall be my brother... And gentlemen in England now-a-bed Shall think themselves accurs’d if they were not here: And hold our manhoods cheap whilsts any speaks That fought with us upon St. Crispin’s day...

Joe Scheidler, national director of the Pro-Life Action League, inspires his listeners to faith, hope and action.

You are invited to an

Inspirational Concert

Featuring International Irish Tenor

Mark Forrest

www.markforrest.com

Mark Forrest is an acclaimed Irish tenor, who melodic voice has filled concert halls and cathedrals from Carnegie Hall to the Vatican. He has sung inspirational Hymns for luminaries such as Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa. His soothing Broadway melodies have entertained award-winning performers including Charlton Heston and Maureen O’Hara.

From the White House to his own house, with his wife and seven children, Mark continues to inspire the world with his music.

St. Mary of the Annunciation, 411 W. Vistula St., Bristol, Indiana
October 28, 2011 • 7:00 p.m. • (574) 848-4305
A FREE WILL OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED

Reception after the concert

Meditation - Music - Prayer - Healing
with Mark Forrest

St. Dominic Parish, 803 W. Bike St., Bremen, Indiana
October 30, 2011 • 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. • (574) 546-3601

Pregnant?
Someone cares.

The Pregnancy Sr. Life Home.

Not sure? Someone cares.

Back Up the Baby.

Crispin’s day...
HUNTINGTON — Honoring the dead in the current fast-paced American culture is a far cry from what once was an enduring community affair, says Michael McElhaney, funeral director of McElhaney-Hart Funeral Home in Huntington. McElhaney says he has seen “great changes” in the two decades he has served in the funeral business.

“It used to be the whole community was behind the funeral. They used to close stores down for the funerals. Depending on who it was they’d shut the whole town down,” recalls McElhaney.

Historically, the funeral wake, also currently referred to as the viewing, visitation or calling hours, consisted of two days of viewing, that were held in the deceased’s home, days of viewing, that were held in the private home of the deceased, the funeral home or church — for family, friends and community members to gather to mourn as well as offer support to the family members to mourn as well as offer support to the family and the deceased.

A recent trend in the funeral business is the funeral wake today is a solemn affair with families “spread out” across the country, many are choosing to limit the funeral ceremony or service. Cost is not a primary factor in this trend, says McElhaney, who notes that not only has the funeral wake shortened, but there is a decrease in the number of families with no church affiliation who are choosing the funeral wake, McElhaney, a convert to the Catholic faith and member of St. John’s Catholic Church in Huntington, notes that an increase in the number of families who choose home burials is due to the shortening wake hours has allowed cremation.

“This generation is uncomfortable with death,” he says. McElhaney, a convert to the Catholic faith and member of St. Mary Parish in Huntington, also notes that an increase in the number of families with no church affiliation is causing a decrease in traditional church services.

And he adds that he has seen an increase in cremation. “They don’t want to drag it on, so they have no services. Some people don’t want to deal with it. ... Now that the Catholic Church has (allowed cremation), it’s become more popular,” he says.

However, the recent shift to shortened wake hours has lead to a surprising movement toward personalization of the funeral service. Modern technology has lent itself to more creative and expressive ways to honor the dead. Currently the trend in personalizing the wake includes use of videos and picture boards that depict the course of the deceased’s life. Unique and personalized blankets, candles and statuary enhance the experience of the visitation. And personal memorabilia and music also highlight the gathering that precedes the funeral Mass.

Unlike its historical predecessor, where the community gathered at length under one roof to eulogize the dead with food, tears and laughter, the typical wake today is a solemn affair held in a funeral home or church where family and friends visit the bereaved family and view the body before burial. Some have even chosen to forgo the wake and funeral ceremony altogether and opt for a “celebration of life” following cremation or private burial.

Historically, the wake has been an important part of honoring the dead, with its tender stories and memories, and allows those in mourning to begin to accept the reality of the death. It also provides a venue for community members to mourn as well as offer support to the family of the deceased.

What is Catholic protocol when an unregistered Catholic dies (for example, a person who had not practiced the faith, but who at one time was a Catholic)?

The “Mass of Christian Burial” is probably the most elegant title, but “funeral Mass” is certainly acceptable. “Funeral service” would only be appropriate if a Mass does not occur, while “funeral liturgy” is somewhat ambiguous, since it could refer to either a Mass or a liturgical service outside Mass — “Mass for the Dead” technically includes funeral Masses, but it is a broader term that would include Requiem Masses on All Souls Day, for example.

Where may a Catholic funeral be celebrated?

Funeral Masses must be celebrated in a parish church or — if approved by the pastor and the diocese — in a consecrated chapel where Mass is regularlycelebrated. Funeral services that are not Masses may take place in the parish church, a consecrated chapel, the funeral home, the graveside or even another appropriate place.

May there be flower arrangements at a funeral? How about music?

The Order of Christian Funerals, used in celebration of the Mass, includes funeral rites. “Flower decorations may be placed on the remains. Any other similar items may be used in moderation, can be added to the funeral rites.” But flowers do not have to be present. This is stated in the General Instruction to the Missal No. 305: “During Lauds the altar to be decorated with flowers of different seasons (Fourth Sunday of Lent), so the chanting is appropriate.” Floral decorations may be used with moderation and placed on the mensa (the top of the altar) during the celebration of the Mass.

What is Catholic protocol for Catholics who had not practiced the faith, but who at one time was a Catholic? Do they need to have Church services? What if a Mass does not occur?

Yes, please consult the web site of the Office of Worship (www.dioceseofwv.org/office-ofworship), for our diocesan guidelines on funerals and liturgies with cremated remains, including a section of questions and answers.

Are there diocesan rules about funerals?

Consultation between the pastor or chaplain is necessary to proceed.

What is the proper way to refer to the funeral liturgy?

