



The Sacrament of Marriage

A guide to help Catholic couples prepare

See special insert

Catholic Schools Week

Bishop Rhoades' pastoral visits
St. Joseph's Grade School

Pages 1, 8-9

Bishop Dwenger High School

Page 16

Light of Learning awards

Recipients honored in
Fort Wayne, South Bend

Page 10

Feb. 19, 2012

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Catholics celebrate African American heritage at SANKOFA

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

SOUTH BEND — "I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me, singing glory hallelujah, Jesus lifted me." The lyrics of that hymn led by the University of Notre Dame Voices of Faith Gospel Choir were deeply felt by over 80 Catholics from around the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend as they gathered at the SANKOFA — Celebrating Black Catholic Faith and Culture: Reviewing the Past, Examining the Present, Planning the Future. The conference was held on Feb. 4 at St. Augustine Church in South Bend.

A video welcome delivered by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades opened the day.

"I am with you in spirit," he said. "African Americans are an important part of our history, as was Father Augustus Tolton, who was the first black priest ordained in the United States. He was a holy man who not only brought hope to the priesthood, but to the Catholic Church. I'm praying with you that the love of the Lord shines brightly on this day."

The bishop, who worked closely with the organizers of the day of reflection, was unable to attend.

Dominican Sister Jamie Phelps was the keynote speaker for the day of reflection and spoke on evangelization and culture.

"The Holy Spirit is working through every person, religious and lay. We must then ask God what He wants us to do and then do it," she said.

Sister Phelps took the attendees through an African

SANKOFA, PAGE 3



MAY LEE JOHNSON

The Gospel choir sings at St. Augustine Church in South Bend on Feb. 4 as Catholics across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend gathered for SANKOFA — Celebrating Black Catholic Faith and Culture: Reviewing the Past, Examining the Present, Planning the Future.

ENJOY SNOW AT ST. PETER'S SQUARE AT VATICAN



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

People enjoy snow in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican Feb. 4. A rare snowfall blanketed the Eternal City with more than 3 inches of snow overnight.

Catholic Schools Week brings pastoral visit to St. Joseph School

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

SOUTH BEND — Presenting him with a framed picture of the Dream of St. Joseph by the 17th century artist Georges De la Tour, eighth-grade student Caroline Hall, on behalf of the children of the St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend, thanked Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades "for all you do to help make our dreams come true."

"It was the dream of the people of St. Joseph Parish to have a school where children are educated and formed in the faith of the apostles. It is our dream still today to be an outstanding school pleasing to the Lord and His Church," said Hall who told the bishop, after presenting him with a spiritual bouquet, that the school children will be praying for him throughout the year.

Children at St. Joseph Grade School, which recently was named a 2011 National

Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the U.S. Department of Education and designated a Four-Star School by the Indiana Department of Education, welcomed Bishop Rhoades and their parents and guests for Mass that celebrated the feast of the Presentation of the Lord on Feb. 2.

Bishop Rhoades visited St. Joseph Grade School during Catholic Schools Week. He also made a pastoral visit to Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne.

The Mass included a candle procession with students carrying candles for Candlemas Day, which the bishop explained during his homily, recalling the words of Simeon, who said that the child, Jesus, who was presented in the temple would be a "Light to all nations. Candles are to remind us who is the Light. We are to spread the light to others and to share our faith. Do good deeds. We help to

ST. JOSEPH, PAGE 8

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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'Ad limina' visit



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

I am writing this column prior to my departure on February 7th for my first *ad limina* visit to Rome. Bishop D'Arcy and I will be joining our brother bishops from Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin for this ten-day visit to the Vatican. The *ad limina* visit is an obligation of diocesan bishops and has three purposes: to venerate the tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul (*ad limina apostolorum* means "to the threshold of the apostles"); to meet with the Holy Father; and to meet with the officials of the dicasteries of the Roman Curia.

Though *ad limina* visits traditionally take place every five years, the last visit by U.S. bishops was in 2004. I was ordained a bishop in December, 2004, so I just missed the last visit of U.S. bishops to Pope John Paul II.

Prior to the *ad limina* visit, diocesan bishops are required to make a report to the Holy Father on the state of their dioceses. This report is called the *quinquennial* report. It is examined by the various dicasteries of the Roman Curia and the Holy Father receives a synthesis of each quinquennial report. Preparing the report provides the bishop an opportunity to reflect on the situation of the diocese and pastoral planning for the future. I am very grateful to Bishop D'Arcy and to my Cabinet and diocesan office directors for their help in preparing this comprehensive report. Special thanks to Fred and Lisa Everett for their excellent work as editors of the report!

The quinquennial report has 22 sections and examines all the various aspects of the life of the Church in our diocese (e.g. Catholic education; Catechesis; the life and ministry of the Clergy; the Laity; etc.). I learned a great deal from this report. When visiting the Holy Father and the officials of the Roman Curia, this report will have been studied beforehand and provide very helpful information for our discussions.

The *ad limina* visits foster the communion of all the bishops of the world with the Pope,



CNS PHOTO/ROBERT DUNCAN

U.S. bishops from southern states concelebrate Mass in the crypt of St. Peter's Basilica Jan. 23 at the Vatican. Bishops from Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama and Kentucky were beginning their "ad limina" visits to report on the status of their dioceses to the pope and Vatican officials. Pictured at center is Auxiliary Bishop Shelton J. Fabre of New Orleans.

the successor of Saint Peter. It is a concrete expression of the Pope's solicitude for the whole Church.

In the apostolic constitution *Pastor Bonus*, issued by Blessed John Paul II in 1988, we read the following: "On the one hand, these visits give the bishops an opportunity to sharpen their awareness of their responsibilities as successors of the Apostles and to feel more intensely their sense of hierarchical communion with the successor of Peter. On the other hand, the visits in some way constitute the highest and most central point in that universal ministry that the Holy Father is carrying out when he embraces his brother bishops, the pastors of the particular Churches, and takes up with them the business of sustaining their mission in the Church."

The *ad limina* visit reminds us of Saint Paul's visit to Saint Peter as described in Saint Paul's letter to the Galatians. Saint Paul wrote that he went up to Jerusalem to meet Cephas (Peter) and stayed there with him for fifteen days. Fourteen years later, he did so again. This visit manifests the communion of Saint Paul with Saint Peter. The *ad limina* visits today manifest the communion of the successors of the Apostles with the Successor of Saint Peter.

We read in *Pastor Bonus*: "The natural result of this meeting with Peter's successor, first guardian of the deposit of truth passed on by the Apostles, is to strengthen unity in the same faith, hope and charity, and more and more to recognize and treasure that immense heritage of spiritual and moral wealth that the whole Church, joined with the bishop of Rome by the bond of communion, has spread throughout the world."

I ask for your prayers for Bishop D'Arcy, me, and our brother bishops, as well as for the Holy Father, during this time. Our *ad limina* visit begins on February 8th and ends on February 17th. I will be praying for the people of our diocese each day as we celebrate Mass in different Roman basilicas. I am the principal celebrant of the Mass on the last day of the visit which will be celebrated at the altar over the tomb of Blessed John XXIII in Saint Peter's Basilica. We will also be celebrating Masses at the altars over the tombs of Saint Peter and Blessed John Paul II in Saint Peter's Basilica, as well as at the basilicas of Saint Paul Outside the Walls (over the tomb of Saint Paul), Saint Mary Major and Saint John Lateran.

May the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul intercede for us!

Military chaplains told not to read archbishop's letter on HHS mandate

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A directive from the U.S. Army chief of chaplains that a letter opposing the Obama administration's contraceptive mandate not be read from the pulpit by Catholic military chaplains violated First Amendment rights of free speech and free exercise of religion, according to the head of the Archdiocese for the Military Services.

Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio spoke with Secretary of the Army John McHugh about the chief of chaplains' response to the archbishop's Jan. 26 letter and the two "agreed that it was a mistake to stop the reading of the archbishop's letter," according to a state-

ment released by the military archdiocese to Catholic News Service Feb. 6.

The two also agreed to McHugh's suggestion that one line, which read "We cannot — we will not — comply with this unjust law," be removed from the letter because of "the concern that it could potentially be misunderstood as a call to civil disobedience," the statement added.

The letter had been issued as part of a nationwide campaign by U.S. bishops protesting the Department of Health and Human Services requirement that all health plans — even those covering employees of Catholic schools, hospitals and charitable institutions — cover contraceptives, including some that can cause abortions, and sterilization free of

charge.

The archbishop said he and the archdiocese "stand firm in the belief, based on legal precedent, that such a directive from the Army constituted a violation of his constitutionally protected right of free speech and the free exercise of religion, as well as those same rights of all military chaplains and their congregants."

The office of the Army chief of chaplains did not immediately respond to a CNS request for comment about the incident.

The military archdiocese said there was no objection to the letter from the other branches of military service.

Doctors wonder how federal mandate will affect practice

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Whether they are just starting out or nearing the end of their careers, Catholics who want to practice medicine in conformity with the church's teachings wonder how a new federal regulation requiring health plans to cover contraceptives and sterilization free of charge will affect their work.

Although the requirement will not directly impact physicians, some said it represents a governmental intrusion into health care that could grow in the future.

Dr. Anne Nolte, a family physician with the National Gianna Center for Women's Health and Fertility in New York, thinks the mandate represents "such a dramatic violation of such clearly defined civil rights" that it is bound to be overturned in court.

But, she said, "If Congress failed to pass an act that provides an exemption for the groups affected by this, and the courts in some incomprehensible way allow (the mandate) to stand, then Catholic health care will have to make a decision to practice civil disobedience."

Dr. Kim Hardey, an obstetrician and gynecologist in Lafayette, La., said he hopes the decision by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Obama administration will cause Catholics and other Christians to rise up against "the liberal left" and "misguided feminists" who would like to see abortion also become a required part of every medical practice.

"If we can allow the infringement of any group's beliefs," everyone's beliefs are threatened, he told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview Jan. 31.

The new contraception mandate, with a narrow exemption for religious organizations, is part of implementing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, which sets up new preventative health care coverage specifically for women at no cost.

