Catechists embrace the Source and Summit of their faith

BY DENISE FEDOROW

SYRACUSE — Several hundred catechists from across the diocese attended the 21st annual Catechetical Institute Day held at Wawasee Middle School in Syracuse on November 5. The theme this year was “The Eucharist — Embracing the Source and Summit of our Faith.”

Dr. David Fagerberg, a professor in the theology department at the University of Notre Dame was the keynote speaker. Fagerberg spoke to the catechists about their role as educators.

“Education answers the question, ‘What is real?’ but maybe it’s not enough for educators to teach us what a star is made of — having an understanding that stars are a gift of the Creator is equally important,” Fagerberg said.

He said, “Despite what the new militant atheists believe, Catholics don’t see friction between science and the Creator. Theology is a science. … Theology tells us what a thing is on the way of becoming — only theology looks at the whole picture — the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

Fagerberg quoted from the works of St. Augustine and the children’s book, “Velveteen Rabbit.” He told the audience, “The aim of catechists is to put people not only in touch but in communion, in intimacy, with Jesus Christ.”

“Do your catecheses find God bigger?” Fagerberg asked. “If so, they are growing.”

St. Mother Theodore Guérin Award recipient Mary Barnes is presented with her award by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the 21st annual Catechetical Institute Day in Syracuse on Nov. 5. The award is presented annually to directors of religious education or catechists who exemplify leadership and service. The other recipient this year was Franciscan Sister Marilyn Ellert.

Life-giving power of Resurrection is not symbol, but reality

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christ’s Resurrection is not a mere symbol of life and renewal but is the true source of a love that conquers the power of death, Pope Benedict XVI said.

“The abyss of death is filled by another abyss of even greater depth, that of God’s love, so that death no longer has any power over Jesus Christ nor over those who, through their faith and baptism, are tied to him,” he said during a memorial Mass Nov. 3.

The pope celebrated the memorial Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica in memory of the 10 cardinals and 118 bishops who died in the past year.

The pope did not use a wheeled platform to arrive at the altar as he had done Oct. 16, the last time he celebrated Mass in the basilica. The Vatican had said the mobile platform was meant to reduce the physical toll on the 84-year-old pontiff. But since the pope walked from the sacristy, rather than down the entire length of the basilica, apparently it was not needed.

In his homily, Pope Benedict said, “New and eternal life is fruit of the tree of the cross, a tree that blossoms and makes fruit because of the light and the strength that comes from the sun of God.”

To counteract the negative power of sin, an even greater power was needed, he said. The answer was the power of a love that comes straight from God’s own heart, reveals the ultimate meaning of creation, and renews and guides his children along the right path, the pope said.
Two weeks away

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHODES

I
n just two weeks, we will begin using the beautiful new English translation of the Roman Missal. In last week’s column, I began a reflection on the new translation of the Eucharistic Prayers. As I mentioned, “with the Eucharistic Prayer — the prayer of thanksgiving and consecration — we come to the heart and summit of the celebration” of Mass (CCC 1352).

I ended last week’s column with a commentary on the new translation of the Institution Narrative (the consecration). I continue now with the words the priest says or chants immediately after the words of consecration: “The mystery of faith.” The priest is inviting the people to affirm that the mystery of Christ’s sacrifice is present on the altar. The people (not the priest) then respond with one of the three acclamations (which cannot be substituted by any other song, acclamation, or response).

The acclamations are:

1) “We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.”

2) “When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.”

3) “Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.”

In all three acclamations, the faithful are addressing the Lord and acclaiming the mystery of His saving action that has become present on the altar. Notice that the former acclamation: “Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again” may no longer be used.

After the Memorial Acclamation, the priest continues with the part of the Eucharistic Prayer called the “anamnesis,” a Greek word meaning “memorial.” At the end of the Institution Narrative, the priest had repeated the words of Jesus: “Do this in memory of me.” “In the anamnesis ... the Church calls to mind the Passion, resurrection, and glorious return of Christ Jesus; she presents to the Father the offering of his Body which reconciles us with him” (CCC 1354). The prayer of anamnesis includes a prayer of obligation, the offering of ourselves together with the offering of Christ, the pure and holy victim of the Eucharistic sacrifice.

Here is the new translation of the Anamnesis prayer from Eucharistic Prayer II:

“Therefore, as we celebrate the memoria
 of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.”

After the anamnesis come the intercessions. “In the intercessions, the Church indicates that the Eucharist is celebrated in communion with the whole Church in heaven and on earth, the living and the dead, and in communion with the pastors of the Church, the Pope, the diocesan bishop, his presbyterium and his deacons, and all the bishops of the whole world together with their Churches (CCC 1354).

I find it very consoling and very important that at every Mass we pray for the faithful departed. At that moment of the Eucharistic Prayer, I always remember my own beloved loved ones who have died. We also pray for the living. At that moment, I often present to the Lord all the people who have asked for my prayers or whom I have promised to pray for.

The prayers of intercession for the living and the dead, the prayers for the Pope and bishops, as well as the recollection of the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, remind us of our identity as the Mystical Body of Christ. We are all brothers and sisters united as members of Christ’s Body, giving praise and thanks to God in the celebration of the Eucharist. The new translation of these prayers of intercession is very rich. Here follows the new translation from Eucharistic Prayer II:

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Benedict our Pope and Kevin our Bishop and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face. Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.”

It is important to be aware that the Eucharist is never celebrated in isolation. It is always celebrated “in communion with the whole Church, of both heaven and of earth, and that the oblation is made for her and for all her members, living and dead, who are called to participate in the redemption and the salvation purchased by the Body and Blood of Christ” (General Instruction of the Roman Missal 879).

The Eucharistic Prayer ends with the Doxology, said or sung by the priest, followed by the people acclaiming “Amen.” While announcing the Doxology, the priest lifts up the chalice and paten, a gesture of presenting the sacrifice of Christ and His Church to the Father.

Here is the new translation of the Doxology:

Through him, with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.”

When the people acclaim “Amen,” they are giving their assent. As you may know, the word “Amen” is from the Hebrew and means “So be it!” I encourage all to continue to prepare well for the use of the new English translation of the Roman Missal, which will begin in just two weeks, on the first Sunday of Advent. May God bless you!
**Witnesses disagree about HHS rule’s effect on conscience, access**

**BY NANCY FRAZIER O’BRIEN**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Witnesses clashed at a House subcommittee hearing Nov. 2 over whether the Department of Health and Human Services’ final rule requiring no-cost coverage of contraception and sterilization in most health plans violates conscience rights and threatens access to care.

Three of the five witnesses before the subcommittee chairman, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, also submitted written testimony for their views to the committee to uphold conscience rights and preserve access to the care that is a constitutional right. A rule issued in August by the department mandates coverage of contraception and sterilization in most private health insurance plans.

The U.S. bishops, saying the directive does not offer appropriate exceptions for religious institutions, view the mandate as an attack on religious liberty.

**WASHINGTON (CNS) —**

**Sunday, Nov. 13:** 9 a.m. — Meeting of Doctrine Committee of USCCB, Baltimore, Md. 

**Monday, Nov. 14 to Thursday, Nov. 17:** General Assembly Meeting of USCCB, Baltimore, Md.

**Friday, Nov. 18, at 9:30 a.m. — National Catholic Youth Council Convention, Indianapolis**

**Saturday, Nov. 19, 4 p.m. — Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Fort Wayne**

**Bishops urge Senate committee to uphold Defense of Marriage Act**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops have urged the Senate Judiciary Committee not to repeal the federal Defense of Marriage Act, known as DOMA, saying it is important for human rights and the common good.

“DOMA advances the common good in a manner consistent with the human dignity of all persons,” Bishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of Oakland, Calif., chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, wrote in a Nov. 2 letter to committee members.

DOMA defines marriage as a union between one man and one woman and gives states the authority to reject same-sex marriages that may have been legally recognized in other states.

The bishops also pointed out that “millions of citizens have gone to the ballot in 30 states to ratify similar DOMA proposals by substantial majorities.” He said 41 states have enacted legislation similar to DOMA.


“Popular support alone does not determine what is right,” he said, but noted that in the face of such broad support “repealing a measure that merely recognizes the truth of marriage is all the more improvident,”

Bishop Cordileone also said that changing the definition of marriage would violate human rights, namely the rights of children to be cared for by both a mother and a father, and violate religious freedom.

“In places where marriage’s core meaning has been altered through legal action, officials are beginning to target for punishment those believers and churches that refuse to adopt the revisions,” he wrote. “Any non-conforming conduct and even expressions of disagreement, based simply on support for marriage as understood and practiced over a lifetime, is morally neutral, is wrongly being treated as if it harmed society, and somehow constituted a form of evil equal to racism.”

“DOMA represents an essential protection against such threats to faith and conscience,” he wrote.
Vincent House receives extreme makeover

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Vincent House, located at 2827 Holton Ave. in Fort Wayne, recently underwent an extreme makeover with renovations that made this community shelter for homeless families a place they can call home. The shelter opened its doors in 1989 and has been a starting point for over 700 homeless families.

At an open house held on Oct. 28 the community was invited to tour the newly remodeled facility that once served as a convent for the Sisters of St. Hyacinth. Ann Helmke, executive director of Vincent Village, Inc., says board members and staff were on hand to guide the near 50 visitors, including Bishop John M. D’Arcy, bishop emeritus, through the facility.

Over the years, new paint and floor coverings have kept the interior of the shelter viable. The building had been sided in the past and wheelchair accessibility was added. But more was needed to provide a family-friendly space. So this year massive renovations, made possible by a grant from the city of Fort Wayne and the dedicated work of the Vincent Village maintenance crew, have modernized the facility.