What is Catholic protocol for Catholics who had not practiced the faith, but who at one time was a Catholic? Do they need to have Church services? What if a Mass does not occur?
Honoring the dead awakens new trends

Questions answered concerning funerals

on its mensa (the top of the altar).”

exceptions. Floral decorations should always be done

Fourth Sunday of Lent), solemnities and feasts are

altar to be decorated with flowers. Laetare Sunday

Missal No. 305: “During Lent it is forbidden for the

ted, as stated in the General Instruction of the Roman

funeral rites.” But flowers during Lent are not permit

ers, used in moderation, can enhance the setting of the

a funeral? How about during Lent?

May there be flowers in the church for

cally requests it.

refused during the visitation/vigil, if the family specifi

themselves. The praying of the rosary should never be

accommodate this, as provided for by the funeral rites

tion during the time typically reserved for the vigil,

vigil, and is there a preference?

What are the options for prayers at the

Catholic burial?

the family wishes for them to have a

 secondo requests it.

who had not practiced the faith, but

What is Catholic protocol for Catholics

proceed.

it honors the children of God, who

Committee on Divine Worship has

said, “The cremated remains of the

body may be properly buried at sea

in the urn, coffin or other container

in which they have been carried to

the place of committal.”

Can a Catholic donate his body to science?

The Catechism of the Catholic

Church says the following (Nos.

2300 and 2301): “The bodies of the

dead must be treated with respect

and charity, in faith and hope of

the Resurrection. The burial of the

dead is a corporal work of mercy;

it honors the children of God, who

are temples of the Holy Spirit. ...
The Knights of Columbus was created to unite men in their faith, as well as help others in times of need. Since our founding in 1882, our membership of 1.8 million Catholic families have been doing just that. Together, Knights offer protection through our insurance products and by donating more than a billion dollars to countless charitable causes.

Interested? Contact an agent today!

Meet one of our Agents

Chad Osterholt and his wife Lyndsey are parishioners of St. Therese Catholic Church in Waynedale and are expecting their first child. Chad is the servicing agent for Huntington, Ossian, Bluffton, Columbia City, Arcola, and St Joseph on Brooklyn Ave. Precious Blood, Queen of Angels all in Ft. Wayne. Chad is dedicated to providing his members with sound advice regarding their insurance and retirement savings. “The Knights of Columbus has been protecting families for over a 128 years. That protection, whether in the form of life insurance, retirement investing or long term care is the core mission of the Knights. Our order continually obtains the highest ratings for financial strength thanks to the guidance of faith.” Contact Chad today at (260) 747-5638.

To find the servicing agent for your parish contact the regional office below.

Knights of Columbus
3609 E Jefferson BLVD South Bend, IN 46615
(574) 282-1082
www.catholic-cemetery.org

Knights of Columbus INSURANCE
Your SHIELD FOR LIFE
The John J. Stackowicz Agency
Regional Knights of Columbus Field Office
3609 E Jefferson BLVD South Bend, IN 46615
(574) 282-1082
Life Insurance • Annuities • IRA’s
Long Term Care Insurance
Disability Income Insurance
Career Opportunities

Consider your burial needs now will save your loved ones from making those difficult decisions.

At the Catholic Cemetery, we understand that death is often more difficult for the living than for the faithfully departed. We invite you to consider your burial needs thoughtfully and without pressure now, before the need arises, relieving others of those difficult decisions.

Not only will pre-arranging your burial ensure that your final wishes will be honored, but for a limited time the Catholic Cemetery is offering 10% off in-ground grave spaces, opening/closing and vaults or $250 off single crypt spaces (above ground entombment) or $75 off single niche (cremains) spaces.

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.

Indiana lawmakers have established a way to remove some of the uncertainty, and perhaps some disagreements, regarding the funeral arrangement process with the passage of Indiana’s Funeral Planning Declaration statues. Effective July 1, 2009, this law provides a vehicle for any competent person 18 years of age or older to designate a family member, friend or other trusted individual as the person who is authorized to carry out funeral wishes specified in the declarant’s Funeral Planning Declaration.

The full text of the law, which includes a Funeral Planning Declaration form, can be viewed at www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title29/ic2/ ch19.html. A Funeral Planning Declaration could be invaluable as a means of assuring a declarant that his/her desired funeral ceremony and burial preferences will be carried out after the declarant’s death. After all, a Catholic’s end-of-life worship preferences are no less important or meaningful than those undertaken during life.

The law provides that a Funeral Planning Declaration must be separate from a will, power of attorney or similar document. It is a stand alone document and takes precedence over certain other documents concerning decision making on the disposition of the declarant’s body after death; the disposition of the declarant’s remains; the provision of funeral services for the declarant; religious ceremonies to be performed after the declarant’s death; the casket, urn or other merchandise necessary for the disposition of the declarant’s body after death; direction of funeral arrangements; and, grave memorials. The declarant designates the individual who is authorized to carry out the declarant’s preferences on such items, or who is entrusted to make those decisions on behalf of the declarant after the declarant’s death if no preference is provided. Either way, the law presents a means to take guesswork out of who is authorized to direct the funeral planning process and gives a declarant some level of assurance that his/her religious preferences will be honored after death. If the declarant has a change of heart after making a valid Funeral Planning Declaration, the document can be destroyed, rendering it invalid, and another can be executed.

A declarant’s ability to have preferences that are designated in a Funeral Planning Declaration carried out as requested could be limited by such things as the declarant’s financial resources at the time of death or contractual agreements, such as a prepaid plan with a funeral home.

You should consult a priest to determine the suitability of liturgy preferences. If you are interested in a Funeral Planning Declaration, coordinate it with your other estate plans and talk with a priest to avoid roadblocks to having your preferences carried out after your death.

For more information about the Knights go to our website: http://www.indianakofc.org

Knights of Columbus
In Service to One - In Service to All

I am... My Brother’s Keeper.

Join Us and live your Catholic Faith.