That coverage includes services such as mammograms, prenatal care and cervical cancer screenings. But it also mandates free contraception, sterilizations and drugs (such as ella and "Plan B") considered by the Church to be abortifacients — all of which are contrary to Catholic teaching.

On Jan. 20, Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, announced that nonprofit groups that do not provide contraceptive coverage because of their religious beliefs will get an additional year "to adapt to this new rule."

Sarah Smith is not a doctor yet, but she worries that the HHS mandate will further sour an



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

Dr. Anne Nolte, right, a family physician with the National Gianna Center for Women's Health and Fertility in New York, follows Catholic teaching and guidelines for health care in her practice. She said about 40 percent of her patients are Protestants or have no religious affiliation. She is pictured at her New York office with patient Judith Guzman in 2009.

atmosphere in which she already finds some challenges to her pro-life convictions.

"The one safe environment — Catholic hospitals — is not even going to be safe anymore" if the contraceptive mandate stands, she said in a telephone interview with CNS from Chicago, where she had just completed the last of "14 or 15" interviews for a residency position in obstetrics and gynecology.

A fourth-year medical student at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, Smith made clear on each interview that her Catholic convictions prevent her from involvement in abortion, sterilization or contraception.

She said she has found that "most doctors as individuals respect my beliefs and my conscience; they might not agree with me, but they'll defend my right to practice medicine." Problems are more likely to arise at the institutional level, where medical students and residents are "culturally at the bottom of the totem pole," Smith noted.

"Some Catholic hospitals make it much easier for medical students and residents to live out their faith," she said. But at a secular hospital where "they are doing 400 tubal ligations a year, you might have the choice not to participate, but the work flow makes it harder," she added.

A native of Natick, Mass., and a 2007 graduate of the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, Smith said she enjoys "working with underserved populations" but might not ever be able to work at a federally funded community health center, since the government requires that all family planning options be offered at those centers.

"I am not at the point in my career where I have experienced"

discrimination because of her pro-life beliefs, Smith said. "We are kind of insulated in medical school. But then you get out and you say, 'Wow, all these policies could really affect my practice.'"

After assisting in the delivery of about 6,000 babies over the past 29 years, Hardey has the real-world experience that Smith lacks. He believes that some in Washington would like to drive obstetrician-gynecologists, or OB-GYNs, who won't perform abortions out of business.

"There are not that many of us ... that we'd be too big to go after," he said.

Hardey prescribed contraceptives and even thought they were beneficial for the first nine years of his medical practice. But then he began to see some of their effects — not only on his patients but on societal attitudes — and decided to conform his practice to the Church's teachings in "Humanae Vitae" ("Of Human Life").

The 1968 encyclical by Pope Paul VI on married love and procreation reaffirmed Church teaching that artificial contraception is morally wrong.

Nolte, who completed her medical training in 2009, focuses her family practice on providing "authentically Catholic" health care for women, especially in the areas of gynecology, infertility treatment and natural family planning. She sees the Gianna center as "an alternative to Planned Parenthood" in Manhattan.

"We do exclusively women's health care faithful to the" U.S. Church's "Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services," she said.

The directives, most recently revised by the U.S. bishops in 2001, guide Catholic health care facilities in addressing a wide range of ethical questions, such as abortion, euthanasia, care for the poor, medical research, in vitro fertilization, prenatal testing and nutrition and hydration.

But that doesn't mean Nolte serves only Catholics.

About 40 percent of her patients are Protestants or have no religious affiliation. "Women come from other states just for their annual exams, and they bring their daughters," Nolte said. "They see that we treat patients differently."

Like Hardey, she expressed concern that "this administration is happy to violate civil rights" on the issue of contraception and could then decide to do the same on abortion or other problematic issues. But she said nothing will ever put Catholic health care out of business, even if civil disobedience is required.

"A large number of people would not have access if we get out of health care," she said. "And we can't let that happen."



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

• Tuesday, Feb. 7, to Saturday, Feb. 18 — "Ad Limina" visit, Rome, Italy

SANKOFA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

American timeline and an African American Catholic historical timeline. She continued by exploring a continuum on becoming a multicultural Church and society.

"When God calls, you need to do something," she said. "Don't think it is going to be easy, but just listen to the spirit."

The event was held in preparation for the upcoming Faith Engaged: Empower, Equip, Evangelize National Black Catholic Congress XI, NBCC of 2012, SANKOFA Celebrating Black Catholic Faith and Culture, Day of Reflection that will be held this summer in Indianapolis.

The three breakout sessions of the day included, "Seasoning the Salt of the Banquet: The Faith of Black Catholics in White Affluent Parishes," led by James Summers; "Inculturation: Who are Black Youth Today and How Should We Minister to Them?" with Vincent Guider; and "The History of the Church and the Education of African American Catholics," led by Leslie Morgan.

The event also featured an oral history video from Sadie Smith, who was among the trailblazers of St. Augustine Church. Smith stated that St. Augustine Church was built by both blacks and whites working together for a common cause — a church where blacks in the city could worship freely.

To complete the inspiring day of reflection the University of Notre Dame Voices of Faith Gospel Choir led the music for the closing Mass celebrated by Bishop John M. D'Arcy, bishop emeritus, with hymns that included "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" and "I Surrender All."

Bishop D'Arcy, a longtime supporter of St. Augustine Church, encouraged those gathered to pray for the canonization of the Venerable Henriette DeLille, a freed slave, who in 1836 founded the Sisters of the Presentation, later known as the Sisters of the Holy Family, in New Orleans.

Jonathon Jones, a senior at Marian High School, said of the African American heritage in South Bend, "My friends don't believe that there are Black Catholics. When I tell them there are a lot of us, they laugh and say one or two. So I think it's impor-



MAY LEE JOHNSON

Dominican Sister Jamie Phelps provided the keynote address for SANKOFA — Celebrating Black Catholic Faith and Culture: Reviewing the Past, Examining the Present, Planning the Future. The retreat was held Saturday, Feb. 4, at St. Augustine Church in South Bend where over 80 people were in attendance.

tant to make St. Augustine more visible in the diocese so everyone can see all the good work that is being done here."

"This day of reflection has been wonderful," said Metice Smith of St. Mary Parish in Fort Wayne. "It was good to come to St. Augustine and join other Catholics and talk about our commonalities as well as our differences. This day has the total support of Bishop Rhoades, who has been working with us the entire time to make this day. I know he would be pleased that it has been a big success."

"But more than anything I think of our friend, the late Thelma Schulte, who would love the idea of all the Black Catholics from around the diocese coming together to witness together and talk about where we all go from here. I hope we can all grow closer from this wonderful experience," she added.

Wendy Summers of Granger was touched by the day, and said, "I'm a member of Pius X and my husband and I are so happy to be a part of this day of reflection. I think I might be coming over to St. Augustine a little more often."

Mary Glowaski, secretary of Evangelization and Special Ministries, said she was inspired by the day as well. "It's simply days like this that make the world a better place, and they continue to light our fire and desire to serve."



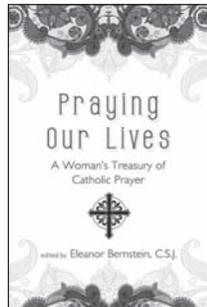
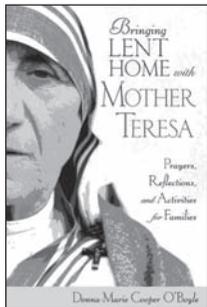
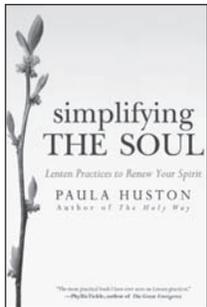
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The Franciscan Center announces relocation, \$189,000 campaign

FORT WAYNE — The Franciscan Center announced Feb. 3 today that it is making a big move.

In mid December The Franciscan Center silently initiated the Jean Kelly Building Campaign to relocate the programs and services of the organization. The total campaign goal is \$189,000 and includes the purchase of a building, an addition, renovations, equipment and a reserve fund. To date the organization has raised \$50,000 or 26 percent of the total goal. As soon as funds are raised the organization will move into its new home.

“The building is located at 1015 E. Maple Grove Ave., only a few hundred feet from where we have been operating out of the former Sacred Heart Elementary School since 1999,” explains Sally Ley, co-founder of The Franciscan Center. “The new location first served as the Sacred Heart Convent for several decades before being purchased and ran as The Church of Fort Wayne in the 1970s.”

Recently vacated, the building is 4,500 sq. ft. with a 1,400 sq. ft. basement and 1,000 square feet in outbuildings. The building has already been purchased with the first lead gift to the campaign.

“It was very important that we relocate to a space that would not only allow us to continue our existing programs, but also continue to serve the community of our core clientele and volunteers on the south side of Fort Wayne,” adds Tony Ley, executive director, “and we praise God that this building was available when we

needed it.”

The Franciscan Center is moving to save costs and to better serve its volunteers and clientele. “We will save over \$20,000 annually just in overhead and other operating costs by moving to the new building. Just the savings in utility and leasing costs alone will have a total investment payback in less than 10 years,” notes Tony Ley.

In addition to this huge financial savings, the move will allow the organization to better serve its clients and volunteers. The building service areas are all on the ground floor, eliminating the use of stairs for elderly and handicapped clients and volunteers, as well as resulting in smoother lines with less confusion. Also, having all operations and staff on the same floor, they can consolidate employee and volunteer spaces, and therefore operate and communicate more efficiently with far less heavy lifting and moving. The new location will also offer the freedom to expand and change services and activities in the future.

The new building will be named for the late Jean Kelly, co-founder of The Franciscan Center. Kelly helped found The Franciscan Center in 1989 and was its “quiet strength” and backbone until her death in 2008. Kelly was more than happy to work backstage, exemplifying the Franciscan spirit of humility and love for the disadvantaged.

When The Franciscan Center decided on a name for the new building, the choice of naming it after Kelly was unanimous.

Sally Ley notes, “I counted Jean among my closest friends and confidants and I can truly say that The Franciscan Center would not be where it is today without her wisdom, dedication, prayers and financial support.”