The interior renovations include four completely remodeled bathrooms, all new doors and door frames, new paint throughout and all new flooring. Walls have been removed to create a great room effect with an all new kitchen-dining room.

The shelter provides temporary housing for families in need and has a waiting list of families needing shelter. Of those 33 currently housed, 21 are children. Helmke says, “The need is great. We’re always full and two-thirds of the homeless we serve are children.”

She adds that a typical family consists of a single mother with several children. “But we never split up families,” Helmke reports, “If the family has a dad, he comes too.”

The Vincent Village organization was the brainchild of Bishop D’Arcy in the late 1980s, and was initially funded by a grant from the Bishop’s Appeal and HUD. It has developed from a shelter into a village with several homes and supportive services offered to the families as stepping stones to independence.

For information on Vincent Village visit www.vincentvillage.org or call (260) 456-4172.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy, bishop emeritus, stands with Ann Helmke, director of Vincent House, a transitional shelter and affordable housing for homeless families in Fort Wayne. Bishop D’Arcy toured the former St. Hyacinth convent, now Vincent House, that was recently renovated, during an open house on Oct. 28.

Turkeys Needed

The Franciscan Center in Fort Wayne expects 1400 people to show up for turkeys and hams on Tuesday, November 22, 2011. Right now, 1000 turkeys are needed to meet that demand. Please help by donating a turkey or money for those who otherwise would not have one.

For more information, please call The Franciscan Center at (260) 744-3977 www.thefranciscancenter.org

4643 Gaywood Drive • Fort Wayne 46851

“Professional Insurance Services”

KINTZ INSURANCE AGENCY

• Life • Auto
• Health • Home
• Annuities • Business
• Disabilities • Liability
• Medicare Supplements
• Nursing Home Care

111 North Third Street • Decatur (260) 728-9290 • (260) 724-8042 • 1-800-589-5468

www.kintzinsurance.com

At an open house held on Oct. 28 the community was invited to tour the newly remodeled facility that once served as a convent for the Sisters of St. Hyacinth.
Targeting Mormon faith should be off-limits in election, statement says

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholics made recently about the religious affiliation of presidential candidates — notably the Mormon faith of former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney — have no place in American political campaigns, say several dozen academics, diplomats and other prominent Catholics.

In a statement released Nov. 2 at a Washington news conference led by former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican Thomas Melady, the statement says there’s “a significant danger to the goal of our forefathers; maintaining harmony and understanding among all faiths and rejecting bigoted questions and comments and personal religious attacks.

Melady said the impetus to issue the statement arose from comments made in early October at the Values Voter Summit in Washington by the Rev. Robert Jeffress, senior pastor of a megachurch, First Baptist Church of Dallas. Rev. Jeffress told reporters that Mormonism is a “cult,” and that Romney is not a Christian.

In their statement, the Catholic signers recalled that anti-Catholic rhetoric in elections, from the 1928 campaign of Al Smith through John F. Kennedy’s 1960 race and the 2004 campaign of Sen. John Kerry. It noted that there has been less expression of religious bias or bigotry in recent elections, but that the comments at the Values Voter Summit “bring to the forefront the unfortunate prospect that the discussion of a man’s particular religious belief may become a major divisive political issue.”

It said that as Catholics of different political persuasions, they “wish to cite our concern and our determination to assure that not only civility be maintained in the public discourse but that all inclinations to raise the issue of personal religious affiliation be avoided.

“As Catholics we have felt the sting of bias in previous national elections. We share the concern of many of our citizenry of all religious faiths that allowing the question of a candidate’s religion to be subject to public ridicule is a grave regression from what we have accomplished in our forward movement as Americans since the establishment of our Republic.”

Steve Schneck, director of the Institute for Policy Research & Catholic Studies at The Catholic University of America, one of the signers, said at the news conference that discussion about whether someone of a particular religion is suitable to be elected has never really gone away and that it’s not only surfaced recently in relation to the Mormon faith of Romney and fellow candidate Jon Huntsman, the former governor of Utah.

Margaret Melady, former president of the American University of Rome and wife of the former president, James Gallagher, was quoted as saying, “we see no personal religious obligation to vote for Kennedy because he was Catholic.

Instead, she said, people should feel free to make their election choices on the issues, based on the moral values represented by the teachings of religion.

Coverage of the Jefferson comments has focused on the attack on Mormonism, she said, “but not on the other part of it.”

Signers of the statement also included Alfred E. Smith IV, great-grandson of the 1928 presidential candidate; Raymond Flynn and Corinne “Lindy” Boege, both former U.S. ambassadors to the Vatican; former ambassadors Paul Riqueti, the daughter of the late Sen. Ted Kennedy, and St. Joseph; Kerry; and former National Capitol Committee Frank Fahrenkopf, university presidents Mary Mehan of Alverno College, Thomas Powell of Mount Saint Mary, Ill., and John J. Hurley of Canisius College, New York.

Other signers were former university presidents Daniel DeLuca of Alvernia University, James Gallagher of Philadelphia University and Lawrence DeNardis of the University of New Haven, Conn., also a former congressman from Connecticut.

Director of Religious Education at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen, Darlene Leitz, was one of the many presenters at the Catechetical Institute Day on Nov. 5. Leitz led a workshop on how to keep young people involved in religious education between sacramental preparations.

Prior to the event, as the recipient could not be present, Franciscan Sister Marilyn Elliott, director of religious education at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception was given the award.

The second recipient was Mary Barnes, teacher at Bishop Dwenger and St. Jude in Fort Wayne. Bishop Rhoades presented the award to Barnes who later said she was “speechless.”

“I think of all the wonderful people we’ve worked with who have given so much to the Church. I’m just grateful to all of them. They were all models to me,” she said.

Workshop sessions

The catechists had several workshop topics to choose from that addressed working with catechumens of all ages. Topics like, “How to hold ‘em — keeping youth in the game after first Communion,” Director of Religious Education at St. John the Evangelist in Goshen Darlene Leitz led the workshop and discussed ways to keep kids in religious education between the sacraments of Communion and Confirmation.

Leitz said it was a cooperative effort between the catechist, the parents and the pastor to support continuous religious education, but creating a desire in the student by focusing on their personal relationships, fun object lessons and catchy titles to keep them engaged.

Informing the parents of the subjects covered each year between sacramental preparation is also important.

Deacon Jim Kitchens of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne led a workshop on “Teaching Adults the Fundamentals of the Faith.”

He cited a Georgetown University survey of Catholics about their faith and the practice of their faith and found many Catholics lacking in the fundamentals.

“I think we have much to do,” Kitchens said. He said the Church is competing with everything — sports, economy, etc. Kitchens believes one must reach people’s hearts — one example is the Christ Renews His Parish program.

Kitchens shared an exchange between two priests about the program — one said, “This is such a very theological” to which the other replied, “You’re right but first you have to capture their hearts and then you can pour in the theology.”

Adult converts going through the RCIA program will have a great understanding of the faith and the sacraments, he said.

“What separates the on fire Catholic from the average Catholic in the pew is the personal belief that their faith is born of relationship,” he said.

Kitchens shared some ideas that were put into practice at his parish — where two years ago they had four participants in the RCIA program and this year they have 33. Kitchens said they decided to do something each month for the parish, some very simple ideas that took off.

One idea that he said he thought was “incredibly silly,” but that the parishioners loved, was the youth group and pastoral stuff stood outside holding signs like “Honk if you love Jesus” and “Come on in and see.”

“I think we have much to do,” he said.

They also set up a welcome center with a TV monitor and some information and had it staffed, hand out holy cards after Mass, had T-shirts made up with the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the name of the parish and gave those away, gave away Valentine cards and kisses, and had a parish monthly book club.

He said the CRHP men’s retreat grew to 19 and outgrew the women’s.

“But we have 2,000 years of great theology — they’d have to live two lifetimes to absorb it all,” Kitchens said.
Migration is challenge for new evangelization in Americas, Vatican says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Immigration is one of the most pressing challenges for the “new evangelization” in North and South America, said a note from the general secretariat of the Synod of Bishops. The Church is involved in the promotion of social programs and religious assistance for immigrants with the aim of helping their cultural integration and social peace,” said a communique published Nov. 4. The statement reported on a meeting Oct. 27-28 by members of the special council charged with monitoring how Catholics in the region are implementing ideas that came out of the 1997 special Synod of Bishops for the Americas and Pope John Paul II’s 1997 apostolic exhortation about the synod’s discussions. The meeting looked both at topics discussed in the special synod and at the agenda for the next worldwide Synod of Bishops, scheduled for 2012, focusing on the new evangelization, which deals primarily with strengthening Catholics’ faith and bringing back those who have stopped practicing their faith. Surveying the situation of the Church in the Americas, the communique said migration — which tends to bring Catholics from Latin America to the North — is “one of the most pressing challenges for the new evangelization. If, on one hand, one must note the serious difficulties faced by immigrants in irregular situations, on the other hand, it is necessary to note the positive aspects of the migratory phenomenon,” which, the statement said, leads to a greater integration of the peoples of North and South and as a result of greater mutual cooperation and solidarity to solve global problems.