Contact Indiana Membership Director
Jerry Brown:
membership@indianakofc.org
A November reflection

BY SISTER JANE CAREW

“I am not dying. I am entering eternal life.”
— St. Thérèse of Lisieux

A

lthough somewhat somber and clothed in mystery, the Church has provided us with a profound period prior to the starting of a new liturgical year which begins with Advent. November celebrates the feast of All Saints followed by a second day devoted to All Souls. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains the unity we have in Christ, the unity of all the redeemed, those on earth and those who have died. The communion of saints is professed in the Apostles’ Creed where the unity of “holy things,” especially the unity of faith and charity, is achieved through participation in the Eucharist. We are so blessed with the profound beauty of belief as Catholics. Do we really realize all the Church, as Bride of Christ, has to offer us, its children?

As a family, do you think of your deceased relatives and share stories with your children? There are deceased family with whom they can still communicate even though they will never see them in this life. As catechists can you speak convincingly of the lives of saints, helping the youth to have, perhaps, favorite models, encouraging them with stories of love and conversions in a world that does not always inspire them in such ways?

Many years ago, a great theologian, Von Balthazar, predicted that in the future we would lose the depth of beauty of our faith because the true meaning of language would be altered. An example pertinent to November is the reality of death. I personally am taken aback by how people today speak only of people “passing” rather than people “dying.” Passing can be as easy as you pass a building or a tree. There is not a lot to think about in the activity of passing.

However, to say a person dies, will experience death, leads to pondering our most beautiful reality of the future. As St. Teresa of Avila stated, “I want to see God, and in order to see Him, I must die.” St. Teresa would never say, “I must pass!” Pass? What does that mean? Why have we replaced the meaning of death?

At our Baptism, we died with Christ, being united with Him for life and eternity. This foundation of all sacramental life transforms us into the likeness of Christ. What does passing do? Why do so many Catholics now speak about passing instead of dying? I believe they just pick it up without thinking because they hear it so often. Christian death has a positive and profound meaning because in death God calls each one of us to Himself. With St. Paul, we can say, “My desire is to depart and be with Christ.” — Phil 1:23.

The loss of a loved one causes so much emotional pain. With help from family and friends time heals these emotions into a new expectation that someday we will be reunited with our loved ones.

I had the privilege of being with my mother constantly the last 10 days of her life. We were present to each other in loving silence. Occasionally my eyes would well up with tears. Her weak voice would say to me, “Why are you crying? I will be with you.”

Her deep faith reflected the words of one great early Church father, St. John Chrysostom, who said, “They whom we love and lose are no longer where they were before. They are now wherever we arc.”

Over the years with both my parents, I have experienced their continued care for me. This is a true experience of the communion of saints and the love that brings us unity in Christ. As November calls us to reflect on life and death, listen to yourself and see if you only refer to death as passing. In a weak sense it is a passing. But the rich treasury of the Catholic Church has so much more meaning.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church has an index on death. Go to it this month and reflect on the profound meaning, because you will not know the day nor how you will die. God has created you for love. Bask in the beauty of this. Maybe you need to have a conversion to think more of the last things — death, purgatory, heaven or hell. Not too many years ago this part of the creed, considered “eschatology,” was the weakest in faith formation. People teaching the faith did not want to teach about these realities because they feared it. This has greatly improved.

You can’t escape death, and you must be responsible as to how you live your life. Do you choose the good or that which is evil and unpleasing to God? God is merciful, but you must be responsible for your choices. The sacrament of Reconciliation is available to you. Strengthen your union with God by reviewing this sacrament often.

In November, visit the grave yard or attend a funeral and see if you only refer to death as passing. In a weak sense it is a passing. But the rich treasury of the Catholic Church has so much more meaning.

For the Christian, the meaning of death is revealed in light of Christ’s dying and rising for us. As Corinthians 5:8 states: “The Christian is away at home who dies in Christ from the body and with the Lord.”

When I go to pray…

My Chapel is down the hallway

As a community sponsored by the Brothers of Holy Cross, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame offers ways in which you can strengthen your faith. Attend Mass and rosary, worship privately or join a group for Bible studies. As a community sponsored by the Brothers of Holy Cross, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame offers ways in which you can strengthen your faith. Attend Mass and rosary, worship privately or join a group for Bible studies.

Guided by traditional Catholic values, we are a caring community eager to help you settle in and get acquainted. Our warm and inviting environment focused on dignity and respect. Please call (574) 251-2235 today if you’d like to learn how you can enjoy this lifestyle.

Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame is a ministry of the Brothers of Holy Cross.

54515 State Rd. 933 North, P.O. Box 303, Notre Dame, IN 46556
(574) 251-2235 • www.holycrossvillage.com

May the Lord bless you and keep you safe.

Sister Jane Carew

The retired director of the Office of Catechesis, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
The penitential act

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 23:1-12

The Book of Malachi provides this weekend’s first reading. The prophet’s name, Malachi, reveals his role. In Hebrew it means “messenger of God.” As a prophet, he brought God’s message to the people.

Often in prophetic writings, as in this weekend’s reading, the prophets wrote in a way in which God spoke in the first person. The prophet presented himself as merely an earthly instrument through whom God spoke. The actual communicator was God.

Malachi did not write at a time of extraordinary crisis for God’s people, as was the case of the author of the first section of Isaiah, or for that matter the bad circumstances that surrounded many other prophets. Malachi, nevertheless, shared with all the prophets the opinion that the people were sluggish in their religious observance, or that they altogether had rejected God.

Such lack of fervor, in the estimation of the prophets, was excusable. By contrast, God always was merciful, always faithful to the Covenant.

This weekend’s reading, again with God’s words given in the first person, accuses the people of sin. As God is the perfect and all-knowing judge, it is an accusation of complete fact. God warns. Such sin would lead only to doom for the people.

In St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Thessalonians, Paul reasons that he has nothing more to say to them. He says that he and Silas and Timothy are not able to save them.

For weeks, in these biblical readings from St. Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus has assumed the role of the final authority, the ultimate judge. Jesus pronounces on the most supreme of all laws, the law of Moses.