The Franciscan Center has created the following list of naming opportunities to help reach their \$189,000 campaign goal. Any gift is appreciated to help reach this goal:

- Gifts of \$1,000-\$4,999: The donor's name will be listed on the dedication board in the main lobby of the new building for all visitors, clients and volunteers to appreciate their generosity.

- Gifts of \$5,000-\$9,999: In addition to the dedication board, the donor will also receive an engraved stone with his or her name in the new concrete walkway.

- Gifts of \$10,000 and up: In addition to the dedication board and engraved stone, the donor can have the opportunity to attach his or her name to one of the rooms, offices, halls, or meeting spaces in the new building.

The organization is also looking for contractors and renovation experts willing to reduce aspects of their services to help reduce overall costs.

“Any in-kind donation of services and materials is as good as cash to us, and could qualify for one of the above naming opportunities,” notes Tony Ley.

For more information about the Jean Kelly Building Campaign and how to support the effort, contact Tony Ley at (260) 744-3977.

Dr. Edward Sri to speak on origins of revised Mass

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

MISHAWAKA — Since the beginning of Advent in 2011, many American Catholics have stumbled in the recitation of the new translation of the Mass. With the assistance of worship aids, parishioners have begun the process of learning the new words that are included in the new translation. But do they understand the background and biblical origin of this revised liturgy?

Noted author and speaker Dr. Edward Sri will host an evening entitled “A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What we Say and Do in the Liturgy” on Thursday, Feb. 23, at Marian High School, to shed light on this subject. The presentation, and recently published book of the same name by Sri, promises an intriguing look at the Mass to renew faith and deepen devotion to the Eucharist.

In a May 5, 2011 interview with Zenit news, Sri illustrated an example of the how the biblical origins are used in the new translation of the Mass.

“In the prayer shortly before Holy Communion is distributed, the priest has been saying, ‘Happy are those who are called to this supper.’ But in the new translation, the priest will say, ‘Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the lamb.’ These new words more clearly recall a climactic moment of the Book of Revelation when Jesus, the Lamb of God, is depicted as a bridegroom joining Himself to His bride, the Church,” said Sri.

“An angel announces this intimate union saying, ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the lamb.’ — Rv 19:19. The new translation more clearly echoes the angel's invitation to the heavenly wedding supper of the lamb and reminds us that Holy Communion is an intimate loving communion with Jesus — one that is likened to the union shared between husband and wife,” he added.

Sri appears regularly on EWTN



DR. EDWARD SRI

and is the author of several Catholic bestselling books, including, “The New Rosary in Scripture,” “Biblical Insights for Praying the 20 Mysteries” (Servant), “Men, Women and the Mystery of Love” and “Practical Insights on John Paul II's Love and Responsibility” (Servant Books).

A native Hoosier, Sri is also a graduate of Indiana University. He shares an acquaintance with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades that dates back to the bishop's assignment in Harrisburg, Pa. He has visited the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend previously, and is looking forward to being back in his native state.

Dr. Edward Sri's presentation of “A Biblical Walk Through the Mass: Understanding What we Say and Do in the Liturgy” will be held from 7-9 p.m. at Marian High School, Mishawaka, on Feb. 23. There is no admittance fee, but registration is required. To register contact Janice Martin at (260) 399-1411 or email jmartin@diocesefwsb.org.



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Proposal to help families pay home utility costs advances

INDIANAPOLIS — Families struggling to pay home energy bills may find relief if a proposal to assist them passes the Indiana General Assembly this year. The proposal, HB 1141, was passed by a unanimous vote in the House. The Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC), the Church's official representative on public policy, supports the legislation.

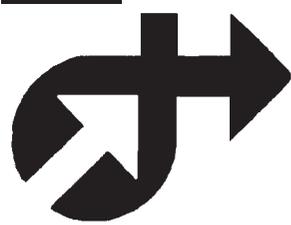
Rep. Peggy Welch, D-Bloomington, first author of the bill said the legislation would reinstate the state sales tax exemption for the Low Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for one year. It would allow an additional 7 percent of bill payment funds to help vulnerable Hoosier households struggling to stay warm.

House Bill 1141, in its original form, would have made a permanent tax exemption for LIHEAP. Welch said that while the permanent sales-tax-exemption portion of the bill was removed from the bill, "the most important thing was to reinstate the sales tax exemption for qualifying families for next year. Then hopefully in 2013, the next budget year, we can champion for a permanent sales tax exemption for LIHEAP."

Welch said, "The legislation is not for utility bills this year, but would help people pay for utility bills next year. If passed, the bill goes into effect July 2012. So this would help pay for utility bills from July 1, 2012 until June 30, 2013."

Welch explains that the federal government sends the state of Indiana some \$80 million for the LIHEAP, but not all of that money goes to pay heating bills. Some of the money goes for weatherization and another portion goes to administration. Roughly \$46 million goes to fund LIHEAP. The 7 percent sales tax exemption multiplied by the \$46 million gives you \$3.2 million that would go back into the LIHEAP program to be spent on utility costs rather than going back into the general fund. This will allow \$3.2 million more to help poor families pay utility costs.

Welch said that some lawmakers were concerned about the general fund losing that money, but told colleagues, "If we can give a \$73 million corporate income tax reduction, which I also supported to create jobs and help low income families long term, then we can certainly address



INDIANA
CATHOLIC
CONFERENCE

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

some of these short-term concerns like LIHEAP," said Welch.

"I am just thrilled that Chairman Espich and my Republican colleagues all agree that this was an important thing to do," said Welch.

Welch attributes getting her bill a hearing and passing to several of her Republican colleagues who serve on the House Ways and Means Committee. "There were three members on the Ways and Means Committee who were totally sold on the idea of reinstating this, Suzanne Crouch, R-Evansville; Randy Truitt, R-West Lafayette and Ed Clere, R-New Albany," said Welch. "And I really attribute this bill moving to their efforts and my good friend and Democrat colleague Rep. John Day, D-Indianapolis, also a co-author who has worked on this issue."

Clere, a co-author of the bill said, "In this economic climate, every dollar matters, especially to people in need. We've done a lot to make Indiana more attractive for economic development and job creation, which benefits all Hoosiers," he said. "This bill provides direct assistance to those who need it the most."

"What this bill does is help ensure that every dollar goes to helping families," said Clere. "The money is intended for energy assistance. There's no reason to collect sales tax on this money," he said.

"There are many things in the state that are working toward economic development and improvement in the economy, but not everyone is seeing that improvement on a household level. It's important that we support ways we can help support those folks," said Clere. "The recession is technically over according to the economists, but the recession is still being felt by many Hoosier households and there are a lot of families still struggling. This bill provides some direct relief."

The Legislative Services Agency,

an agency that does legal and financial analysis for newly proposed laws, estimated \$3.7 million to \$4.4 million would go into the LIHEAP program under HB 1141.

Funding for the state's energy assistance program comes from federal sources and dedicated state funds. Since the early 1980s, the federal government has annually appropriated funds to states to provide energy assistance to low-income families.

In 2011 over 45,000 Hoosiers called Indiana's Connect2Help hotline (211) to request help with utilities: the number one need, according to Kathy Williams, an advocate for low income families who has been involved in the issue at the statehouse. Williams' research also noted that as of Dec. 3, 2011, the hotline had already received about 2,500 more calls for utility assistance than in 2010. According to the United Way survey, 42 percent of people calling 211 in 2011 were first-time callers.

House Bill 1141 has moved to the Senate for further consideration.

Eligibility for LIHEAP — Low Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program

To be eligible for this grant, a household's income must not exceed 150 percent of the poverty level or 60 percent of the state median income. Grantees may not set income eligibility standards below 110 percent of the poverty level, but they may give priority to those households with the highest home energy costs or needs in relation to income.

(Source: Rep. Ed Clere, R-New Albany, co-author of HB 1141, LIHEAP)

Thank you.

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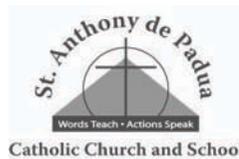
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Pope to visit Mexico, Cuba March 23-28, meet leaders, Catholic faithful

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI will meet with Cuban President Raul Castro, Mexican President Felipe Calderon and bishops and Catholics from the region when he visits Mexico and Cuba in late March. He will also greet bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean as well as pray at the shrine of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre in Cuba. It will be his third visit to the Americas after the United States in 2008 and Brazil in 2007. After a 14-hour flight from Rome to Mexico, the pope is scheduled to be in Leon, Mexico, March 23-26. After a three-and-a-half-hour flight to Cuba, he will be in Santiago de Cuba and Havana March 26-28. He will arrive back in Rome after a 10-hour flight March 29. During his trip, Pope Benedict will celebrate three outdoor Masses, including one marking the 400th anniversary of the Virgin of Charity of El Cobre, patroness of Cuba. In Mexico, he will have a special meeting with children and a vespers service with bishops from Latin America, and in Cuba he will make a private visit to the shrine of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre.

Obama ties call to care for 'least of these' to economic policies

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In remarks at the National Prayer Breakfast Feb. 2, President Barack Obama linked his actions as president to influences of faith, particularly Jesus' call to care for "the least of these." Obama said at the annual gathering that "when I decide to stand up for foreign aid, or prevent atrocities in places like Uganda, or take on issues like human trafficking, it's not just about strengthening alliances, or promoting democratic values, or projecting American leadership around the world, although it does all those things and it will make us safer and more secure. It's also about the biblical call to care for the least of these — for the poor; for those at the margins of our society." The National Prayer Breakfast is a multi-day nondenominational event highlighted by the breakfast itself. It is attended by a global representation of political, diplomatic and religious leaders, but most years the only part open to press coverage is the president's remarks. Obama's speech came amid harsh criticism of his administration for policies that are being described as hostile to religious freedom, notably a new federal mandate that all health plans, including those at Church-run hospitals, colleges and service agencies, cover contraceptives and sterilizations at no cost. The administration also has put in place a religious exemption to the mandate, but leaders of various Catholic and other faith-based organizations say it is too narrow and they will be forced to provide coverage they oppose. Just a few days before Obama's speech, Catholic churchgoers around the country heard letters from their bishops read from the

NEWS BRIEFS

CHOIR MEMBERS SING DURING MASS ON NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND AFRICAN FAMILY



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHERMITZ

Choir members sing during the annual Black History Month Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York Feb. 5. The Mass, sponsored by the Archdiocese of New York's Office of Black Ministry, also was celebrated in observance of the National Day of Prayer for the African-American and African Family.

pulpit decrying the mandate. Other critics said the president's address at the breakfast avoided recommendations made by his advisory council on faith-based activities for ensuring that faith-based organizations that receive government funding do not use the money in inappropriate ways. The Rev. C. Welton Gaddy, president of the Interfaith Alliance, criticized Obama for praising work done by faith-based groups in providing social services, but remaining "silent about essential safeguards on faith-based funding to ensure that when religious organizations receive government funds, this money is not used for sectarian purposes or to discriminate in hiring."