Birth of 7 billion baby is challenge to help all, newspaper says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The challenge posed to the world by the birth of its 7 billion inhabitants isn’t how to stop population growth, but to find ways to ensure the continued growth can benefit all humanity, said an article in the Vatican newspaper. According to the United Nations, the world’s population hit — and quickly exceeded — 7 billion Nov. 1. At a time when people are talking again about overpopulation, “it’s worth asking which overpopulation we’re talking about,” said Christian Martini Grimaldi, writing on the front page of L’Osservatore Romano, the Vatican newspaper. The author said people talk as if population growth in some parts of the world or some individual countries is so exaggerated that it’s like an “abnormal growth” on part of a diseased body or a form of gigan
ticism. “The problem is not demo
graphic gigantism and never was, not even way back in 1968 when the bestseller, “The Population Bomb” discussed the consequences of millions by predicting planetary catas
trophe,” he wrote in L’Osservatore Nov. 2. “Perhaps the point isn’t to stop growth, but how to continue to grow,” specifically by “emphasizing development that does not privilege only a few, but all, he said. The author said that in discussions about excessive population growth, “the experts always and only indicate two places: sub-Saharan Africa and Asia,” particularly China and India.

Traditionalists says group rejects Vatican doctrinal conditions

ROME (CNS) — The consensus among leaders of the traditionalist Society of St. Pius X is that a “doctrinal preamble” presented by the Vatican is “clearly unacceptable,” according to the district superior of their dioceses. The comments, made by Father Paul Morgan in an online newsletter in early November, appeared to align prospects for a Vatican reconciliation with the society. The society’s headquarters, however, moved quickly to downplay the priest’s remarks, saying he was unauthorized to make a response to the Vatican. In mid-September, Vatican officials met with SSPX leaders and presented them with a doctrinal statement that listed several principles the society must agree with in order to move toward full reconciliation. In October, Bishop Bernard Fellay, the superior of the society, met with about 30 of the society’s officials in Albano, outside of Rome, to review the Vatican’s conditions. Reporting on that meeting in his newsletter, Father Morgan said that, to the disappointment of the society, the Vatican’s doctrinal preamble “contained all those ele- ments which the society has consis-
tently rejected, including acceptance of the new Mass and of Vatican II as expressed in the new catechism. Indeed, the document itself conveys the impression that there is no crisis in the Church,” he said.

CCHD rebuts new charges that funded groups violate Catholic teaching

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Officials with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development rebutted a report that 55 agencies funded by the U.S. bishops’ anti-poverty program in 2010-11 were in conflict with Church teaching. Bishop Jaime Soto of Sacramento, Calif., Bishop Stephen E. Blair of Stockton, Calif., and Ralph McCloud, CCHD executive director, said the charges lev-
ed in an American Life League study against all but one of the agencies were unfounded. McCloud told Catholic News Service Nov. 4 that funding was withdrawn from one organization cited in the report. That case involved the immigrant rights group Centro Campusino in Owatonna, Minn., which was found to be distributing condoms. McCloud acknowledged the league’s role in pointing out the organization’s practice. McCloud also said the 54 remaining agencies were found in compliance after a follow-up investi-
gation by CCHD staff that involved contacting each named group. The 212-page report — completed in March but not made public until October when it was posted on the American Life League’s website according to its primary researcher — accused the grass-roots organi-
izations of promoting abortion, homosexuality and Marxist ideo-
ogy contrary to Church doctrine. Michael Hibbitch, director of the league’s Defend the Faith project and the report’s author, said his research showed that the organiza-
tions violated Church doctrine either through specific activities or through coalitions addressing a broad array of social concerns. The agencies in question received nearly $1.9 mil-
lion in 2010-11, according to CCHD records. Overall, CCHD funded 229 organizations with national grants from a collection that netted about $9.5 million for both national and local diocesan distribution during the period.

US BISHOPS ON ‘AD LIMINA’ VISITS ATTEND VATICAN MASS

4. Bishops from Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut were the first group of U.S. prelates to visit the Vatican to report on the state of their dioceses.

Bishops’ agenda more devoted to internal matters than societal ills

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops’ fall general assem-
blies in Baltimore will be shorter than usual and focus primarily on the inner workings of the Church than on larger societal issues. The Nov. 14-16 meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, originally scheduled to last until Nov. 17, will include a discussion on religious liberty that could touch on a wide range of topics. But the main business of the gathering will be focused on liturgical, financial and organization-

All Saints’ Day calls for focus on holy vocation of Church, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The feast of All Saints calls on Catholics to be reminded of the communion of saints — as Christ meant it to be — and not to focus on it as an earthly institution with members who some-

emphasized by Benedict’s use of the words, “We are called to see the Church, not in its temporal and human aspect, marked by fragility, but as Christ wanted it to be, as the communion of saints,” the pope said Nov. 1 before reciting the Angelus for the feast of All Saints. The holy men and women who have been among the holy ones throughout history — whether or not they were canon-
ized — demonstrate there are dif-
f

FROM TODAY'S CATHOLIC

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York, elected to head the USCB for a three-year term last November, will open the meeting with his first presidential address. If tradition holds, the talk will present a “state of the U.S. Church” mes-

Choir directors, group leaders in Washington diocese to receive new program

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Choir directors and leaders of choirs and youth and young adult groups in the Washington archdiocese will be among the first to use a new program approved by the archdiocese. The new choir director’s handbook and youth leader’s guide will be distributed at a fall workshop Nov. 12. The goal of the workshop is to put a common program and training for choirs and youth and young adult groups into place across the archdiocese. The new training program will affect about 30 choirs and 35 youth groups in the archdiocese, which has about 1.2 million members. The new handbook includes material on liturgy, music and chant as well as general guidelines on managing music programs. The new youth leader’s guide will include material on program planning and activities. The guide will be distributed to all young adult leaders in the archdiocese.

FROM TODAY’S CATHOLIC

The key message of the bishops’ call is that “the lives of those who have dedicated their lives to ministry are to be recognized and matched to the work they do,” said Cardinal Donald Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, in his message to Bishop John D. Caggiano, who serves as moderator of the committee.

FROM TODAY’S CATHOLIC

Josef Cardinal Sister to celebrate 100th birthday

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A celebrated member of the Little Sisters of the Poor — who also has ties to the London, England, Archdiocese of Westminster’s recent efforts to obtain the right to operate not-for-profit health care facilities as part of the Archdiocese of Westminster — is to celebrate her 100th birthday here Nov. 11. Mother Maria Chiara, superior general of the Little Sisters of the Poor in London, England, is scheduled to arrive in Washington Nov. 8 to celebrate her birthday. The Little Sisters of the Poor were founded in 1872 by the Scottish nun, Mother Elizabeth Johnstone. The order established health care facilities as part of the Archdiocese of Westminster in London, England, in the 19th century. The order also has facilities in the United States, including one in Washington, D.C. The Little Sisters of the Poor in London, England, have been active in their efforts to maintain their facilities as not-for-profit health care facilities. The order has been active in the U.S., including in the Washington, D.C., area, for several years. The Little Sisters of the Poor in London, England, have been active in the U.S., including in the Washington, D.C., area, for several years. The order has been active in the U.S., including in the Washington, D.C., area, for several years.
ST. GASPAR CHURCH HOLDS RETREAT

Benedictine Father Bernard Ramenaden, the pastor at St. Gaspar Church in Rome City, is pictured here second from left in back with a group of parishioners he recently took to Victory Noll in Huntington for a retreat day titled “Discipleship.” He led the retreatants through reflection and prayer together, for a most inspiring day.

ATTENDING THE BANQUET IN ADDITION TO THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS WILL BE SPECIAL GUESTS, including college presidents and local community leaders. The program also celebrates the roles played by teachers and professors when they give up their personal time just to help, so I thank them for that as well. Also, Holy Cross has helped me develop a voice that I can respectfully express, and I appreciate that as it is a necessity in today’s world.”

Attending the banquet in addition to the students, parents, and teachers will be special guests, presidents of the colleges, and the campus coordinators of the “Realizing the Dream” program.

Christmas craft show to raise money to buy gifts for families in need

The faithful gathered on Nov. 6 at the St. Joseph Cemetery in Mishawaka for the rosary for the poor souls.

Hannah’s House fundraiser set for Dec. 3

MISHAWAKA — Hannah’s House, a nonprofit maternity home providing care, shelter and life skills training for homeless women, will give the community an inside look into its outreach as it hosts the 23rd Annual Holiday Happenings, a fundraiser dinner and auction event at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3, at Hilton Garden Inn’s Gillespie Center, located at 53995 Indiana State Route 933, South Bend.

The lineup for the Dec. 3 event will feature cocktails and a silent auction followed by dinner and a live auction. A door prize, donated by J.R. Fox Jewelers, valued at $500, will be drawn at the end of the night for those present.

Tickets must be purchased ahead of time by calling Tamara Griffin at (574) 254-5309 with the cost of $75 per ticket.

Event sponsors include Garley Leep Automotive Family, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, Place Builders Incorporated, Tire Rack, and Kirsch and Kirsch.

Cellist to appear on NPR’s ‘From the Top’

SOUTH BEND — Austin Huntington, a 17-year-old cellist and Saint Joseph’s High School student from South Bend, will appear on an upcoming episode of “From the Top,” the hit NPR radio program featuring America’s best young classical musicians and hosted by acclaimed pianist Christopher O’Riley. Broadcast from Ocean City, N.J., the show will air nationally and will be available at www.fromthetop.org the week of Nov. 14. The episode was taped before a live audience at the Ocean City Music Pier on Aug. 31.

Huntington attended Saint Joseph’s High School. He has been playing the cello since he was four years old, and made his solo orchestral debut at age 10. He has performed as guest soloist with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, South Bend Symphony Orchestra, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, LaPorte Symphony, New World Youth Symphony, and the South Bend Youth Symphony Orchestra. Austin will make his solo debut with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, the Northwest Symphony Orchestra (Chicago), and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra at Symphony Center, Orchestra Hall this season.