For Matthew, Jesus judges as the Son of God, able as such to pronounce on anything and everything.

Matthew also depicts Jesus as always responding with the widest and most reasonable of judgments on matters that usually perplex others.

In this weekend’s Gospel, Jesus pierces through the folly of inad- equate human understanding and human fear. Be strong, the Lord admonishes, there is nothing to fear. Supporting this view are the readings from First Thessalonians and from Malachi. First of all, God has not left us adrift on a stormy sea. He always has entered our lives with mercy, love, guidance and protection, in the prophets, the Apostles, and, of course, in Jesus. God is a loving, faithful, merciful God who does not overwhelm us. We voluntarily must turn to God. We must hear God. We must love God. It will be difficult, as we must forsake many deeply embedded fears and defenses. But, even in this conquest of self, God will strengthen us.

Reflection

For weeks, in these biblical readings from St. Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus has assumed the role of the first person, accuses the people of sin. As God is the perfect and all-knowing judge, it is an accusation of complete fact. God warns. Such sin would lead only to doom for the people.

In St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Thessalonians, Paul reasons that he has nothing more to say to them. He says that he and Silas and Timothy are not able to save them.

For weeks, in these biblical readings from St. Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus has assumed the role of the final authority, the ultimate judge. Jesus pronounces on the most supreme of all laws, the law of Moses.

For Matthew, Jesus judges as the Son of God, able as such to pronounce on anything and everything.

Matthew also depicts Jesus as always responding with the widest and most reasonable of judgments on matters that usually perplex others.

In this weekend’s Gospel, Jesus pierces through the folly of inad- equate human understanding and human fear. Be strong, the Lord admonishes, there is nothing to fear. Supporting this view are the readings from First Thessalonians and from Malachi. First of all, God has not left us adrift on a stormy sea. He always has entered our lives with mercy, love, guidance and protection, in the prophets, the Apostles, and, of course, in Jesus. God is a loving, faithful, merciful God who does not overwhelm us. We voluntarily must turn to God. We must hear God. We must love God. It will be difficult, as we must forsake many deeply embedded fears and defenses. But, even in this conquest of self, God will strengthen us.

Reflection

For weeks, in these biblical readings from St. Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus has assumed the role of the final authority, the ultimate judge. Jesus pronounces on the most supreme of all laws, the law of Moses.

For Matthew, Jesus judges as the Son of God, able as such to pronounce on anything and everything.

Matthew also depicts Jesus as always responding with the widest and most reasonable of judgments on matters that usually perplex others.

In this weekend’s Gospel, Jesus pierces through the folly of inad- equate human understanding and human fear. Be strong, the Lord admonishes, there is nothing to fear. Supporting this view are the readings from First Thessalonians and from Malachi. First of all, God has not left us adrift on a stormy sea. He always has entered our lives with mercy, love, guidance and protection, in the prophets, the Apostles, and, of course, in Jesus. God is a loving, faithful, merciful God who does not overwhelm us. We voluntarily must turn to God. We must hear God. We must love God. It will be difficult, as we must forsake many deeply embedded fears and defenses. But, even in this conquest of self, God will strengthen us.

Reflection

For weeks, in these biblical readings from St. Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus has assumed the role of the final authority, the ultimate judge. Jesus pronounces on the most supreme of all laws, the law of Moses.

For Matthew, Jesus judges as the Son of God, able as such to pronounce on anything and everything.

Matthew also depicts Jesus as always responding with the widest and most reasonable of judgments on matters that usually perplex others.

In this weekend’s Gospel, Jesus pierces through the folly of inad- equate human understanding and human fear. Be strong, the Lord admonishes, there is nothing to fear. Supporting this view are the readings from First Thessalonians and from Malachi. First of all, God has not left us adrift on a stormy sea. He always has entered our lives with mercy, love, guidance and protection, in the prophets, the Apostles, and, of course, in Jesus. God is a loving, faithful, merciful God who does not overwhelm us. We voluntarily must turn to God. We must hear God. We must love God. It will be difficult, as we must forsake many deeply embedded fears and defenses. But, even in this conquest of self, God will strengthen us.
I n this second reflection on the beatification of Pope John Paul II, written and submitted in connection with the celebration of his beatification, which Bishop Kevin Rhoades had selected to be observed in all Masses in our parishes throughout the weeks of Oct. 15-21, we are confronted with the reasons for his beatification. First of all, what are the reasons. It is not because so many considered him instrumental in the freedom that came to Eastern Europe. It is not because of the great success of the World Youth Days founded during his pontificate. Nor is it the fact that he visited so many countries. If he is canonized; that is, declared a saint, as so many hope, it is because of evidence of an extraordinary, indeed heroic, holiness.

‘I must’

That is what Pope John Paul II said to Bishop John Roach, the president of our conference, when he said he intended to be beatified every bishop in the world during their “ad limina” visit. He took literally the words of Christ to Peter that “you must strengthen your brothers” — “confirma fraters.” It was an admonition for Peter to confirm and strengthen the other apostles, and was the theological basis for the pope’s intention to visit every bishop in the world. He said, “in a place only five thousand people praying with the pope,” he said, “in a place only five thousand people praying with the pope, ‘Tu es pastor’” — “You are a shepherd.” (John 21:17). And then He invites me to take on the responsibilities that He Himself has entrusted to me” (Homily, 16 October 2003; L’Osservatore Romano English edition, page 3). Pope Benedict adds: “These words are laden with faith and love, the love of God, that conquers everything!” (L’Osservatore Romano English edition 13, March 31, 2010, page 3).

Today we would call this according to the Benedictine formula, “lectio divina,” a method of biblical prayer in which we grasp that the Scriptures are speaking not only of a past event, but a present event in which Jesus Christ is speaking to us and we are speaking to Him. It is the Holy Spirit in whom we are prompt us to accept much of the New Testament as a conversation with Christ. Followers of St. Ignatius have a similar basis often referred to as a composition of place, placing oneself in this case, beside the lake with Christ, hearing confessions. It is a joy following Bishop Rhoades’ decision, to offer a Missal, and to hear Confession, to offer the people addresses to Peter, “Do you love me more than these do?”