Cardinal Bevilacqua, retired Philadelphia archbishop, dies at 88

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Cardinal Anthony J. Bevilacqua, retired archbishop of Philadelphia, died Jan. 31 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, where he resided. According to the Philadelphia Archdiocese, he died in his sleep at 9:15 p.m. He was 88. The archdiocese said he had been battling dementia and an undisclosed form of cancer. Cardinal Bevilacqua headed the archdiocese from February 1988 to October 2003. "I was greatly saddened to learn of the death of my

predecessor Cardinal Bevilacqua," said Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia. "I encourage all Catholics in the archdiocese to join me in praying for the repose of his soul and that God will comfort his family as they mourn his loss. Cardinal Bevilacqua has been called home by God; a servant of the Lord who loved Jesus Christ and his people. Cardinal Bevilacqua's death comes at a time when the archdiocese is facing extraordinary challenges," he said. "During this difficult period, I invite all of our people to come together in prayer for a renewal of our Church and her mission."

Richer orders should share with poorer religious, says Vatican prefect

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Wealthier religious orders should share their resources with struggling religious communities, said the prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. Cardinal-designate Joao Braz de Aviz said that while religious men and women live a life of poverty and possess nothing, their religious "institution doesn't always give the same witness. It's not that we are against holding assets or are saying the Church cannot have all the things it needs," he said in an

interview with the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, Feb. 2. He said the question is rather, why aren't resources being shared among different religious institutes? One example, the Brazilian prelate said, would be a religious order that has significant financial assets earmarked for caring for and supporting its members in their old age. He asked whether this was the true aim of such funds and whether the money could be given to help another institute that was struggling or in need. "Why don't we know how to say 'We will put our assets at the disposal of many others'?" he asked. The cardinal-designate said he thinks people do not believe enough in God's providence — that the Lord will provide. "We've taken on a consumerist point of view a bit," he said, noting how sometimes he has had to help communities overcome divisions over the institution's assets and how he has found attitudes that were "not correct."

CPA leader says Catholic press key to covering religious liberty issues

CHICAGO (CNS) — Catholic Press Month, celebrated in February, "comes at a particularly critical moment" this year, said Greg Erlandson, president of the Catholic Press Association of the United

States and Canada. The nation's Catholic bishops "have made clear their concern with recent government regulations and the threat such regulations pose to religious liberty," said Erlandson, president and publisher of *Our Sunday Visitor* in Huntington, Ind. The Catholic press provides the vehicle for the bishops' message to reach Catholics, he said in a statement released by the Chicago-based press association. "It is during challenging times like these that we can best recognize the great blessing that is the Catholic press," he said. "It is critical that Catholics not only have access to sound news coverage and commentary, but that they hear directly from their leaders on the issues of the day and have the resources to see their world through the eyes of faith. Only the Catholic press gives Catholic leaders a voice with which to be heard by their people — unmuted, uncensored and independent of the preconceptions and prejudices of too many secular media outlets," he added. Erlandson said the CPA "believes strongly" that its members' newspapers, magazines, newsletters, books and blogs are "the most effective adult education tools to reach Catholics, and that they do so more efficiently than any other communications means outside the Sunday homily."

Maryland committee hears testimony on same-sex marriage measure

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (CNS) — Framing his support for same-sex marriage in the context of respect for human dignity, Gov. Martin J. O'Malley testified before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee Jan. 31 in favor of a bill that would legalize gay marriage. Supporters of traditional marriage, however, countered that marriage is an institution that has preceded law, and should not be altered. "We all want the same thing for our children," O'Malley said, "the opportunity to live in loving, caring, committed and stable homes protected equally under the law." Father Erik Arnold, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Ellicott City, asked lawmakers in Annapolis to recognize that the family, "based on the marriage of a man and woman, is a natural institution that is prior to the state. As such," he said, "the reservation of marriage to the union of one man and one woman is a fact of nature — not a social prejudice." Father Arnold pointed out that the state has not defined marriage. Instead, he said, it has recognized what was already in existence. "The role of the state has been to acknowledge the wonderfully unique contribution that a husband and a wife make to the building up of our society, to the well-being of our children and our next generation," he said. The evening before the hearing, hundreds of pro-marriage supporters converged outside the Statehouse in Annapolis, passionately calling on state lawmakers to oppose legislation that would legalize same-sex marriage. Speakers at the rally, sponsored by the newly formed Maryland Marriage Alliance, repeatedly led the crowd in chants that declared marriage to be a union of "one man and one woman."

Bishop Rhoades, Father Engo to speak at Marriage and Family Conference in March

NOTRE DAME — The diocesan Office of Family Life will be hosting the second biennial Diocesan Marriage and Family Conference on Saturday, March 24, at the Notre Dame Conference Center (McKenna Hall). The conference will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will open the conference with morning prayer and a reflection. Father Bob Lengerich, who is a regular speaker at the diocesan Conferences for Engaged Couples, will speak at the first plenary session on "What the Theology of the Body Means for Marriage."

Franciscan Father David Mary Engo, who gives conferences across the country, will speak at the second plenary session on "The Mission of the Christian Family."

The conference will also feature three break out sessions, each of which will include four workshops from which to choose. Topics will include theology of the body, work and celebration in the family, parenting issues, dealing with infertility, prayer in marriage and family life, dealing with divorce, the Christian family as the church of the home and dealing with homosexuality.

Confirmed workshop speakers include Fred and Lisa Everett, John and Monica Sikorski, Dave and Suzy Younger, Cindy Black, Lisa Marino and Dr. Phil Sutton.

To register for the conference, visit ccc.nd.edu or call the Notre Dame Conference Center at (574) 631-6691 for more information. The cost of the conference, which includes continental breakfast, a boxed lunch and afternoon snacks, is \$35 per person.

New ND publication explores theological, pastoral root of new evangelization

NOTRE DAME — The Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame is delighted to announce the launch of the Notre Dame Center for Liturgy's (NDCL) newest endeavor, *Church Life: A Journal for the New Evangelization*. The inaugural issue of this online journal is available at <http://issuu.com/instituteforchurchlife/docs/churchlifewinter2012>.

Edited by Timothy P. O'Malley, Ph.D., acting director of the NDCL, *Church Life* is an online journal that explores the theological and pastoral roots of the new evangelization, with particular attention to catechesis, liturgy, adult theological education, a spirituality of vocation and the formation of ordained and lay ministers.

It features articles by a number of prominent theologians, as well as the full text of the talk given

AROUND THE DIOCESE

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME CONFERENCE HELD



PROVIDED BY JAN TORMA

The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me Conference, 2012, took place at McKenna Hall at the University of Notre Dame, Jan. 21-22. The over 50 participants came from Fort Wayne, South Bend and Grand Rapids, Mich. Father Les Valerio and Father Kevin Joyce from the Archdiocese of Omaha were presenters at the five sessions of the conference.

by Archbishop (now Cardinal-designate) Timothy Dolan in December when he spoke at Notre Dame to launch the Project on Human Dignity.

The journal will be an excellent resource for pastors, liturgists and catechists.

USF hosting Best Practices Showcase for educators

FORT WAYNE — Education and social work professionals from across the state are slated to share their successful, evidence-based best practices and "what-works" responses to real world challenges at the sixth annual Best Practices Showcase at the University of Saint Francis on Saturday, March 3, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Grades K-12 educators, social workers, counselors and psychologists in public, private, parochial and charter schools are invited to choose from over 60 workshops.

The broad range of topics include infusing project-based learning into the 21st century classroom, safe dating, research-based methods to engage students in reading, the 40 developmental assets and differentiating instruction and assessment for diverse learners.

In addition to presentations by professors from the University of Notre Dame and University of Saint Francis, literacy specialists Anna Shults and John Wolf from the Indiana Department of Education will provide an over-

view of the department's reading initiatives.

The Best Practices Showcase schedule is:

- 7-8 a.m. — Registration, Doermer Center
- 8-8:50 a.m. — First session, Doermer and Pope John Paul II centers
- 9-9:50 a.m. — Second ses-

sion, Doermer and Pope John Paul II centers

• 9:50-10:30 a.m. — Coffee and snacks, Doermer Center

• 10:30-11:20 a.m. — Third session, Doermer and Pope John Paul II centers

• 11:30-12:20 a.m. — Fourth session, Doermer and Pope John Paul II centers

DECATUR ALUM AWARDED DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE HONOR



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, DECATUR

Pictured, from left, are Karla Hormann, principal of St. Joseph School in Decatur, John Schultz, mayor and distinguished graduate and Father Dave Voors, pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Decatur.

Registration for professionals is \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the event. Registration for students is \$5 in advance and \$10 the day of the event.

For information, email nhankee@sf.edu or call (260) 399-7700, ext. 8405.

You Can Lend A Hand coupon fundraiser begins

MISHAWAKA — The annual You Can Lend A Hand fundraiser kicked off its coupon book sale Jan. 31 in Fort Wayne and Feb. 2 in South Bend. The annual campaign serves as one of the main fundraising efforts for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Books are sold for \$3 through March 2, by Catholic school students in the Fort Wayne and South Bend area.

The Fort Wayne books contain coupons for free items from Burger King and Chili's restaurants, ticket offers for the Fort Wayne Mad Ants and Komets and free skate admission and rental at the Lutheran Health SportsCenter. Each book contains 18 coupons valued at \$95.