Riggs earns ‘Realizing the Dream’ scholarship at Holy Cross College

NOTRE DAME — Terry Riggs, a 2010 graduate of South Bend Adams High School, has been named the “Realizing a Dream” Outstanding First Generation Student at Holy Cross College.

To be eligible for the award, students must show outstanding work ethic and determination, and must be from a family whose parents have not completed college degrees. A scholarship recipient is chosen by each of the 32 independent college campuses in Indiana. Additionally, award nominees are asked to nominate a mentor teacher who helped inspire them toward the dream of excelling college.

Riggs is the son of Jerry Riggs of South Bend, and Valerie Norman who died while Terry was still in high school.

He credits Adams football coach and history teacher, Robert Harvey, for inspiring and supporting him through that difficult time. "He is the epitome of a mentor," says Riggs. "Whether it was a question over game film, school, or a personal matter, he was always there. He was the first person at school to offer his condolences for the loss of my mother and he did his best to help me through it, and I will never forget that."

In acknowledging the award, Riggs said, “They don’t lie when they say ‘hard work pays off.’” Being a first generation college student, I wanted to make going to college easy on my family, so I worked hard nonstop to get to this point. It sincerely means a lot to me to see the hard work pay off. I am honored to represent Holy Cross and my family in this way.”

Made possible by a grant to the Independent Colleges of Indiana from the Lilly Endowment, “Realizing the Dream” recognizes the triumphs of first-generation students in their first year of college. The program also celebrates the roles played by teachers and parents in shaping student aspirations for a college education. After being chosen by their college, the students then named the elementary or secondary teacher or counselor who most influenced them to attend college. These mentors will each receive a $1,000 professional development award.

Riggs, who hopes to coach football and possibly attend graduate school, says Holy Cross College is preparing him well.

“My experience at Holy Cross has helped me mature because they make it feel like home, but in a college setting,” explains Riggs. “I am comfortable meeting with professors when they give up their personal time just to help, so I thank them for that as well. Also, Holy Cross has helped me develop a voice that I can respectfully express, and I appreciate that as it is a necessity in today’s world.”

Attending the banquet in addition to the students, parents, and teachers will be special guests, presidents of the colleges, and the campus coordinators of the “Realizing the Dream” program.

for Civic and Social Engagement (OCSE) at Saint Mary’s College will host its fifth annual Christmas Craft Show on Friday, Dec. 9, from 12-6 p.m. in Stapleton Lounge and Reignbeaux Lounge of Le Mans Hall. The show raises funds for OCSE’s Twelve Days of Christmas program, a campus-wide effort that provides holiday gifts and necessities to area families and individuals in need.

The show features the talents of local, regional and even global crafters. In all, there will be at least 50 booths. Vendor fees are donated in support of the Twelve Days of Christmas program, and some vendors choose to donate all or part of their proceeds to the cause.

The more successful the craft show is, the more people OCSE can help this holiday season. Last year, 25 adults and 71 children benefited, and with the recession still affecting so many people, OCSE hopes to have an even bigger impact this time.

During each of the Twelve Days of Christmas, which begins on campus Dec. 1, there are different events focused on spirituality, service and fellowship. The Christmas Craft Show always falls on the second Friday and raises the largest portion of the funds for the gifts for area families. Additional money and gifts are provided through the generosity of Saint Mary’s College students, faculty and staff, who in many cases “adopt” families.

For more information call (574) 284-5368.
Bishop Rhoades visits with many saints

Bishop Rhoades visits with many saints at St. Vincent de Paul School recently on All Saints’ Day and, befitting the holy day, was greeted by fourth-grade students dressed as their favorite saints.

Bishop Rhoades appeared to be delighted at the variety of saints that were portrayed and especially at the large number of bishops represented. “That’s a surprise. … I thought I was going to be the only bishop here today,” he said to laughter from the audience during the all-school Mass that opened the day’s activities.

In recognition of the holy day, Bishop Rhoades spoke of his favorite saint, St. John the Apostle. John was Jesus’ best friend who sat beside him at the Last Supper, stayed at the foot of the cross and took care of Mary after Jesus’ death, he pointed out.

The bishop spoke reverently of his trip to Patmos, an island of southeast Greece, where he read the Book of Revelation in a cave on the exact spot where St. John originally wrote it.

Bishop Rhoades asked the children to love God and live the Beatitudes as the saints they honored did on earth so they, too, may be welcomed in heaven. The saints in heaven, the souls in purgatory and the pilgrim Church on earth are one body in Christ, he reminded them.

Following Mass, Principal Sandra Guffey, Superintendent Dr. Mark Myers, Msgr. John Kuzmich, pastor, and Father Andrew Budzinski, parochial vicar, accompanied the bishop on a tour of the school’s facilities and several classrooms where he met and spoke personally to staff members and students.

Bishop Rhoades visited with second graders who are studying to receive the sacraments of first Reconciliation and first Holy Communion.

“I hope you pray and prepare well,” he said.

Fifth graders were learning about the sacraments, so the bishop spoke to them about the matter and form of the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

To sixth graders who were studying the Holy Bible, he talked of Exodus, “Study Exodus really well,” he told them. “That’s on our way to the promised land.”

When meeting with students preparing for Confirmation, he led a question-and-answer session, then gave a short tutorial on his responsibilities. His joy and love and guidance the 160,000 people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne, he said.

St. Vincent de Paul School, the largest school in the diocese with 756 students in kindergarten through grade 45 full-time. And it has grown proportionally, with major building projects within the last 10 years. Though located outside district boundaries, it serves a local assistance to those with serious medical needs. A school recently on All Saints’ Dayishes.

St. Vincent de Paul School
1720 E. Wallen Rd.,
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
Principal: Sandra Guffey
Pastor: Msgr. John Kuzmich
Students: 756 students in grades kindergarten through 8
Website: www.saintv.org/school
School mascot: Panther

Students show their artwork on the theme respect for life.

Fourth-grade student Braeden Noll, a descendent nephew of Archbishop John F. Noll, greets Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at a school visit on Nov. 1. Noll discusses the life of Blessed Juan Diego with the bishop.

By Bonnie Elberson
Bishop Rhoades visits with many saints at St. Vincent de Paul School

By Bonnie Elberson

When Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades visited St. Vincent de Paul School on Nov. 1, he spoke to students and the faculty about the Book of Exodus. “Study Exodus really well,” he told them. “That’s our life on earth... on our way to the promised land.”

When meeting with junior high students preparing for Confirmation, he led a question-and-answer session, then gave a short tutorial on his own duties and responsibilities. His job is to serve, teach, help and guide the 160,000 people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, he said.

St. Vincent de Paul School is one of the largest schools in the diocese, with 756 students in kindergarten through eighth grade and 45 full-time faculty members. It has grown proportionally, with two major building projects within the last 10 years.

Principal Guffey cites its Catholic identity as St. Vincent’s most important asset, noting the weekly all-school Mass where students, parents and staff gather to worship as a community and the school’s mission of enabling all students to live their Catholic faith and achieve academic success.

She said, “We focus on the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit through our character development program.” She spoke of “community in Christ responsibilities,” which address bullying, a prevalent problem in today’s schools.

Students practice the virtue of character in other ways as well, she said. Each year student council members choose an organization to support and the school celebrates We Care Week in the fall with activities and service projects that raise funds, provide educational information and assist those whom the organization serves.

This year’s project supports the families of troops serving in the military. Past projects have included the Women’s Care Center, the Ave Maria House, Riley Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis and local assistance to those with serious medical needs.

On the athletic front, Notre Dame’s Play Like a Champion program was introduced two years ago to coaches, parents and students. It promotes coaching as a ministry and stresses the importance of fair play and sportsmanship in keeping with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. Msgr. Kuzmich had determined that the program fit closely with St. Vincent’s vision and mission in meeting students’ spiritual, physical, emotional and mental needs and was pleased to bring it to the school.

Educationally, Principal Guffey notes that St. Vincent’s strives to meet all students’ requirements at each student’s level. That includes a special needs department with two full-time special education teachers, two academic interventionists, a talent development teacher and two resource room para-professionals. It also includes interventions for all students in specific skills like reading and mathematics, and additional challenges for those who excel through enrichment programs and extracurricular activities and clubs.

Development Director Linda McCarthy is busy scheduling an annual dinner event, which celebrates St. Vincent’s accomplishments. She also works with donors and business partners like Dupont Hospital to help preserve Catholic education for future generations. A major emphasis is on building endowments to provide student scholarships.

Guffey was effusive in her praise of the students’ parents, who are “the backbone of our school” through their extensive support in all areas. Recently a parent committee organized a Forty Days for Life campaign, and they plan and present student retreats, she noted.

It seems clear that St. Vincent de Paul School is truly a community in Christ, a place where students learn and live their Catholic faith on a daily basis. Bishop Rhoades may have said it best. “I always love coming to St. Vincent’s,” he declared.

St. Vincent de Paul School promotes an anti-bullying campaign. Students and the school social worker are shown with the poster that outlines the program’s responsibilities.
Despite poverty, people of East Africa are happy
Smiths visit Holy Cross missions in East Africa

GRANGER — For Jerry and Lillian Smith of Granger, a recent September visit to see Jerry’s brother, Holy Cross Father Tom Smith, in East Africa, is something they will not soon forget.

Father Smith is a missionary priest living in Kitete, Tanzania. The Smiths, parishioners of Sacred Heart Crypt Parish, Notre Dame, also visited Uganda and Kenya.

“Much poverty exists in East Africa,” said Jerry Smith in an email to Today’s Catholic. “Missionaries there work with poverty-stricken families and are truly performing a wonderful service for these children of God.”