Let us pray to Blessed John Paul II for our parish, our diocese and our Church.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy

Peter: “Do you love me? Do you love me more than these?” (John 21: 15-16); and he added: “Every day that same dialogue between Jesus and Peter takes place in my heart. In spirit, I focus on the benevolent gaze of the Risen Christ. Although He knows of my human frailty, He encourages me to answer confidently, like Peter: “Lord, You know everything;” (John 21: 17). And then He invites me to take on the responsibilities that He Himself has entrusted to me” (Homily, 16 October 2003; L’Osservatore Romano English edition, page 3). Pope Benedict adds: “These words are laden with faith and love, the love of God, that conquers everything!” (L’Osservatore Romano English edition 13, March 31, 2010, page 3).

Today we would call this according to the Benedictine formula, “lectio divina,” a method of biblical prayer in which we grasp that the Scriptures are speaking not only of a past event, but a present event in which Jesus Christ is speaking to us and we are speaking to Him. It is the Holy Spirit in whom we are prompt us to accept much of the New Testament as a conversation with Christ. Followers of St. Ignatius have a similar basis often referred to as a composition of place, placing oneself in this case, beside the lake with Christ, hearing confessions. It is a joy following Bishop Rhoades’ decision, to offer a Missal, and to hear Confession, to offer the people addresses to Peter, “Do you love me more than these do?”

Let us pray to Blessed John Paul II for our parish, our diocese and our Church.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy

Peter: “Do you love me? Do you love me more than these?” (John 21: 15-16); and he added: “Every day that same dialogue between Jesus and Peter takes place in my heart. In spirit, I focus on the benevolent gaze of the Risen Christ. Although He knows of my human frailty, He encourages me to answer confidently, like Peter: “Lord, You know everything;” (John 21: 17). And then He invites me to take on the responsibilities that He Himself has entrusted to me” (Homily, 16 October 2003; L’Osservatore Romano English edition, page 3). Pope Benedict adds: “These words are laden with faith and love, the love of God, that conquers everything!” (L’Osservatore Romano English edition 13, March 31, 2010, page 3).

Today we would call this according to the Benedictine formula, “lectio divina,” a method of biblical prayer in which we grasp that the Scriptures are speaking not only of a past event, but a present event in which Jesus Christ is speaking to us and we are speaking to Him. It is the Holy Spirit in whom we are prompt us to accept much of the New Testament as a conversation with Christ. Followers of St. Ignatius have a similar basis often referred to as a composition of place, placing oneself in this case, beside the lake with Christ, hearing confessions. It is a joy following Bishop Rhoades’ decision, to offer a Missal, and to hear Confession, to offer the people addresses to Peter, “Do you love me more than these do?”

Let us pray to Blessed John Paul II for our parish, our diocese and our Church.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy

Peter: “Do you love me? Do you love me more than these?” (John 21: 15-16); and he added: “Every day that same dialogue between Jesus and Peter takes place in my heart. In spirit, I focus on the benevolent gaze of the Risen Christ. Although He knows of my human frailty, He encourages me to answer confidently, like Peter: “Lord, You know everything;” (John 21: 17). And then He invites me to take on the responsibilities that He Himself has entrusted to me” (Homily, 16 October 2003; L’Osservatore Romano English edition, page 3). Pope Benedict adds: “These words are laden with faith and love, the love of God, that conquers everything!” (L’Osservatore Romano English edition 13, March 31, 2010, page 3).

Today we would call this according to the Benedictine formula, “lectio divina,” a method of biblical prayer in which we grasp that the Scriptures are speaking not only of a past event, but a present event in which Jesus Christ is speaking to us and we are speaking to Him. It is the Holy Spirit in whom we are prompt us to accept much of the New Testament as a conversation with Christ. Followers of St. Ignatius have a similar basis often referred to as a composition of place, placing oneself in this case, beside the lake with Christ, hearing confessions. It is a joy following Bishop Rhoades’ decision, to offer a Missal, and to hear Confession, to offer the people addresses to Peter, “Do you love me more than these do?”

Let us pray to Blessed John Paul II for our parish, our diocese and our Church.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy
Holy Family girls win long-awaited ICCL softball championship

BY CHUCK FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — Three years ago, the fifth-grade female student-athletes at Holy Family School struggled, and that’s an understatement. In softball, volleyball and basketball, they were completely winless.

Today, as eighth graders, those girls reign as Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) softball champions.

Ron Vantornout’s Trojans opened an unlikely and improbable tourney run with a 15-3 first-round triumph over St. Matthew earlier this month at South Side Little League Park. “I really can’t explain it,” admitted the usually unflappable Vantornout after the victory. “I’m just so happy for our eighth graders. They stepped up big.”

Holy Family finished fourth in the regular season with a 5-3 record, including a 14-2 loss to St. Matthew back on Sept. 19. It all came together for the Trojans in the tournament, who combined a potent offense with steady pitching and defense.

“St. Matt’s can crush the ball and our outfield had way too many errors in the regular-season game,” recalled Vantornout. “This time around, we didn’t have any out-field errors and Sara Zielinski even turned a huge double play for us from center field.”

Megan Riba was certainly one of the Trojan stars in the championship game. The Holy Family catcher belted a three-run homer of the Trojan stars in the championship game.

The Holy Family Trojans were crowned as Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) softball champions earlier this month. Members of the team include in front row, from left, Sydney Swartz, Megan Riba, Sarah Zielinski, Hanna Burdue, Mercedes Cruz; and back row, Jordan Zobrosky, Allie Buszkiewicz, Haley Hessey, Allison Van Tornhout, Madison Singer, Alexis Schneider and Anna Ujdak.