The South Bend area coupon books contain coupons for free items from Burger King, Chili's and Papa Vino's Italian Kitchen, as well as a ticket offer from the South Bend SilverHawks. Each coupon book contains 16 coupons valued at \$75.

To help promote the campaign, several area Catholic elementary school students participated in a radio recording now playing over local radio stations.

Quality Dining's You Can Lend A Hand program has raised over \$8.6 million since its launch in 1982. The past fundraising profits have been used to improve the educational environment of the participating schools.

St. Joseph, Decatur, alum awarded Distinguished Graduate honor

DECATUR — St. Joseph School has announced this year's Distinguished Graduate — John Schultz, who graduated from St. Joseph grade school in 1963 and Decatur Catholic High School in 1967, the last year for DCHS.

Following graduation, John received a degree in accounting, and served two years in the U.S. Army. He worked beside his seven brothers and one sister in the family construction business for many years and served 16 years on City Council. Schultz is currently mayor of Decatur.

Schultz has many fond memories of DCHS and the close relationships with others there. He believes that his Catholic faith has given him the values to lead an honest life, with strength to address various issues on a daily basis. Upon receiving the award Schultz said he was humbled, surprised and honored.

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL CELEBRATES VISIT FROM BISHOP



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates Mass Feb. 2 at St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend.

St. Joseph Grade School
216 N. Hill St., South Bend, IN 46617

Telephone: (574) 234-0451
Pastor: Holy Cross Father John M. DeRiso
Principal: Suzanne Wiwi
Teachers and support staff: 42
Students (kindergarten-8): 443
Web site: www.stjosephgradeschool.com
Mascot: Eagles
School colors: Blue and Gold



St. Joseph Principal Suzanne Wiwi provides a tour of St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend.



Bishop Kevin Rhoades checks out three-dimensional artwork as Holy Cross Father John DeRiso, pastor, looks on.



More photos are available at www.diocesefwsb.org



PHOTOS BY KEVIN HAGGENJOS

St. Joseph Grade School students pose for a photo on the parking lot.

BISHOP RHOADES

ST. JOSEPH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

make Christ's light shine in the world."

One of the three children choirs and members of the school's string orchestra, student lectors and servers participated in the Mass. Others present for the Mass and tour were Suzanne Wiwi, principal; Holy Cross Father John M. DeRiso, pastor; and Holy Cross Father John P. Riley, parochial vicar; Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick; and Dr. Mark Myers, superintendent of Catholic Schools.

During the tour of the school, Bishop Rhoades visited each classroom, meeting and talking with students and staff personally. The young children in kindergarten especially touched him.

Looking at the hand-written assignments posted on the walls Bishop Rhoades was impressed by how much they learned in reading and writing at such a young age. He took a few moments not only to talk to those present, but to a specific child, Tatum Gumpf who was present in class through Skype.

Second graders impressed the bishop with their memory of the Act of Contrition prayer, which the bishop recited along with them. In another classroom, children said the Hail Mary in Spanish.

In the music classroom, Bishop Rhoades listened to the teacher, Heather Hill, explain the type of teaching method she uses — called ORFF methodology. She explained that the children use movement and that the teaching follows the child's natural voices and follows the progression of their throats, working only in the range for their throats.

"I believe anyone can sing," said the teacher.

While in the cafeteria during one of the lunch periods, Principal Wiwi shared with the bishop that the school worked hard to make sure that the children packed healthy lunches, discouraging the use of pre-packaged lunches purchased that include only crackers and cheese.

When asked what she was most proud of, Wiwi could not find one particular thing.

"We're proud of everything," Wiwi said. "We're proud we are one of 11 Catholic schools that got four-star rated. ... We're really excited that our curriculum flows from the bottom up. This is a community of teachers and kids that really work well together. It is an ongoing adventure. We're always looking for ways to improve our curriculum and what our children are learning. It's very exciting to be here everyday."

"I think it is to ultimately cre-

ate an atmosphere that children live the faith and are learning at the same time," said Wiwi. "As long as we see that happening with our children and our staff it is exciting."

"When children are happy and teachers are happy, there always is going to be a lot of progress," she added.

Wiwi pointed out that the school has "a lot of resource help for children who are struggling if they need it, the innovative ORFF music singing program, not only one but three choirs as well as strings and band."

The success of the school she thinks comes from having "a strong faith-based curriculum and a strong academic curriculum," and from everyone who is a part of it feeling a sense of belonging.

"They feel welcome here. It is like a family," said Wiwi.

St. Joseph Grade School places emphasis on community and the call to live stewardship as a way of life. Each grade level has partnered with a service agency or a program in the South Bend community.

Younger students are partnered with Holy Cross Village, while older students are serving at St. Margaret's House, the Sisters of Holy Cross, Hope Ministries, The Veterans Center for the Homeless, LaCasa and Christ Child.

Father DeRiso noted that there is a framed quotation displayed prominently at the entryway to the school: "Be it known to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school. He is the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes, He is the model of its faculty, and the inspiration of its students. May that always be said of this school, named in honor of God's servant, Joseph."

The school honors its patron, St. Joseph, and is blessed by its strong ties with the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Catholic Schools Superintendent Dr. Mark Myers commented on the Blue Ribbon School honor and the four-star designations during the tour.

"This is a very special school with a very special faith. It (the four-star award) affirms the hard work. It affirms that what we are doing is the work of Christ," Dr. Myers said, especially noting the dedication of staff.

"You have people here that have a common goal to do the work of Christ and that affirms this work is important. And it goes on. It has been going on for 166 years and that is very gratifying to just be a small part of that," he said smiling.

St. Joseph School plans to continue celebrating the Blue Ribbon achievement throughout the year with students, faculty and parents. For more information, visit www.stjoeparish.com and follow the "school" tab.

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SAINT JOSEPH
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Plymouth
South Bend
sjmed.com

Catholic educators honored with Light of Learning awards

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE, SOUTH BEND

— "I wish to begin by thanking all of you for your strong support of our Catholic schools. I wish to thank Quality Dining for sponsoring this annual luncheon in celebration of excellence in Catholic education. And I wish to congratulate and thank our teachers and educators who are recipients this year of the Light of Learning award in recognition of their positive impact on Catholic education," said Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

His remarks were made Jan. 30 in the Marriott Hotel Marquis Ballroom during the annual Luncheon in Celebration of Excellence in Catholic Education.

Held in conjunction with National Catholic Schools Week

(Jan. 29 – Feb. 5), the event was attended by approximately 300 people including pastors, school administrators and community leaders. It was hosted by Deacon James Fitzpatrick, senior vice president and chief development officer of Quality Dining

and who also serves as a deacon at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.

A luncheon recognizing Light of Learning award educators in the South Bend area of the diocese was held Feb. 1 in the Gillespie Conference Center at the Hilton Garden Inn in South Bend.

The luncheons centered on the theme, "Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service." Bishop Rhoades was the keynote speaker at both events.

Carolyn Kirkendall, principal

of St. Joseph School, Monroeville, was this year's Light of Learning administrative recipient in the Fort Wayne area.

At the South Bend luncheon, Janet Wroblewski from St. John the Baptist, South Bend, was this year's Light of Learning administrative recipient.

In Fort Wayne, Jerry and Becky Henry received the Msgr. J. William Lester Award, which honors the late Msgr. Lester's spirit and legacy to Catholic parishes and schools in the diocese for 60 years.

At the South Bend luncheon, recipients of the Msgr. J. William Lester Award were Al and Mary Harding, Kevin and Marijo Kelly, Marty and Jane Murphy and Patric and Susan Richter.

Dr. Mark Myers, superintendent of Catholic schools, Marsha Jordan, associate superintendent, and Bishop Rhoades presented 18 educators from the Fort Wayne area and 18 educators from the South Bend area with the Light of Learning award in recognition of their positive impact on Catholic education.

From the Fort Wayne area, they included

the following: Theresa Ammer, St. John the Baptist, New Haven; Angela Benner, St. Bernard, Wabash; Jana Bloom, St. Joseph, Decatur; Daniel DeLaGrange, Huntington Catholic, Huntington; Abby Dykhuizen, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne; Christina Fulk, Sacred Heart, Warsaw; Meg Hanlon, Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne; Brenda Kline, St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla; Pamela Lepley, St. Therese, Fort Wayne; Karen Lohmuller, Most

Precious Blood, Fort Wayne; Virginia Robison, St. Aloysius, Yoder; Roberta Tierney, St. Jude, Fort Wayne; Anthony Turner, St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne; Gina Tyner, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne; Mary Ann Waikel, Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne; Marcy Watts, St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne; and Lori Williams, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne.

From the South Bend area, they included the following: Marilyn Ahearn, Corpus Christi, South Bend; Donna Bella, Holy Family, South Bend; Douglas Clark, St. Adalbert, South Bend; Gina Hite, Queen of Peace, Mishawaka; Marie Hoeffler, St. Michael, Plymouth; Stephan Johnson, St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart; Matthew Kirsch, Christ the King, South Bend; Allison Krisch, St. Pius X, Granger; Melissa Manier, Holy Cross, South Bend; Michael McCarthy, Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend; Mishawaka Catholic School Community; Stephanie Ritchie, St. John the Evangelist, Goshen; Terese Sinka, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend; Heather Snavely, Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend; Tara Ton, Marian High School, Mishawaka; Jennifer Treber, St. John the Baptist, South Bend; Alexis Turnock, St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend; and Kathleen Wolfram, St. Jude, South Bend.

"One of my favorite activities as bishop is visiting our Catholic schools: celebrating holy Mass at the various schools and visiting the classrooms to experience firsthand the marvelous education our students are receiving," Bishop Rhoades said. "Our Catholic schools strive for excellence in every area of education: in spiritual and intellectual formation as well as physical education. We are committed to the education of the whole child."

"We can never rest on our laurels as we seek to become always better," Bishop Rhoades added. "As you probably know, Catholic schools are one of my top priorities as bishop because I believe they are of the greatest importance for the future of the Church."