Despite the problems, however, the Smiths observed that those in poverty seem to be very happy people.

Smith said the prominent religion among the Christians is Catholicism. “Churches are often full on Sundays and feast days with women and children and a few men,” Smith noted. “Many of the men do not attend liturgies, which usually last for around two hours on Sundays.”

When describing the Masses, Smith said, “The people love music, and Church liturgies on Sundays and feast days include much singing and dancing, more often by the children but occasionally by the women.”

“Generally, many are uneducated, without electricity, without vehicles or other means of transportation, and without home phone service,” Smith said. “The cell phone business really prospered.”

Smith said most homes of the impoverished are with thatch or tin roofs with walls made of manure and sticks — the better ones — with mud and sticks. Some of the homes also have an outer coating of cement.

Some of those living in various degrees of poverty, according to Smith, have shops along the roads, usually quite a few next to each other, most of which are without lighting, appear to be quite dilapidated, dark and unclean, without flooring of any kind and with dirt or extremely dusty clay as their base.

“Generally all side roads and many of the main roads are very difficult to travel on,” Smith said. “It is virtually impossible to explain how bad the roads actually are.”

There is nothing that he is aware of in the United States, which can even come close to comparing how bad the dirt- and clay-based roads in East Africa actually are.

Traffic, especially in the cities, can be horrendous. “There are vehicles, motor bikes, bicycles, animals and people all competing for space on many of the roads,” Smith added. “Virtually all of those in severe poverty walk everywhere as they have no money to purchase other means of transportation.”

Smith said most of the impoverished live off of the land and their animals.

“You see cattle, sheep and chickens everywhere, with many families owning one or a few cows or sheep, often tied down on the side of the roads,” he said. “They try to fatten the cattle and sheep up and then sell them. They cannot eat them as they have no means of refrigeration.”

He added, “Very often you also see young boys or men shepherding flocks of cattle and/or sheep, which they are moving along the roadsides and pastures, trying to find grass for them to eat. Driving around them can be very tricky as they often make their way on the roads.”

Farming is another business frequently labored by those in poverty, Smith noted. Banana groves, charcoal, coffee, tea, chickpeas, corn, wheat and various other grains are raised in several of the countries wherever conditions are favorable for growing. Water can be extremely scarce and is a real concern for many who are attempting to farm and grow crops during the dry seasons.

Smith, who has been speaking to members of the Serra Club and religious within the Congregation of Holy Cross, offered the following recommendation: “All who can afford to travel to impoverished areas in East Africa should do so, especially those of us who have been given much in material gifts by our Lord.”

“It is so moving to experience the life styles of those living in poverty in Africa, to see how happy these people appear to be and how warm and loving they are,” Smith said. “They have so little in material things and yet seem to be so much at peace with their life’s burdens. One has to wonder whether in the whole scheme of life they really are the more fortunate children of God.”

An overflow crowd gathered in the Resurrection Mausoleum Chapel at the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne for an All Souls Day Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who reminded those present that our lives on earth are profoundly linked with our brothers and sisters in heaven and in purgatory. In our prayers for the dead, we trust that we can contribute to their entry into the holy city, the heavenly Jerusalem.
St. Vincent Parish hosts Hispanic youth retreat

ELKHART — The St. Vincent de Paul Parish priest and laity held a Hispanic Youth Retreat at their Elkhart gym facilities on Oct. 22.

One hundred fifty youth attended. Throughout the day, there were talks by the priests and laity, music, video and Stations of the Cross. The retreat concluded with the celebration of Mass.

Father Matthew Coonan, Father Glenn Kohrman, Dagoberto Hernandez, Maria Santoyo and others sponsored the retreat and kept the participants in action, warm and well fed.

Father Coonan offered dynamics of which the youth freely volunteered and enjoyed.

Father Kohrman presented a testimonial about his vocation to the priesthood and held a question-and-answer segment.

Questions ranged from “Why did you become a priest?” and “Is it hard?” to “How much did you pay for your motorcycle?”

Father Kohrman reminded the youth to “never let anyone try to divide them from others,” explaining “under our skin we are all the same — all children of God.”

He shared his love for the Sacred Heart of Jesus with the youth and said, “Jesus is the friend who will never let you down.”

Lourdes Silva, from the Diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministry, animated the participants by sharing about Blessed John Paul II’s “Ecclesia en America” in which his exhortation is one to serve the needs of diverse cultures, taking into consideration their language and traditions.

Silva, also told the youth, “God made different colors and diversity for a reason. He wanted us to be this way. Be who God made you to be. Keep both languages. Practice your cultural traditions and learn those in the United States as well. It will help you all the more in what God has in store for your lives.”

The teens expressed joy throughout the full-day retreat.

The retreat organizers from the Hispanic Ministry expressed their thanks to all those who cooked, those who kept the music interesting for the youth, the sponsors, and all who made this retreat a reality. ¡Que Viva Cristo Rey!

Right to Life cheese balls are ready

BY IDA CHIPMAN

PLYMOUTH — For over 15 years the Marshall County chapter of Right To Life has been making cheese balls as its major fundraiser.

The project started originally in someone’s kitchen with a group of like-minded people making their favorite cheese ball and bringing it and the recipe to the meeting.

The group members tasted the different flavors and chose the cheese balls they liked the best.

More than 4,000 cheese balls later the selection has boiled down to six flavors: mild, mild without onion, mild low fat, bacon and onion, sharp and blue cheese.

The 12-ounce balls sell for $7 apiece.

Dr. Tom Miller, D.C., and his wife, Laurie, have chaired the production of the delicacy almost from the start.

They order the ingredients, mix the recipes and follow through with the molding, marking and getting the balls ready for sale.

Laurie fries 12 pounds bacon for the bacon-cheese cheese balls.

Tom Keh, the Earthworks baker, in addition to his bakery duties for Earthworks, has been helping with the cheese balls for the past seven years.

At least 20 volunteers, in two assembly lines, form and weigh the product, roll them in chopped pecans, wrap, tie, and label and freeze them. It takes about two long days to complete the process.

At first, they were made in different homes. They then moved to St. Michael School’s kitchen. As the numbers increased, an 80-quart mixer was needed so the operation was moved to the Ancilla convent kitchen where it was housed for many years.

Each batch of the cream cheese base mixes 65 to 70 pounds of cheese at a time.

Marilyn Fortin, one of the dedicated workers, said, “That was a great facility, and we had wonderful cooperation from the sisters.”

In 2003, Ancilla remodeled their kitchen and the cheese ball project needed to find a new location. Martin’s Supermarket allowed them to use its bakery for the last eight years.

This year Martin’s moved their huge mixer to its Warsaw store.

Sister Sue at Earthworks offered their new spaces on Jefferson Street and this year more than 950 cheese balls have been mixed there.

The cheese balls are sold to people in Culver, Argos, Walkerton, Bourbon, Reim, Grovertown and Warsaw, as well as Plymouth.

To order, call Marilyn Fortin at (574) 936-9582 or Darlene Edgecomb at (574) 935-5783.

“They are easy to defrost and refreeze,” Marilyn said. “They last a long time in the freezer and we encourage people to buy extra to have some throughout the year.”

The cheese balls have been known to sell out in less than two weeks.

“We sell them,” Marilyn said, “until they are all gone.”

By Grace Orphanage in Nairobi, Kenya.

SOUTH BEND — Holy Cross grade school teacher Jennifer Sosinski and her husband Joe have found a new passion in life that doesn’t include golfing or hiking. They plan their summer vacation to orphans at the By Grace Orphanage in Nairobi, Kenya.

This special crusade started with an Eli Lilly for Indiana grant project that Jennifer started back in 2006.

Upon winning this unique grant she fulfilled a life long dream of going on a safari and working with orphans.

“My first trip in 2007 I traveled by myself, then in 2008 I returned using the left over grant money,” Jennifer said. “After my first trip and my husband saw the pictures and heard the stories I came home with, he wanted to go.”

“He fell in love with the kids he saw and heard my pictures,” said Jennifer. “After a year off to raise money, my husband was blessed enough to go with me. Now he is really addicted to these kids and helping/teaching at the center.”

“Now we find that we do more in one trip. We are able to help others as well as getting more involved in our church. We feel that we have a mission that has been given by God and we are doing His work at the orphanage and by raising awareness and sharing information about the children.”

The couple, active members at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in New Carlisle, is holding a chicken dinner/dance fundraiser on Nov. 13 at the church’s hall. The fundraiser includes a Polish style dinner, raffles, a cash bar and music.

“This fundraiser is bigger than other I (we) have attempted," Jennifer said. “We hope to raise enough money to pay for airfare, which is the most expensive part of the trip. (One ticket round-trip from Chicago to Nairobi can run from $1,800 to over $3,000.)”

“We also will use this fundraiser to raise awareness of the living conditions in a Third World country, specifically in the orphanage in a slum of Nairobi,” said Jennifer.

For more information on tickets to the event, contact the parish office at (574) 654-3781 or Jennifer at sos-jen43@aol.com

“If you can’t make it to this fundraiser then it is possible to make donations to the cause. By contacting me, I can let you know of future fundraisers and how to find out more about the By Grace Disabled and Orphan Center. If this fundraiser is a success we are looking toward the spring to host another dinner/dance,” said Jennifer.
Our many losses

When asked to reflect on the losses we have experienced, many of us think of the deaths of people we love. It is true that the death of someone close to us is a major loss, but there are other losses we may not even think about that need to be grieved.