JYV Championship

There’s hope for the future for St. Matthew, as the Blazers’ JV squad won the fifth-and-sixth-grade championship with an 8-0 win over Corpus Christi in the title game.

Pitcher Olivia Frick, backed by a solid defense, stifled the Cougar bats in the finale. The victory wrapped up a perfect season for St. Matthew, which never trailed in any game during the entire season.

Holy Cross claims CYO football title

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Plagued by turnovers and injuries, the undefeated St. Charles Cardinals were downed by Holy Cross, 16-0, in the 2011 Catholic Youth League (CYO) small school championship game on Sunday, Oct. 23.

The Holy Cross Crusaders claimed their fourth straight CYO title, although St. Charles had their way with Holy Cross during the regular season when they defeated them, 7-0, in the final week of regulation to earn a top-seed and first-place league finish.

Noting high-lights from the loss, Coach Jason Garrett felt the Cardinal defense played solid in tough situations holding Holy Cross to just two scores. Garrett added, “We are going to try to regroup, collect ourselves and be ready for the diocesan playoff game on Nov. 6.

The CYO will host this year’s showdown at Bishop Luers High School when the top two teams from South Bend’s ICCL league trek to Fort Wayne.

In junior varsity volleyball tournament action, the St. Rose-St. Louis Twins were the fifth-sixth grade champions for the CYO Blue League with a win over Most Precious Blood. In the photo are front row, from left, Erica Renninger, Dorothy Witham, Lillic Patter, Neveah Feasby and Taylor Zelt; back row, Jessica VanHorn, Sierra Small, Coach Theresa Renninger, Grace Castleman and Emily Oberley.
Mishawaka Saints, Crusaders to battle for ICCL football crown

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — Fans gathered in the inviting confines of Marian High School’s Otolosi Field as they envisioned the four teams that have shared the title for the last 15 seasons, trying to extend their campaigns to the championship game.

The first game of the day saw the mighty and undefeated regular-season champion, Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders, face off against what many had described as the most dangerous team in the playoffs — the St. Matthew (St. Jude/Our Lady of Hungary) Blazers.

The Crusaders had relied on their skill position players and a balanced attack. The Blazers boasted a huge offensive line and the bruising running back Davante Newbill.

The opening drive found the Crusaders starting on their own 48-yard line, and the black-and-blue clad squad started a relentless march down the gridiron, encompassing 10 plays, featuring two big fourth down and long runs by their heralded quarterback Mark Madden — one for 23 yards and the other for 18.

After the patented runs by Madden, running back Gabe Brooks followed his blockers one yard into the endzone for the first score of the contest, the point after kick was blocked, 6-0, Crusaders.

The Blazers would mount a drive of their own on their first possession when the combination of runs by Newbill and Timmy Greci chewed up big yards and had the St. Matthew clan fac¬ ing a fourth down and five. The Crusader defense stopped them a mere six inches short of a pre¬ cious fourth down, 6-0, Crusaders.

The first score of the contest, the point after kick was blocked, 6-0, Crusaders.

The fierce blocking and tena¬ cious running of the Crusaders backs ran the remaining sec¬ onds off the clock ending the helpless offensives hopes of a proud St. Matthew team.

“Our hats off to the Crusaders and their staff. They came out ready and played like champions today,” commented Blazer Coach Mike Ernst.

“Our kids really worked hard and kept fighting,” he said. “I was happy with our line, our backs, our defense and am extremely proud of our team.”

“We knew Coach Ernst would have his team ready. Newbill is a special back. We really practiced against what many had described as the most dangerous team in the playoffs — the St. Matthew (St. Jude/Our Lady of Hungary) Blazers.

The highlight of the week¬ end occurred in Argos, where Marian’s girls soccer team captured the Class 1-A Northern Semistate with a 2-1 overtime triumph over West Lafayette. Freshman D.J. Veldman raced up the right side of the field and knocked a shot into the bottom left corner of the net to send the Knights into next Saturday’s state championship game against Providence.

D.J.’s older sister, Gabby, scored the other goal of the game for Marian. Goalkeeper Makaela Douglas made nine saves.

St. Joseph’s saw its girls soccer season end with a 2-0 loss to undefeated Hamilton Southeastern in the Class 2-A semistate championship. Johan Kauter’s Indians reached the Final Four for the third straight year, closing their campaign with an 18-4-0 mark.

The Indians were better for Saint Joseph’s cross-country team. Coach Jerry Hoffman’s Indian boys return to the state finals for the third straight year after finishing second in the New Haven Semistate. Senior Joey Zelinski won the race with a time of 15:40, 10 seconds better than Mishawaka’s Miguel Lozano.

Bishop Dwenger’s Luke Miller and Saint Joseph’s girl runner Darby Mountford also qualified for the state finals as individuals, based on having a top 15 finish. Both Bishop Luers and Saint Joseph’s also walked away with volleyball sectional championship trophies.

The Inter-City Catholic League’s varsity championship game kicks off Sunday at 5 p.m. at Otolosi Field featuring the upstart Mishawaka Catholic Crusaders against the undefeated Crusaders.

Diocesan high schools battle for sectional championships

BY CHUCK FREEBLY

Diocesan high-school athletics teams enjoyed another week of success in Indiana High School Athletic Association state tournaments.

The highlight of the week¬ end occurred in Argos, where Marian’s girls soccer team captured the Class 1-A Northern Semistate with a 2-1 overtime triumph over West Lafayette. Freshman D.J. Veldman raced up the right side of the field and knocked a shot into the bottom left corner of the net to send the Knights into next Saturday’s state championship game against Providence.

D.J.’s older sister, Gabby, scored the other goal of the game for Marian. Goalkeeper Makaela Douglas made nine saves.

St. Joseph’s saw its girls soccer season end with a 2-0 loss to undefeated Hamilton Southeastern in the Class 2-A semistate championship. Johan Kauter’s Indians reached the Final Four for the third straight year, closing their campaign with an 18-4-0 mark.