"We need well-educated, committed Catholic young people who will graduate with a strong commitment to the Church and its mis-



PHOTOS BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

The Light of Learning Award recipients from Fort Wayne gather with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Catholic Schools Office leaders at the recent luncheon at the Marriott Hotel Marquis Ballroom.



The Light of Learning Award recipients from South Bend gather with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Catholic Schools Office leaders at the recent luncheon at the Gillespie Conference Center at the Hilton Garden Inn.

sion," Bishop Rhoades emphasized.

Bishop Rhoades spoke of the upcoming Year of Faith beginning Oct. 11, announced some months ago by Pope Benedict XVI, as a springboard for helping "our children and young people to discover the journey of faith and to experience the joy of friendship with Christ."

To the recipients of this honorable award the bishop said, "Again, I thank all of you for your commitment to Catholic education. I am extremely happy that enrollment in our Catholic schools is increas-

ing. I give thanks to God for all of you, for our priests, our principals, our teachers, our Catholic school staff and our generous benefactors. Together, we share a holy mission, the mission of passing on the Catholic faith, the faith that we are called to share and also to defend, especially in today's climate that is increasingly hostile to the faith. But the faith we profess with our lips and seek to put into practice in our lives is the path to life, true life, eternal life."



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BIBLE BINGO

An Act of Charity
in Two Acts
by Vicki Quade

Saturday, February 18, 2012

7:30 p.m. - St. Pius X Parish

52553 Fir Road, Granger

Vicki Quade, creator of the hit comedy, *Late Nite Catechism*, brings to life a new comedy, *Bible Bingo - An Act of Charity...in Two Acts*. The new show is about the Catholic culture of fundraising and Bingo.

In this interactive comedy, the parish needs money and the Archdiocese has a new Bingo Department. Bring the two together and you have a night of bible trivia, audience interaction, improvised moments, and the funniest quiz about the Holy Family you've ever seen.

Tickets are \$25 each, \$23 for seniors (65 & older).

A Ticket Request Form can be found at www.stpius.net/biblebingo.

For more information, please contact Tom Doyle at 674-5582 or Kristie Sandor at 272-8462, ext. 144.

Creating cardinals: Ceremony features something old, new, borrowed, red

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Something old, something new, something borrowed and something red will be part of the mix Feb. 18 when Pope Benedict XVI creates 22 new cardinals.

The general format of the consistory has been maintained, but the ceremony has been modified and will include the use of prayers borrowed from ancient Roman liturgies. And, of course, red will be the color of the day as the new cardinals are reminded that they are called to give their lives to God and the Church, even to the point of shedding their blood.

Tradition and innovation, solemnity and festivity, high honor and a call to sacrifice are key parts of the creation of new cardinals.

The hushed moment when a churchman kneels before the pope and receives his red hat as

a cardinal contrasts sharply with the mood in the Apostolic Palace that same evening when the public — literally anyone who wants to come — is invited in to congratulate the new cardinals.

Pope Benedict will create the new cardinals in the morning during an “ordinary public consistory” in St. Peter’s Basilica. That same evening, the Bronze Doors will open and the public will be allowed to swarm up the Scala Regia — the royal stairway — and into the Apostolic Palace to meet and greet the new cardinals.

A “consistory” is a gathering of cardinals with the pope. According to canon law, an ordinary consistory is called for consultation or for the celebration “of especially solemn acts,” such as the creation of new cardinals or a vote approving the canonization of candidates for

THE VATICAN LETTER

CINDY WOODEN

sainthood.

And, in fact, the consistory Feb. 18 will include both. Immediately after the new cardinals are created, all the “princes of the Church” are scheduled to vote on several new saints, including Blessed Marianne Cope of Molokai and Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, Msgr. Guido Marini, master of papal liturgical ceremonies, told Catholic News Service Feb. 1.

LETTER, PAGE 12

Jesus alone is source of life and peace



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 1:40-45

The first reading for this weekend comes from the Book of Leviticus. In sequence, Leviticus is the fourth book in modern translations of the Bible. As such, it is part of the Pentateuch. The Pentateuch includes the five books of the Bible attributed to Moses.

These five books are the Torah. The Pentateuch forms the fundamental law, and philosophy, of Judaism, both in current understandings and in ancient practices as well.

In this reading, God speaks to Moses and to Aaron, the brother of Moses. The topic is leprosy. Today it is not known whether these references to leprosy in the Scriptures referred to Hansen’s disease, or to some other illness. However, regardless of the exact scientific nature of what the ancients called leprosy, the problem was chronic and severe.

An entire social system developed around the disease. Victims were outcasts. They suffered being shunned, but they also most often virtually had to forage for food and search for any shelter they could find.

Ancient Jews would never blame God for the fact of such a serious malady. God was regarded

as good, loving and merciful. The ancient Hebrews saw human sin as ultimately the cause of all earthly misery.

St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Corinthians, this weekend’s second reading, includes the great Apostle’s counsel that Christians should do everything with the intention of glorifying God.

He admonished the Christians of Corinth never to offend either Jew or Gentile. Paul urges that the Christians follow his example, because Paul says that he imitates Christ.

The reading therefore sets Christ as the example and insists that believers must follow the example of the Lord in their lives.

For its last reading, the Church gives us a passage from the Gospel of Mark. In this reading, a leper approaches Jesus, pleading for a cure. Jesus cured the man, the Lord being “moved with pity,” according to Mark.

This cure came when Jesus touched the man. (As an aside, but nevertheless instructive, symbolic touching is very important in the liturgy. Touch creates contact and enables transference. In Ordinations, the ordaining bishop lays his hands upon the candidates to be ordained bishop, priest or deacon. At weddings, the bride and bridegroom hold each other’s hands.)

Jesus transmitted the healing power of God to the man through this touch. Then, Jesus spoke the miraculous words of healing.

The Lord ordered the man to go to the priests. The man had been exiled from the community because of his illness. If the priests saw that he was free of disease, they would re-admit him to society.

The reading closes by noting that great crowds pursued Jesus.

Reflection

Strong in the reading from Mark is the image of desperation on the part of the leper. It is no wonder. While modern scientist debate exactly what the Bible means by “leprosy,” this is clear. It was an awful disease, and people shunned to the extreme anyone suffering from this disease. It brought utter isolation and want.

In the minds of the ancient Hebrew people, it somehow resulted from sin.

Mark recalls that Jesus, moved by pity, cured the man. He accepted the man, so banished from society.

An interesting sidebar in these Miracle Narratives from Mark’s Gospel is that people so yearn for Jesus. Several weeks ago, a paralytic so wanted to find Jesus that others let him through the very roof of the house where Jesus was. When Jesus withdrew into the desert to pray, the Apostles spontaneously followed, unwilling to be without the Lord. This reading says people came to Jesus from everywhere.

These reports all reveal something very basic and true. Jesus alone is the source of life and peace, and, blessedly, Jesus lovingly imparts life and peace.

READINGS

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 1 Cor 10:31-11:1 Mk 1:40-45

Monday: Jas 1:1-11 Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76 Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18 Ps 94:12-15, 18-19 Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27 Ps 152:5 Mk 8:22-26

Thursday: Jas 2:1-9 Ps 34:2-7 Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26 Ps 112:1-6 Mk 8:34-9:1

Saturday: Jas 3:1-10 Ps 12:2-5, 7-8 Mk 9:2-13

Tim Tebow: MVP

So, the Denver Bronco’s didn’t get to play in the Super Bowl. Tebow, no doubt, was praying they would. Though I know of a priest in Boston who was praying for the New England Patriots during their victory on Jan. 14. I guess that’s proof, once and for all, that Jesus is Catholic. (Yes. I’m kidding.)

According to one poll, 43 percent of football fans said that divine intervention played a role in Tebow’s victories. While I’m not sure if God makes a habit out of intervening in how straight and far a ball flies when it’s shot from a quarterback’s arm, I have no doubt that He intervenes when it comes to people performing the best they can, especially with regard to their character, and Tebow took MVP in that category this season.

Tebow has been labeled a religious fanatic for daring to publicly display his faith. His devotion has even gotten him labeled among the most controversial figures in the NFL. What sad commentary on our culture that someone who is openly devout is considered more controversial than the players who are sleeping with groupies, cheating on their wives, using steroids, or who spent time in jail for dog fighting.

The “controversial” nature his faith would have as a pro was made clear to him in the Scouting Combine (NFL tryouts). When he suggested saying a prayer before one exam another player shouted, “Shut the ___ up,” prompting open laughter from the other athletes.

But for all the mockery he’s endured, I’d propose that if you’re not a “Jesus freak,” you’re going to be somebody’s freak. When people don’t have a higher reality (aka, God) to live for, they tend to live for the wrong things, or, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church puts it, when we fail to worship God, we experience the “endless disintegration” that comes from chasing one false god after another. No. 2114

Here in Bronco country I saw a bumper sticker that said, “I bleed orange and blue.” I was going to suggest that the driver get that checked by his doc. Contrast this with Tebow, whose foundation’s executive director, Erik Dellenback, sums up his attitude with, “Tim believes there is more to life than football.”

Tebow has a charity whereby he invites a kid dealing with a serious medical problem to be his guest at every game. Spending time with that person seems to be as high a priority for Tebow as playing well, if not higher.

Why does he do it? “Before all this hoopla and this pressure of playing this game” Tebow has said, “I get to go over and invest in someone else’s life and in turn it’ll put things in perspective for me.”

At one post-game press conference after a Bronco’s victory, referring to his special guest, Tebow’s first comment was, “I was very excited to have Bailey here at this game, and get a chance to hang out



THE GOOD NEWS ON YOUTH

CHRISTOPHER STEFANICK

with her ... and that’s the biggest win of the day.”

And after being pummeled by the Patriots, he told reporters, “It still was a good day because before the game I got to spend time with Zach McCloud and make him smile. Overall when you get to do that it’s still ... a good day. Sometimes it’s just hard to see but it depends what lens you’re looking through. I choose to look through those lenses and I got to make a kid’s day and anytime you do that it’s more important than winning a game, so I’m proud of that.”