This topic of loss is very real to me these days. In 2003 I was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease and fortunately it affected my life very little until recently. After shoulder surgery last spring I began to have new symptoms. The parkinsonism took for granted, like walking and singing, etc., became difficult. I felt as if I had aged 20 years. I lost the ability to do things that were ordinarily easy for me. I had one loss after another and became so sick that I would not have minded if the Lord had taken me. Like me, with the many prayers of community and friends, the grace of God and a good physician, I have improved a great deal but need to accept that I will experience many more losses in the future.

This experience reminded me of an excellent book by Judith Voigt titled “Necessary Losses.” She focuses on the human need to grieve the losses we experience in our lives in order to become whole persons. In her book she points out the tendency of many people who are unaware of how these experiences have affected their lives. Many of us live in the fast lane and rarely stop long enough to grieve. These threats to our health are often how these losses cause pain in varying degrees. As happy as graduation is for most students, it is also a loss. It means letting go of the familiar and facing a new situation, whether it is a new school or a new job. High school is different from elementary school, college.

Losses can be large or small. Death, divorce, moving, losing a job, the end of a relationship, or the death of a pet are losses. So too are the losses of someone close to us is a major loss. If the death of a parent, friend, or spouse is a loss, so is the death of a pet. Losing a job, changing schools or parishes or jobs, breaking off with someone, the insertion of Greek thinking into our culture, the grace of our Lord coming to us in a new way, are losses. So too are the losses of war, the death of a pet are losses. So too are the losses of someone close to us is a major loss.

When we lose something, we have the opportunity to accept that we will experience more losses in the future. We must learn to grieve these losses and work through the pain they cause.

In Jesus we are redeemed

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mt 25:14-30

The Book of Proverbs is the source of this weekend’s first reading. A major figure in the development of Western civilization was Alexander the Great, the young Greek king whose conquest of the eastern Mediterranean world left effects still visible.

Among these effects was the insertion of Greek thinking into Judaism and then into Christianity. This insertion largely was accomplished either by reacting to Greek philosophy or by using Greek philosophy to understand and explain Christian thought.

The Book of Proverbs came as a result of the need perceived by pious Jews to link their Greek philosophy and culture. In the Greek culture, human logic is supreme. In the Greek culture also the prevailing religion saw many gods and goddesses, and a structure of values and assumptions that very often was quite opposite the Revelation of the one God of Israel to the chosen people.

Proverbs then, along with other books in the Bible, was an attempt to say that the ancient ideals of Judaism were not contrary to, but in fact expressive of, the greatest human wisdom.

In hearing this weekend’s reading from Proverbs, it helps to remember that marriages under the Greek arrangement usually were contracted. Wives were not much better than servants or even slaves. The concept of love, freely and gladly exchanged between spouses, is lacking in the Greek arrangements. St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Thessalonians supplies the second reading. In the early days of the Church, the general presump- tion was that Jesus momentarily would return to earth to vanquish the evil and vindicate the good. Paul had to remind the Christians of Thessalonica that following the Gospel might be a long, tiring and difficult process, as Christ might not appear as quickly as they would wish.

For its third and last reading, the Church has selected St. Matthew’s Gospel. The story in essence also appears in Mark. The story builds on the same theme as that given in First Thessalonians. The present order will end one day. Life changes for all. Change well may be the feast of Christ the King. Jesus is the only answer, the answer to every ques-

10 tion, worry and need.

One day, at a time none of us can predict. Life will change for us individually. It will change for our societies.

Jesus has promised one day to return in glory. How and when this return will occur is not known. But, the Lord will return. As we approach the end of the year, the Church impresses upon us the reality that life is imper-

19 monent. Everything can, and will change. We die.

But the Lord we possess God’s gifts. In Jesus we have the lesson of how to live. In Jesus, we are redeemed, heirs to heaven. We must respond by Christian living. We must trust in the Lord. We must yearn for the salvation of all.

READINGS

Sunday: Ps 110:1-3, 19-20, 30-31
Ps 62:1-5 Thes 3:6-14, 25:14-30
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31 Ps 3:2-8 Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1-20, 31-32 Ps 17:1-5a, 8:1, 13-18 Lk 19:1-28
Thursday: 1 Mc 2:25-29 Ps 50:1-2, 5-6, 14-15 Lk 19:44-48
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59 (Ps) 1 Chr 29:10-12 Lk 19:45-48 Acts 28:17-16, 30:31 Mt 12:23-33

Giving thanks for ‘all things in good plenty’

When Mary Chilton first settled the New World in November 1620, the 13-year-old had been aboard the Mayflower for 10 weeks, stuck in the same clothes and cramped in dark, dank quarters among seamstiff passengers and dying goats. Each family was allotted one storage trunk for all their possessions.

Imagine the terror and thrill of squatting at Cape Cod’s thickets.

Mary earned the distinction of being the first Pilgrim woman to set foot on Plymouth Rock.

The week before Christmas, her father died. Three weeks after Christmas, the illness they called the "general sickness" had claimed her mother. Only half of the Mayflower’s 102 passengers lived to see spring in Massachusetts.

Mary marked her 18th birthday as an orphan, grasping the ways of a foreign land, where the Wampanoag Indians offered the first seed corn, fish, fowl, maple sap and identify poisonous plants.

She was present at what we consider the First Thanksgiving, a three-day feast called for by Gov. William Bradford to celebrate a successful corn harvest. The Plymouth colonists joined by their teach-

ers, the Wampanoag, who arrived with five deer. They cooked wild duck over an open flame, feasted on seasoned corn and gave thanks; for their harvest, for their friendship, and ultimately, for their survival.

Gov. Bradford chronicled it all, writing: "Thus they found the Lord to be with them in all their ways and to bless their outings and incomings, for which let his holy name have the praise forever to all posterity." They began now to gather in the small harvest they had and to fit up their houses and dwellings against winter, being all well recovered in health and strength and had all things in good plenty ..."

The general sickness had ceased. Their food was hot, their faith, intact. It was hard for them to fathom what more they could possibly want. It was, to him, “all things in good plenty.”

Christina C. Capeschi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at www.ReadChristina.com.

SAINt OF THE WEEK

Blessed John Duns Scotus

The Doctor of the Church

c. 1265-1308

November 8

This doctor of the church was one of the greatest English-speaking philosophers and theologians of his time. Born in Scotland and possibly educated by a Franciscan uncle, he became a Franciscan at 15 and studied at Oxford University. He was ordained in 1291, studied and taught at the University of Paris, and taught at the University of Cologne, Germany, where he died. His writings and teachings influenced many scholars who came after him.

He publicly defended the then-controversial doctrine of the Immaculate Conception.

TWENTY SOMETHING

It takes an awful lot to make 21st-century Americans decide we have “all things in good plenty.” We haven’t really got there. We’re still upgrading our vehicles, filling our basements and then paying to store the overflow.

It’s hard to see much of the First Thanksgiving in our 390th, with stuffing and pie and football on big-screen TVs.

But I’m trying to look back. I have such awe for the pioneers who paved the way — saints and settlers and miners and mothers.

I’m praying with St. Francis de Sales, who said: “Give me one more thing, O Lord: a grateful heart.” I know that can cover and cure every matter, turning my portion into “all things in good plenty.”

I’m giving thanks while hoping for a life as full and rich as Mary Chilton’s, who married and delivered 10 children. She died an old lady and had raised a family, well-cared grandkids and written a will. In it, she accounted for six white aprons, three pocket handkerchiefs, two leather chairs and a brass candlestick.

Mary understood what really counted. “Knowing the uncertainty of this present life and being desirous to settle that outward estate the Lord hath lent me, I do make this my last will and testament,” she wrote. “First and principally, I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, my Creator.”

Here’s to putting first things first.

Christina Capeschi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at www.ReadChristina.com.
The better angels of our nature

Steven Pinker, a psychology professor at Harvard, recently published a book entitled “The Better Angels of Our Nature,” which argues that the age we live in is less violent than any other period in history.

Archeological studies of pre-state societies suggest that as many as 15 percent of the population met violent deaths. (They seem to confirm Hobbes’ claim that life in the state of nature was solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short.) Murder rates in Europe today are 10 to 50 times lower than they were in the Middle Ages.

Pinker attributes this “civilizing process” to a number of causes — the increasing power of the state, the growth of commerce, improvements in the status of women and even progress in our moral reasoning.

Whether we actually do get better at moral reasoning is a very complicated question. It may be that we reach different conclusions when we apply the same principles in different social situations.

Take the issue of capital punishment. The Church has long taught that the state can take a criminal’s life if that is the only way to defend human life. Some of the early Church fathers tolerated and even approved of the practice.

Augustine mentions capital punishment as an exception to the commandment against killing. Aquinas argues for the execution of men dangerous to the community “in order to preserve the common good.”

In recent years, though, the Catholic Church has been increasingly inconsistent in its condemnation of executions. In his 1995 encyclical “Evangelium Vitae,” Blessed Pope John Paul II noted the growing demand, both in the Church and in civil society, that we restrict or abolish the death penalty.

The catechism, quoting Blessed John Paul, notes the traditional teaching about the state’s authority to defend human life. It then goes on to say that, in the modern world, “as a consequence of the possibilities which the state has for ... (securely incarcerating the) criminal) without definitively taking away from him the possibility of redeeming himself — the cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity ‘are very rare, if not practically nonexistent.’”

I have been thinking about Pinker and the pope in the past few weeks, when our attention has been fixed on two prominent death penalty cases. One involved Lawrence Brewer, a white supremacist convicted of the brutal 1998 Texas dragging murder of a black man named James Byrd. Brewer was executed by lethal injection on Sept. 21. The day before his execution, Brewer reportedly said, “I have no regrets. No, I’d do it all over again.”