The Indians were better for Saint Joseph’s cross-country team. Coach Jerry Hoffman’s Indian boys return to the state finals for the third straight year after finishing second in the New Haven Semistate. Senior Joey Zelinski won the race with a time of 15:40, 10 seconds better than Mishawaka’s Miguel Lozano.

Bishop Dwenger’s Luke Miller and Saint Joseph’s girl runner Darby Mountford also qualified for the state finals as individuals, based on having a top 15 finish. Both Bishop Luers and Saint Joseph’s also walked away with volleyball sectional championship trophies.

The Inter-City Catholic League’s varsity championship game kicks off Sunday at 5 p.m. at Otolosi Field featuring the upstart Mishawaka Catholic Crusaders against the undefeated Crusaders.

Cross-country grows at St. Vincent

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The sport of cross-country is growing in popular¬ ity at St. Vincent de Paul Parish and growing in numbers thanks to the teamwork of a passionate group of parents, coaches and runners.

In 2010, the team consisted of 17 runners which increased to 31 this year. During the 2011 season, the Panthers racked up five team trophies and numerous individual first-place finishes.

The group competed in nine meets which is also up from five in previous years.

Coach Susi Eberle said, “All of these factors combined contribute to our growth and recent success.”

Many of the Panther runners compiled personal best times, but two stood out for 2011 — Alex Barton and Claire Manning. Barton, most valuable runner for the boys, capped off his middle-school career with a 10:50 in the 3K, while Manning, the top female, clocked a personal best of 12:32.

“The camaraderie within the team is, without a doubt, inspiring,” said Eberle. “So inspiring, the runners have cheered on runners from other schools as well. They have learned any runner, even if not on our team, is a fellow runner and is suffering just the same.”

Also, Eberle felt it was fabulous the way the parents supported the team.

“They were matching shirts with the runners to the meets and pro¬ vided snacks for the team all season long,” she said.

Completing their third year as coaches, Eberle and her husband, Scott, who she insists is an unbel¬ ievable motivator and trainer, are hopeful the program they love only continues to catch on.
Books for fall stir thoughts

A s autumn rolls in with its cooler weather, the following books sent to Today’s Catholic may touch the fancy of any Catholic and non-Catholic fall reader.

“Johnny English Reborn” (Universal)

Amoriously constructed spy spoof — and cleaned-up sequel to the 2003 comedy “Johnny English” — in which Rowan Atkinson as the titular secret agent overcomes severe odds to discover who was responsible for the assassination of the president of Mozambique. Atkinson and director Oliver Parker put Johnny — a combination of Atkinson’s Mr. Bean and Leslie Nielsen’s Frank Drebin of the “Naked Gun” series — on a series of droll set-pieces. One dubious, and dull, sight gag aside, they also eschew the less-than-family-friendly humor of the original. Some cartoonish violence, a single tasteless visual joke and fleeting mildly crass references to Jesus — and a home contractor (Owen Wilson) vie to win the titular competition by raising faith families. Each of the four sections relates to the Church’s calendar year and offers short chapters on life’s familiar situations that can inspire sacramental riches. Each chapter concludes with reflection questions with suggested Scripture readings and activities to try. A must read for busy moms and dads. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-1-61636-134-1-9. $12.99

“John Wayne’s America” (St. Martin’s Press)

“Party of One: Living Single with Faith, Purpose and Passion,” by author Heidi Knobbe is a little book packed with insights from Scripture and its ordinary people that help the author address the fears and questions singles face, and the assumptions others make about being single. Each concise chapter includes a interesting quote from a single, a “myth” to combat, stories and inspiration from those who live single, Scripture to remember and questions for reflection. Each of the three sections concludes with purpose driven activities to try. St. Anthony Messenger Press, ISBN: 978-1-61636-129-7, $19.99


“Weightless: Making Peace With Your Body,” by Kate Wicker offers a Catholic, faith-based approach to healing the wounds of body image problems. The author shares her own story that will uplift her readers and point them to the true formula for health of body, mind and spirit. Each chapter includes a meditation and questions for reflection. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-971-3, $12.99


Will be presented by Kathleen Sprous Cummings, Ph.D. as the 2011 Hesburgh Lecture of the Notre Dame Club 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 rtrzaz@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 work, “Citizen Saints: Catholics and Canonization in American Culture.”

Catholic Sisters in American History

Will be presented by Kathleen Sprous Cummings, Ph.D. as the 2011 Hesburgh Lecture of the Notre Dame Club 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 rtrzaz@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 work, “Citizen Saints: Catholics and Canonization in American Culture.”

The Galley

Famous Fish & Seafood

Chicken & Steaks • Banquet Facilities

Celebrating our 33rd Anniversary!

622 North 13th Street • Decatur • (260) 724-8181

Casa Grille Italiano

Fort Wayne Tradition Since 1977

Casa Ristorante Italiano

7545 W. Jefferson Blvd. 436-2272

Casa Grille Italiano (Northeast)

6340 Stellhorn Road 969-4700

Casa Ristorante Italiano (Next to the Coliseum)

4111 Parnell Avenue 483-0202

Casa Grille (Northwest)

411 E. DuPont Road 490-4745

casarestaurants.net

Banquets & Catering 399-2455

RAPTURE TO RITUAL

October 30, 2011

18
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: fhogan@dioceseofsbf.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.

Misc. Happenings

Chili and tenderloin dinner
Warsaw — The Knights of Columbus Council 4511 will be hosting a chili and tenderloin dinner on Friday, Oct. 28, from 4:30-7 p.m. at the council hall. Cost is $7 and includes chili and one tenderloin sandwich; additional sandwiches are $2 each. Proceeds benefit seminarians.

Spaghetti dinner planned
Warsaw — The Knights of Columbus Council 4511 will be hosting a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 5-7 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Church parish hall. Cost is $7 for adults and $3 for children ages 5-12. Proceeds will be used to support activities for the “C.R.U.S.A.D.E.S.” youth group at Sacred Heart Church.