When someone puts God before all else, all else tends to stay in its proper place. In a letter to a friend, C.S. Lewis wrote, “Put first things first and we get second things thrown in: put second things first and we lose *both* first and second things.” Tebow has kept first things first, and that, far more than prefacing every post game interview with, “I want to thank my Lord and savior Jesus Christ,” is what’s made him such a witness. And it’s a witness that’s hard to miss.

In an interview with *USA Today*, John Elway reflected, “(Tim’s) maturity level with dealing with the pressures of what comes with playing the position (is enviable). ... If you watch how he handles each press conference, that is truly who he is. It is not an act. It is a credit to his background and his parents. There is no question that, from where I sit, his priorities are different than those of most 24-year-olds.”

If something other than God sits on the throne of our hearts, life is a roller coaster with ups and downs, losses and wins.

“I don’t have to live the roller coaster other people live with my life,” Tebow said.

While I’m not canonizing Tebow, I think we can all take lessons from the way he keeps first things first, the way he expresses his faith in charity, and his willingness to ignore all criticism and be true to who he is by wearing his love for Jesus on his shirt sleeve.

God bless the Giants/Patriots, but the biggest win of the season is the witness of a young NFL quarterback who showed the world that there’s more to life than football.

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

Is anybody out there?

In November 2009, the Catholic Church made headlines by putting on a conference of astronomers and theologians to discuss the possibility of alien life. Nearly a year later, the pope's top astronomer raised the subject again with the London Telegraph.

He said that the Church would welcome and even baptize intelligent extraterrestrials — “no matter how many tentacles.”

I remember reading this and worrying that people might think the Church was falling prey to the same alien-mania that has recently gripped Hollywood. No credible observation of intelligent (or even unintelligent) alien life has ever been made. We have not even found another planet, besides our own, that could conceivably host it.

But we might be close. Columnist Charles Krauthammer noted recently in the *Washington Post*, “It's only a matter of time — perhaps a year or two, estimates one astronomer — before we find the right (planet) of the right size in the right place” within its solar system.

If he's right, then the Church is ahead of its time in worrying about other worlds. Way ahead actually. In 1277, the bishop of Paris, Etienne Tempier, condemned some ideas in the philosophical work that the recently deceased St. Thomas Aquinas and others at the University of Paris had produced.

One proscribed idea was the

Aristotelian notion that there could not be many worlds because, as St. Thomas had argued, this would be less perfect than a single, unitary universe produced by and ordered to God — the unique First Cause of everything else.

Strictly speaking, Aquinas was referring to what we would today call multiple universes. But Tempier's objection — that Aquinas' way of thinking puts God in a box, limiting His power in ways that revealed truth does not justify — applies to the discussion of alien life as well.

Yet the possibility of alien life poses further questions about our beliefs as Catholics. Where would other intelligent life fit into the economy of salvation? The question is valuable at least as a mental exercise — an opportunity to consider our own story of sin and redemption.

If God made intelligent alien races, did He involve Himself in their story, too? Did some or all of them reject God originally, as we did? Or did some, at their inception, resist temptation and choose more wisely than Adam and Eve? Do some even now remain in perfect harmony with nature and nature's God?

If sin is not an inborn error or weakness but a choice that we made, is it not possible that others have chosen better? Imagine the story of Genesis coming out differently in a different world, as C.S. Lewis did in his *Space Trilogy*.

If alien races followed our own



JOHN GARVEY

INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

course in rejecting God, did they receive the same divine assistance afterward? Would Jesus have come to save them, too? And if they obeyed God instead, would God the Son have made Himself known to them in the same way?

As Catholics, we believe that God created the whole universe, visible and invisible. It is a realm so full of stars and planets, yet so empty as to contain distances we will likely never travel and can only measure in light-years.

Perhaps the great mountain before us, of which we compose a mere grain of dust, serves only our edification, as a monument — to God's greatness, to our own insignificance and to his love for us despite our insignificance.

Maybe it actually makes more sense if there is other life around to share God's marvels — a further sign of our own insignificance in his greater scheme.

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

LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Normally, the public consistory for new saints is attended by cardinals living in Rome, but the creation of new cardinals is an opportunity for all of them to exercise their role as advisers to the pope.

This will be the fourth time Pope Benedict has created new cardinals and will bring his total to 84 cardinals, of whom 79 are still alive; 63 of his appointees in the College of Cardinals will be under the age of 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope.

Unlike the consistories he held in 2007 and in 2010, the February ceremony will not be preceded by a daylong meeting of the pope with the College of Cardinals and the cardinals-designate. The Vatican did not offer an explanation, but it coincides with a variety of efforts to lighten the pope's schedule, especially before two days of public ceremonies.

The three-cornered, red beretta the pope will place on the new cardinals' heads is traditional, but the ceremony for the 2012 consistory has been changed.

In early January, the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, reported, “The rite used up to now has been revised and simplified with the approval of the Holy Father,” in part to avoid any impression that becoming a cardinal is a sacrament like ordination.

But two ordinations will precede the consistory. Three of the new cardinals named by Pope Benedict are priests, not bishops.

Church law says new cardinals must have been ordained at least to the priesthood and should be ordained bishops before entering the College of Cardinals. However, in recent decades, many of the elderly priests named to the college as a sign of esteem and gratitude for their service to the Church have requested, and received, an exemption from episcopal ordination.

Maltese Augustinian Father Prosper Grech, an 86-year-old biblical theologian and one of the co-founders of Rome's Augustinian Patristical Institute, was scheduled to be ordained a bishop Feb. 8 in Malta. Belgian Father Julien Ries, 91, an expert on the history of religions, told CNS he would be ordained a bishop Feb. 11 in Belgium.

On the other hand, in keeping with the Jesuit promise not to strive for any dignity in the

Church, German Jesuit Father Karl Josef Becker, 83, a retired professor at Rome's Pontifical Gregorian University, said he would become a cardinal without becoming a bishop.

Another small change made to the consistory this year involves timing. The 22 prelates will receive their cardinals' rings from Pope Benedict during the consistory, rather than at the Mass they will concelebrate with the pope Feb. 19. And, as customary, during the consistory they also will receive their assignments of a “titular church” in Rome, making them formally members of the Rome diocesan clergy, which is what the Church's first cardinals were.

Once the new cardinals are created, the College of Cardinals will have a record-high number of members. The total number of princes of the Church will reach 213, surpassing the total of 203 reached with the consistory in 2010. As recently as 2001, the total number of cardinals dipped to 139 just before Pope John Paul II named a record 44 cardinals at once.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for February 12, 2012

Mark 1:40-45

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: consequences of the leper's cure. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

MAKE ME LEPROSY TELL YOURSELF MOSES ENTER OUTSIDE	CLEAN WARNING BUT GO THE PRIEST SPREAD A TOWN PLACES	HIS HAND SEE THAT SHOW OFFER JESUS OPENLY PEOPLE
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OUT OF TOWN

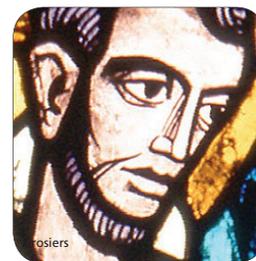
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O T H K P P O F E A L E
M A K E M E L A I N E E
D S H O W L N G F J A P
D T E S E C A L P H N X
G F L E S R U O Y Y U T

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SAINTS OF THE WEEK



Jerome Emiliani

c. 1481-1537
February 8

Jerome enlisted in the Venetian army in 1511. He was captured and chained in a dungeon, but promised himself to God if released. That he later was able to walk out of his prison was considered miraculous. He was ordained in 1518. When the plague struck, he cared for the sick and opened an orphanage. In 1532, he and two fellow priests formed the Clerks Regular Somaschi, now known as the Somascan Fathers. Jerome was declared the patron saint of orphaned and abandoned children in 1928.



Francis-Xavier Bianchi

1743-1815
January 31

Born in Sicily, he was educated at Naples and wanted to enter religious life, despite his father's opposition. But he persevered and entered the Congregation of Clerks Regular of St. Paul, or Barnabites, though the conflict prompted a long illness. He was ordained in 1797, serving as superior of two colleges for 15 years and in other posts. More and more he exercised his priesthood by hearing confessions, and his health was affected. He was seen as a living saint; one miracle attributed to him was stopping the flow of lava from an eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 1805.

Sports

SAINT JOSEPH'S HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES ACCELERATE IN SOCCER, ACADEMICS The Western Illinois University Leathernecks women's soccer team has placed 15 team members on the Summit League's Fall Academic All-League Distinguished Scholars list. The Western athletes who earned spots on the Summit League's Fall Academic All-League Distinguished Scholars list include: Sarah Hall, freshman, biological sciences major, from Granger; and Kristin Kuhar, junior, athletic training major, from South Bend. Both attended Saint Joseph's High School in South Bend where they excelled in soccer.

ICCL teams play for division crowns, look to playoffs

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — Chip dip, wing dings and football were on most minds on Super Bowl Sunday, except for those playing for a title of their own — the Inter-City Catholic League crown. Several teams played in their final week vying for the coveted moniker Division Champion.

The Saints of Mishawaka Catholic were perched high in the St. Martin DePorres Division hoping a perfect record would be theirs with only one hurdle remaining, the Pumas from Queen of Peace.

The powerful Saints took care of business and dispatched the Pumas, 48-14, behind double-digit performances by both Jacob Whitfield and Nate Thomas completing the St. Martin DePorres sweep and ending, 9-1 overall.

The championship in the St. John Bosco Division was a bit more complicated. St. Joseph had one loss and was playing a tough St. Pius X squad and unbeaten in the division. Christ the King would face last season's champion and owner of just one loss, Holy Cross.

The Eagles of St. Joseph took care of their end of the ledger by knocking off the Lions, 31-24, despite Patrick Sandor's 12 and

fueled by 10 points from John Byzewski, leaving them, 9-1, with the one loss coming at the hands of Christ the King.

The Crusaders of Holy Cross had their backs against the wall. If they could upset the Kings it would be a three-way log jam atop the St. John Bosco heap. A loss would mean that the Christ the King posse would lay claim to the title alone.