The other was Troy Davis, convicted of shooting a police officer in Georgia. Unlike Brewer, Davis maintained his innocence and became a focal point for the death penalty opposition. His case drew pleas for clemency from Pope Benedict XVI, among others. He was executed the same day as Brewer.

Was it right to execute Brewer and Davis?

The Church’s clear contemporary teaching is that Texas and Georgia should do so only if it was necessary to protect their people from further attacks. Given the quality of the state prison systems, it’s hard to make that claim.

Many folks would say that the punishments were justified because God into these situations. In fact, we don’t have to bring God into any part of our lives; we just have to remember that God is already with us in all of our losses and transitions and will continue to be with us, loving us at every moment, in whatever new situation we find ourselves.

Sister Joyce Rupp wrote a book entitled, “Praying Our Goodbyes.” It always reminds me about how important it is to ritualize our losses and to bring God into these situations. In fact, we don’t have to bring God into any part of our lives; we just have to remember that God is already with us in all of our losses and transitions and will continue to be with us, loving us at every moment, in whatever new situation we find ourselves.

Sister Marygave Lavonis, CSC, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

It is not our place to destroy it, though that might satisfy our desire

SCRIPTYRE SEARCH

Gospel for November 13, 2011
Matthew 25:14-30

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: the story of using the talents given to us. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JOURNEY ABILITY DUG A HOLE MORE LAZY THROW

ENTRUSTED WENT AWAY GROUND FOOD INTEREST GIVEN DARKNESS

BELIEVERS MASTERS FORWARD TEN TAKEN AWAY TEETH

INTERLICT AND VIRTUE

JOHN GARVEY

Brewer and Davis were bad men who, as they say in the South, needed killing.

Let us assume the truth of the evidence against Davis, as we might do after 20 years of legal review. He was, on that account, a bad man; or at least a man who did some very bad things. He was convicted of being another man and was executed.

Davis was in the act of pistol-whipping a homeless man when he was approached by the doomed officer.

As for Brewer, he was a cruel, sadistic racist who tortured and eventually killed a black man. It’s hard to make that claim.

This is, however, an argument that the Church calls on us to resist, no matter how difficult that may be.

The reason isn’t just that we might be able to make a mistake, though we might. (We have executed almost 5,000 people since 1930; 46 just last year. Sooner or later the system is bound to slip up.)

The reason is that human life is sacred because it results from the creative action of God. It is not our place to destroy it, though that might satisfy our desire for revenge.

It is right to punish criminals to redress the harm that they have caused. But the better understanding of the Gospel is that we should stop short of killing.

If Pinker is right, it’s nice to know that we are moving in that direction. Though as last month’s cases show, we are not there yet.

JOHN GARVEY

is the president of The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

EDGE

Based on these Scripture Readings: 1 Thess 4:13-18 and Mt 25:1-13 and Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30

ACROSS

1 Nurse degree
4 Path cut through grass
9 Compass point
12 Downwind
13 Coffee
14 Government agency
15 Rowing device
16 To that time
17 purchase oil
18 Oil merchants
22 Easter symbol
24 Rival
25 Mozart

19 Marriage feast
20 Handle
21 Foliage
24 Rival
27 God is ___-powerful
28 Grass
29 Blow
30 Chinese sauce
31 Bind
32 Prepare for ___ times
33 Cheeky
34 Month of saints
35 Animal doctor
36 Lunge with sword
37 Parted
38 Label
39 Bridgeway was late
40 New
41 Natural
42 Jewish scripture
43 Oil countries
44 Become larger than
45 Blemish
46 Touched line
47 Virgin’s with extra oil
48 Gas burner
50 Devil has pointed one
51 Handle
52 Not amateur
53 Treasure
54 Alternative (abbr.)
55 Thai
56 Adam’s wife
57 Desert pond
58 Naught

DOWN

59 Bounder
60 “Gone With the Wind’s” Mr. Butler
61 Alternative (abbr.)
62 Wipe
63 _____, _____ powerful
64 Grass
65 Chinese sauce
66 Bind
67 Prepare for ___ times
68 Animal doctor
69 Natural
70 Natural
71 Jewish scripture
72 Oil countries
73 Blemish
74 Touched line
75 Virgin’s with extra oil
76 Gas burner
77 Devil has pointed one
78 Handle
79 Not amateur
80 Treasure
81 Alternative (abbr.)
NO. 11 COUGARS TAKE CHARGE IN 2ND HALF After University of Saint Francis football Coach Kevin Donley and his Cougars had a good laugh about one of the wackiest quarters in USF history, the visitors out-scored Taylor University, 32-0, in the second half and won, 46-14, at Don Wheeler Memorial Stadium on Nov. 6. The win gave USF a 3-2 Mid-States Football Association Mideast League record and a 7-2 overall record. USF will celebrate ‘Senior Day’ next Nov. 12 before taking on Central State (OH) at noon.

Eagles, Saints win diocesan football showdown games

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — It is always a thrill for any football team to still be playing the game in November, and Sunday, Nov. 6, was no exception at Bishop Luers High School when the top dogs from the Catholic Youth League (CYO) hosted the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) champs in the annual Diocesan Showdown.

The weather could not have been more cooperative as the two leagues split the day when St. John, Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SFW) beat Holy Cross/Christ the King, 13-8, and then Mishawaka Catholic downed St. Charles, 18-6.

In the first outing, the SFW Eagles were victorious in a match-up that came down to the wire as they clung to a lead they captured only late in the fourth quarter.

The talented Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders scored first when Brendan Chappell-Cromartie, wearing No. 3, got into the end zone.

But it was the Eagles own No. 3, Seth Wyss, who claimed the rest of the touchdowns for the contest scoring both for SFW.

His first came late in the second quarter when, on the goal line after a penalty, the Eagles had a fourth and long. Nick Carroll snagged a low catch to get the first down, and then Wyss bulled his way in on the next play from a yard out. This put the Eagles within striking distance at the half.

Trailing 6-8, quarterback Jack Johnston orchestrated a long drive that ate precious minutes off the clock in the third quarter. Wyss’ second score materialized with less than four minutes in the final quarter and Noah Hoefel added a good PAT.

“SFW did a nice job of making adjustments and we just ran out of time,” explained Crusader Coach John Krzyzewski.

The veteran added, “Getting on the bus and coming to Fort Wayne is always something to look forward to. We stop to eat on the way back. It is a great experience for the boys and fun to play the Fort Wayne teams.”

Eagles’ Coach Jim Carroll was pleased with his “D” but admitted, “The last minute of the game felt like an hour when they had the ball.”

He summed up another season, “It is a great joy to compete and coach in the CYO. You remember the greenhorns when you turn on Notre Dame football and see an ex-CYO guy scoring or watch one defending for a Big Ten team.”

Mishawaka Catholic’s phenomenal postseason run culminated with an 18-6 win over Fort Wayne’s CYO league champs, the mighty St. Charles Cardinals.

After a 2-2 regular season finish, the Saints went on to average both of their losses in the season, win their league championship and win the diocesan title.

“Our defense made the difference in the post season. We gave up only 12 points in our last three games and finished, 5-2,” claimed Mishawaka’s coach, Tony Violi.

In the first half, the Cardinals got on the board first when their successful air game, led by the arm of quarterback Joe Steigmeyer, flexed its muscle finding his target, Andrew Davis, for about 40 yards, which set up Zach Norton to punch it in on the next play.

Cardinal Coach Jason Garrett summarized, “I could not be more humbled and inspired to have been the coach of these young men — especially the eighth graders, who over the course of the past three months have led this team with the utmost integrity, dedication and hard work. They have truly exemplified to the St. Charles teams of the future what it means to be always faithful and always better — both on and off the field.”

The Saints, carried on the big shoulders of Jacob Whitfield, got their points in the game on Whitfield’s 40-yard run to leave things knotted up, 6-6, at the half.

In the third quarter, Mishawaka just happened to recover the opening kickoff which turned out to be a key drive in the game when they completed 55-yards and Whitfield scored again, putting them up to stay, 12-6.

Then Noah Sizemore’s second pick of the fourth quarter resulted in yet another Whitfield touchdown to seal the win for the Saints.

Violi was quick to point out that his team ran behind linemen Patrick Coulter, Nate Thomas and Christian Dennis that made the game a big way for their other corner, Gavin Vessl, and Joe Ravotto’s leading the offense was instrumental in the Saints’ string of victories as well.

“Back when Coulter told me he wanted to be remembered as champions, I knew right then the outcome of this game,” explained Violi.

He was sure to add, “I was very impressed with everyone from Fort Wayne, their coaches and the officiating crew to Coach Jason Garrett and Coach Matt Lindsay. They could not have been a better group of people. It was a great experience for our kids.”

ST. VINCENT PANTHERS WIN LARGE-SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

The St. Vincent Lady Panthers capped off their impressive volleyball careers with a first-place medal in the Catholic Youth League (CYO) White League (large school) tournament on Saturday, Oct. 22. In the championship, the No. 2 seed, St. Charles, put up a good fight as well, 25-21, 25-18.

Coach Julie Lukemire’s Panthers’ record was left unblemished for the second year in a row when they repeated their title run and tallied up a 13-0 season.

Cardegles finish cross-country season on positive note

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In cross-country action, the Cardegles of St. Jude and St. Charles finished their 2011 season on a very positive note.

Overall, the boys finished 66-39 while the girls had an outstanding 82 wins and 22 losses — the best record in Cardegle history. Coach Dan Kaufman reported that both teams finished in first place at the Lutheran Invite and beat Memorial Park and Jefferson Middle School in a three-way meet.