Nip classes offered
Fort Wayne — The Couple to Couple League will offer Natural Family Planning classes starting Sunday, Nov. 13, at 6 p.m. in the home of Ron and Marilyn Shannon. To register call (260) 489-1856 or email ronshannon@verizon.net.

Blanket drive benefits St. Vincent de Paul Society
South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Society will collect new blankets for the Christmas Basket program through Dec. 5. Drop off donations at either Thrift Store location — St. Rd. 23 and Ironwood or 3408 Ardmore Trail.

Knights plan fish fry
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, Nov. 4, from 5-7:30 p.m. Tickets are $7 for adults and $3 for children and $3 for children under 6-12, and children under 6 free. Carry out available.

Rosary for the poor souls
Mission — A rosary for the poor souls will be recited Sunday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m. at St. Joseph’s cemetery, rain or shine.

Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Father Jason Freiburger will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel on Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 7 p.m. to pray for priests and vocations. Father Freiburger is vice chancellor of the diocese.

Bishop Luers hosts eighth-grade visitation day
Fort Wayne — Eighth-grade students are invited to Bishop Luers High School with their feeder school on Thursday, Nov. 3. If you are a non-feeder school student, contact Jenny Andorfer at (260) 456-1261 ext. 3141.

Craft Fair will be Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. More than 100 vendors will sell handcrafted fall and Christmas items. Lunch is available as well as other sweet and savory treats.

Craft bazaar and bake sale
Fort Wayne — St. Joseph Parish, 1910 Hale Ave., will have a craft bazaar and bake sale Saturday, Oct. 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Handicap accessible and lunch served all day.

Holiday craft bazaar
South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua Parish will have a holiday craft bazaar Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school auditorium. Lunch will be available.

Christmas fair and cookie bar
Rome City — St. Gaspar Parish will have a Christmas fair and cookie bar Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (260) 854-4888 for table rental.

Holiday home party and craft show
New Haven — St. Louis Besselon Parish will have a home party and craft show Saturday, Nov. 5, from noon to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 6, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Besselon Hall. Snack bar sponsored by the junior high.

McElhaney-Hart Funeral Home
715 North Jefferson
Huntington
(260) 356-3320
www.mcelhaneyhartfuneralhome.com
Faithfest
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a matter of indifference,” Father Giombrone said.

Breakout sessions
Sister Mary Vianney Gru spoke to the teens about salvation history, titling it “The Adventure Continues.” She said it was “a cosmic love story — the story of God’s love for us in seven sequels.”

She reviewed the covenants God made with Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, the prophets and then the ultimate covenant between Jesus and all Christians.

Franciscan Father David Mary Engo offered a session titled, “Praised by Christ Jesus.” To have a relationship with God one has to understand God — God is love — so one needs to know what love is and that it is 100 percent selfless.

He used a lighter flame to demonstrate the Holy Trinity — showing that flame also had light and heat. Three distinct properties that are all present in one but cannot be separated. God the Father is the flame, God the Son is the light and the Holy Spirit is the heat.

“When you lose sight of the truth of the Trinity, you lose sight of Jesus,” Father Engo said. “Every family was intended to be the image of the Holy Trinity.”

Sarah Hill, youth minister at St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne, conducted a session titled “Moral Therapeutic Deism.” Using clips from television shows she showed the Hollywood media has watered down Christianity.

Hill spoke of her session: Moral — just be a good person; therapeutic — there are lots of religions so just pick the one that makes you feel good, and Deism — we don’t really need God unless our life is in chaos and then He may or may not care about you. She also called it “Whatever-isn’t.”

“But it is important to know what you believe and to know God wants to be involved and included in your life,” she said.

“People may say what we believe is our opinion, but opinion is not the same as truth — truth does exist. Whether you agree with it or not doesn’t change the truth,” she said.

Hill offered these steps to counter “Whatever-isn’t.”
• Keep learning about the Truth — don’t settle; ask the deep questions — questions are good, you show you care.
• Go to the sacraments to experience the Truth — you’ll understand them more, but the Church doesn’t make you wait until you understand completely — the grace is in the sacrament, the hope is you’ll continue to learn.
• Take time to reflect on what you think and why.
• Trust the Catholic Church even when you don’t understand it all yet.
• Bring Jesus back into conversations — take strength from Him, be a witness to the Truth.

High tech evangelization
Little iApps, the small South Bend company that created “Confession: A Roman Catholic App,” made a presentation with company reps Ryan Kreager, Patrick Leinen and Chip Leinen. They urged the students to fully participate in the new media — blogging, podcasting, phone apps, Twitter, etc. — using their gifts for God.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades then engaged the students in a “Text the Bishop” session.

Bishop Rhoades showed how Jesus’ answer to “Love God ...” was represented in the first three of the Ten Commandments from the Old Testament, and how to “Love your neighbor ...” was represented in the last seven of the Ten Commandments.

The day concluded with Bishop Rhoades celebrating Mass. Father Engo concelebrated and Deacon Mel Tardy assisted.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades explained in greater depth the Gospel reading, about how Jesus had answered the Pharisees’ question regarding which was the greatest commandment.

Bishop Rhoades showed how Jesus’ answer to “Love God ...” was represented in the first three of the Ten Commandments from the Old Testament, and how to “Love your neighbor ...” was represented in the last seven of the Ten Commandments.

Thoroughly admitting that these two directives to love are certainly not easy, Bishop Rhoades encouraged the students to love deeply in both of these ways, employing the supernatural help, or grace, that flows from Holy Communion, the sacrament of love.

Bishop Rhoades identified loving God and loving one another as central to the Christian life, as modeled by the saints, and leading to happiness, joy and peace. Following Mass, the bishop and students reflected in reverent prayer during a time of Eucharistic Adoration, followed by Benediction.

Joe Romie contributed to this story.