In addition, both the boys and the girls took the top spot in the Blackhawk Christian Invitational and their own Cardegle Invitational to cap off a great season.

Top performances for 2011 came from Blake Malone (10:33) and Bryson Tretter (10:38) both making the all-time top 15 runner list in Cardegle history claiming the third and sixth spots.

Abby Brelage (12:09), Megan Brelage (12:25) and Caroline McMasters (12:39) made the girls’ list at fourth, 10th and 11th place, respectively.

Kaufman said, “The all-time runner list goes back 15 years now and it includes some very successful athletes.”

At the annual awards banquet held Oct. 24, Kaufman recognized the following top seven girls — Abby Brelage, Megan Brelage, Caroline McMasters, Marie Lothamer, April Attebury, Rachel Gibson and Eden Nitra.

Named for the boys were Tretter, Malone, Patrick Rorick, Jack Stefanek, Anthony Lorenger, Nick Kacprzowiz and Tom Lonsway.

Abby Brelage and Bryson Tretter were named “Most Valuable Runners,” while the “Most Improved Runner” recipients were Jack Stefanek and Caroline McMasters. Those grabbing “Mental Attitude” kudos were Tom Lonsway and Marie Lothamer. Finally, the Cardegle Award was honored to Megan Brelage.

Coach Dan Kaufman described that the Cardegle Award depicts what a cross-country runner should truly represent. The winner is the athlete who displays a great attitude, hard work at practice, excellent attendance, year long loyalty to the team and dedication to the sport.

“This person runs because they want to, not because they have to,” explained Kaufman.

Guest speaker this year was St. Jude parishioner Judge Craig Bobay who spoke on how running has influenced his life.

Kaufman was assisted by his sons, Chris and Brian, Scott Reiling, Tim O’Connell, Dan and Steve Leflers.
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@diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.

Misc. Happenings

Bishop Luers Performing Arts
Department presents, “Godspell”
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers will present “Godspell” Friday, Dec. 2, and Saturday, Dec. 3, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 4, at 2 p.m. in the school café. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased by calling (260) 456-1261.

Manage holiday stress
South Bend — Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame will present a program for seniors on Managing Holiday Stress, in cooperation with New Avenues Counseling Service Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 2 p.m. at Andre Place’s Brother Geenan Hall. A non-perishable food item for the Northern Indiana Food Bank is requested. Call (574) 251-2235 for reservations as seating is limited.

Annual fall festival
South Bend — St. Casimir Parish, 1308 W. Dunham St., will have a fall festival Sunday, Nov. 13. Chicken Dinner served from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. Adults $8.50, children 5-10 $4, and children under 5 Eat Free. Contact the parish office at (574) 287-9551 for tickets. Music beginning at 2 p.m. provided by the Tim Deka Trio. Games of chance, raffles and a pastry booth will be offered.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Nov. 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults $7, children (5-12) $3. Carry-out available.

Volunteers needed
South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Society is in need of volunteers for the following: • Pack Christmas toy baskets through Nov. 21. Days and times needed are Monday and Wednesday from 3-6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 5-8 p.m., and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. • Individuals, families and businesses are needed for the “Adopt A Family” program. Contact Denise.blanche@saintvincent-in.org or (574) 234-6000 ext. 12105 for more information or to volunteer.

Bishop Luers Athletic Booster Club hosts Beatles tribute band, “American English”
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Luers Athletic Booster Club and the Performing Arts Department will host “American English,” on Nov. 26 in the school gymnasium. This national tribute band will perform at Bishop Luers High School as the main event to the Annual Turkey Trot. Doors open at 6 p.m. The “American English” concert begins at 7:30 p.m. The event will include a cash bar. Pre-sale tickets are available at $20 per person, or $30 the day of the show. Tickets may be purchased by calling (260) 456-1261, extension 3114. The event is casual attire and open to the public. Those attending must be 21 to enter.

A morning for minors
Fort Wayne — The Franciscan Sisters Minor will hold a morning of activities for girls ages 4-18, every second Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Parish. Activities include Mass, rosary, church cleaning, talking and playing with the sisters, followed by a pancake lunch. For information leave message at (260) 744-4393.

CRAFT SHOWS

Craft bazaar at Bishop Dwenger
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger Music Boosters will have a craft bazaar Saturday, Nov. 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school gym. For information call (260) 489-4709.

Christmas bazaar
South Bend — The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Augustine Parish, 1501 Washington St., will have a winter bazaar Saturday, Nov. 26, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 27, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. BBQ chicken, raffles and lunch will be available.

Bristol
Phyllis Jean Schwerha, 66, St. Mary of the Annunciation
Elkhart
Louis Stephen Rodino, 68, St. Thomas the Apostle
Fort Wayne
Nelle F. Deprey, 84, St. Henry
James Mitchell, 70, St. Vincent de Paul
P. Richard Fowerbaugh, 81, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
Alfred E. Quinn, 82, St. Jude

Christmas bazaar
South Bend — Corpus Christi Parish, 2801 Corpus Christi Dr., will have a Christmas bazaar Saturday, Nov. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 50 arts and craft vendors, baked goods and a raffle will be available. Lunch will be sponsored by the eighth-grade class. Admission is free.

Winter bazaar
South Bend — The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Augustine Parish, 1501 Washington St., will have a winter bazaar Saturday, Nov. 26, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 27, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. BBQ chicken, raffles and lunch will be available.

Knights of Columbus

In Service to One. In Service to All.

Meet one of our Agents

Troy Gill and his wife Becky have been married for nineteen years and have five children ranging in age from sixteen to two. They belong to St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Mishawaka. Troy has been a member of Mishawaka Council 1878 since 2007. He is the servicing agent for Mishawaka, Osceola, Wawaton, Plymouth, Rochester, Culver and Knox. “As an agent I only want to do what is in the best interest of my clients” said Troy. “I am trustworthy, dedicated and hope to build lasting, open relationships with everyone I meet. To know that we are continuing the work of Fr. McGinney and fulfilling his vision is very humbling. God has truly blessed me with faith, family and the opportunity to work for a unique and wonderful organization.” You can contact Troy Gill at (574) 360-0791 or troy.gill@kofc.org.

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

The John J. Stackowitz 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
Coach Gaughan taught more than football

BY MARK WEBER

SARASOTA, Fla. — Mike Burns, a 1962 graduate of Bishop Luers High School, now a lawyer in Sarasota, Fla., recently shared his thoughts with Today’s Catholic on the ancillary results of his association with John Gaughan, football coach of Luers 1961 city championship team and first winners of the Bell Trophy.

“Well, luck came to Bishop Luers the day John Gaughan became the football coach,” Burns wrote in an email to Today’s Catholic. “It was certainly lucky for me to have had a mentor who could inspire me to play above myself, on and off the field.”

“With football season fast approaching,” Burns said, “I went to the athletic office to meet the new coach and hopefully to get on the football team. Earlier, my dad wouldn’t let me play high school football. He said, those big guys will kill you. I whined and begged until he finally gave his consent.”

“Not being very thick or muscular, I worried that the new coach might not think I had enough size to play,” Burns said. “That worry vanished when I met Coach Gaughan. Among other things, he said, I measure players by the size of their hearts. I knew then there was hope for me.”

“Somewhere along the way at Bishop Luers, Coach Gaughan gave me a copy of the poem by Robert Service titled, ‘Carry On! Carry On!’ The words of that poem spoke to me and I committed it to memory, not knowing how well its message would serve me,” he noted.

“It was a few years later, that I was shot down on my 18th mission over North Vietnam, captured and spent 56 months as a POW, sitting in a bleak nine by 10 foot cell, with a black bucket in the corner for a bathroom,” Burns wrote.

“The words of that poem came back to him: ‘Carry on! Carry On! ... Brace for another attack. ... It’s looking like hell, but — you never can tell. ... Carry on, old man! Carry on!’”

Burns said, “At times, things seemed hopeless, Despairing, I thought I might be there for many more years. Then I made the decision that no matter how long it took, I would never give up. If it took 20 more years, I was going to walk out of there with my heart intact. Time would never wear me down. Nothing would. I would carry on to the end. I did just that.”

“I believe ‘Carry on! Carry On!’ personifies Coach Gaughan,” Burns told Today’s Catholic. “The way he lives, the way he is unafraid to fight to heaven’s own height, the way he coached, his optimism toward life, his devotion to prayer and his faith. These are the things he gives to those lucky enough to know him.”

---

LUMINARIES

$25 Luminary
• Luminary on display at Parkview Field with a customized tag honoring your loved one.
• Provides birthday cake on programming night.

$50 Luminary
• Luminary on display at Parkview Field with a customized tag honoring your loved one.
• A message honoring your loved one on the Parkview Field score board (120 characters).

$100 Luminary
• Luminary on display at Parkview Field with a customized tag honoring your loved one.
• A message honoring your loved one on the Parkview Field score board (120 characters).
• A picture of your loved one on the Parkview Field score board (vertical 4x6 photo in the highest resolution possible).

“Lights of Love” luminaries are available for purchase on the event evenings and by also going to www.erinshouse.org. Please contact Erin’s House at 260-423-2466 with any questions or more details.

PARKVIEW FIELD PRESENTS
FIREWORKS NIGHT!
November 23
7:45 PM

Enjoy hot cocoa, hot cider and cookies!

PURCHASE ONLINE: erinshouse.org

---

This is why we care.

At Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, we know the strength of an entire community depends on the health of every last individual in it. So our doctors, nurses, and staff offer the highest level of care. Except we don’t call it work — we consider it a calling.