The double team of Crusaders, Conner Gentry and Mark Madden, would prove too much for the Kings as they succumbed, 30-20, making the division a triple team split of the crown.

In other league action, the Panthers of St. Anthony finished one spot behind the Saints as they defeated Our Lady of Hungary, 57-19, as Charlie Williams hit for 15.

In the closest game of the afternoon, St. Matthew snuck by the Spartans of St. Thomas, 29-27.

Corpus Christi's Dominick Ferro had another big performance as his 21 points helped repel Holy Family, and Isaiah Henry's 13, by a score of 42-32.

The playoffs begin this weekend as all the schools square off at Marian and Saint Joseph's high schools. A complete schedule of games can be found at www.icclsports.org

CYO Crusaders boast hardworking team

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Mike Palmer has been coaching Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) basketball for a good many years — 36 to be exact.

"We are having a wonderful season," Palmer declares.

And Palmer has coached a lot of seasons and a lot of teams, but affirms, "I can truly say this group has to be my best overall. They may not be the most talented from a basketball standpoint, but they are a smart team, they are a patient team and they work extremely hard."

As they turned the calendar to February, the St. Therese Crusaders posted an impressive 14-3 record. They are 1-1 in league play with two more conference games left before the CYO tournament.

St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel beat the Crusaders, but got by a tough team from St. Rose-St. Louis.

The Crusaders have picked up extra games this season in addition to their league schedule and also placed third in the pre-season Thanksgiving

tournament, losing to St. Jude and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel.

The St. Therese roster lists 10 boys, which includes five eighth graders, three seventh graders, a sixth grader and a fifth grader.

Palmer brought up the younger two to round out his number to 10 and claims both Evan Creager and Michael Murphy can "hold their own" and are "very capable" of playing at this level.

In addition to their phenomenal cohesiveness on the court, Palmer is equally impressed with his team's performance in the classroom. He boasts his highest percentage ever making honor roll or high honors.

"With practice four nights a week and 20-plus games this season, the boys have to work extremely hard to maintain their grades," a proud Palmer says.

He adds, "So many people have commented how well these boys



MIKE PALMER

work together and how fun they are to watch. It doesn't matter who scores the points, they just play well together week after week."

The Crusaders are not very tall this season. In fact, Palmer describes his team as "a bunch of linemen."

The eighth graders include: Brandon Diss, Joe Davis, Korrie Briggs, Patrick Mattingly and Mick Palmer, while Michael Colvin, Lucas Garcia and Dylan Hutson are the seventh graders.

Assisting Palmer this year are Chad Creager, Kyle Keukenke and John Colvin, with Johnny Murphy providing much help also.

As always, the Crusaders have a goal to win the CYO tourney.

However, as the end of this season draws near, Palmer has a big decision to make. With his youngest son moving on to high school next year, the coach has considered making this season his last.

"I have not decided what I will do. But if this would be my last year, I couldn't end it any better than with this group, win or lose," Palmer concludes.



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Bob Baloun and his wife Norine have been married for 40 years and have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. They belong to St Pius X Catholic Church in Granger, Indiana where they are active members. Bob has been a member of the Father Baden council in Granger since 1992. Bob is currently the council's membership chairman as well as chairing many other committees for his council. Bob not only is the servicing agent for the Granger council but also for Ave Maria council in South Bend and Saint Dominic council in Bremen. Bob is dedicated to providing the highest level of service to his council and parish members. Bob specializes in Estate and Business planning as well as Long Term Care Insurance, but still loves the practice of serving family needs. Contact Bob today at 574-339-6457.

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(Lenten prayer service with ashes at 11:00 a.m.)



Diocesan swim teams post strong season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

The four diocesan high schools are deep into another swim season with the girls just starting their post season and the boys coming up around the corner.

At Bishop Dwenger, Coach

Kathi Cubellis boasts large numbers on her roster.

"We have one of the biggest teams Dwenger has ever had," she explained.

The girls lost just one meet to Fort Wayne Snider this season and had a strong second place conference finish (9-1), while the boys

finished third in the Summit Athletic league and have a 9-2 record so far.

Cubellis, in her first season, is pleased to be enjoying a winning record and claimed, "I have never coached a more cohesive team. We are very well balanced and like a family. I became a mother to 40 instantly."

The boys' squad list five seniors and include two sets of cousins. Ethan Welch, Andrew Ekrich and Justin Thelen lead the seniors as captains and are the high point scorers. "They are awesome swimmers as well as incredible leaders," Cubellis boasted.

For the girls, Marissa McDonald, Sarah Clark and Sarah Coffee share captain duties and are equally talented. The group prays and cheers together before each meet and are overall, "well-bonded," according to Cubellis.

Skyler Wanberg took over the Knights' swim program at Marian High School in Mishawaka this season and declared it a "rebuilding year."

With just 18 on his roster, the team was very small in number and very young in experience. The team was made up of 12 for the boys' group and six girls.

With just one senior, Chris Schoen, Wanberg is looking toward a bright future, "We have lots of talent and will be very fast in the years to come."

His main goal for the program is to gain experience, build numbers and get more kids to participate.

Jeff Siples retired after a quarter of a century coaching swimming. So, Emily Evans took over the reigns at Bishop Luers. She has six seasons of coaching experience behind her and swam competitively

in Ohio where she grew up. The Knights have a total of 10 young ladies in the program — five of which were seniors: Maggie Miller, Rachel Myers, Erin Hipskind, Lauren Christie and Elle Veldman.

For the boys, there were just six on the roster with Alex Miller listed as the lone senior. Although short on wins, the team learned a lot. "It was a building season," explained Evans.

Tony Kowals was back at South Bend Saint Joseph's to coach 20 young men. Christian Harmon is the only senior on the roster. Kowals was pleased to win every dual meet this year except one against Penn.

His team won the South Bend city championship and the Wawasee tournament. Saint Joseph's is busy preparing for their post-season. Looking for a deep run, junior Trevor Carroll leads the way. Carroll has set new records in his choice race, the 200 meter freestyle. Coach Bonnie Schrems handles the girls' team at Saint Joseph's.

Schrems lists 21 swimmers on her roster and a lone diver, sophomore Samantha Reese. Reese was able to advance out of the sectional meet, qualifying her for regional competition. The team had a second place finish in their city league and have compiled an impressive 8-2 record so far this season.

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Jim Bushey

Saint Mary's College prays to end human trafficking

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — Three days before the Super Bowl, close to 50 students, faculty, staff and Sisters of the Holy Cross gathered in the Great Hall outside of Stapleton Lounge in Le Mans Hall on the campus of Saint Mary's College to pray in solidarity for the end to human trafficking.

Before the prayer service, sponsored by Saint Mary's Campus Ministry, Sister Ann Oestreich, a Sister of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and congregation justice coordinator for the Sisters of the Holy Cross and co-chair of the Coalition for Corporate Responsibility for Indiana and Michigan (CCRIM) 2012 Super Bowl Anti-Trafficking Initiative gave those present some facts about the evils of human trafficking.

"You may have heard about the Super Bowl anti-trafficking initiative that's being sponsored by Catholic sisters in Indiana and Michigan, including the Sisters of the Holy Cross," said Sister Ann. "We have been in contact with 220 hotels in the Indianapolis area, urging them to train their employees to recognize the signs of human trafficking, and offering them resources to help their employees responsibly and safely

report any possible trafficking incidents. We are especially interested in protecting the victims of trafficking, and seeing that the perpetrators of this terrible crime are brought to justice."

She went on to say, "Engaging in the struggle to end human trafficking, or modern day slavery, is something that the Sisters of the Holy Cross are doing, not only here in the U.S., but in every country where the sisters live and minister throughout the world. This work is consistent with the Gospel call to 'bring glad tidings to those who are poor, to proclaim liberty to those held captive, recovery of sight to those who are blind, and release to those in prison.'"

Sister Ann pointed out that the Super Bowl was an opportunity to bring this problem to light here in Indiana, throughout the U.S. and beyond. Now that the Super Bowl is over, and the initiative is completed, the work to end trafficking must go on. Together the faithful must find ways to continue to work together to break the chains that hold millions of our sisters and brothers in slavery.

For more information about human trafficking visit www.cscsisters.org/justice/issues/human_trafficking/Pages/default.aspx.

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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers
 South Bend — Are you a home improvement person with no more projects at home? Habitat for Humanity of St. Joseph County needs help on the mid-week crew. A few hours during the week are needed for a great cause. Call the volunteer department at (574) 288-6967 or visit www.habitat-for-humanity.org.

Volunteer opportunity

Fort Wayne — Consumer Credit Counseling, 4105 W. Jefferson Blvd., is in need of a volunteer receptionist. Call (260) 432-8200 for information.

Christmas wreaths need removal

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Cemetery will be removing Christmas wreaths after Feb. 20. If you want to save your Christmas wreath but cannot remove it by that date call the cemetery office at (260) 426-2044, no later than Feb. 15, and it may be saved for 30 days only, after which it will be discarded.

FUNDRAISERS

Adult trivia night

South Bend — Holy Family School, 56407 Mayflower Rd. will have an adult trivia night on Friday, Feb. 24. Doors open at 6 p.m., trivia begins at 7 p.m. Cost is \$100 per table of 10. Mardi Gras theme, tailgate style and cash bar. Cash prize for top team. For information contact Tammy Dahms at (574) 246-9105.

Hungarian goulash and langalo dinner

South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary School, 735 W. Calvert, will have a dinner Saturday, Feb. 18, from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 per dinner, children 6-12 \$4.50 and children under 6 free. Carry out available. Tickets available at Our Lady of Hungary rectory (574) 287-1700.

Fish fry planned

South Bend — St. John the Baptist will hold an AYCE Tyner IOOF fish fry on Wednesday, Feb. 29, at Holy Family Parish Center from 4-7 p.m. Adult tickets are \$8 and children tickets are \$5 and available at the door.

Monte Carlo fundraiser planned

South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua School will have a Monte Carlo fundraiser Saturday, Feb. 18, from 5:30 to midnight in the school's gymnasium. A Polish dinner, gaming, tips, silent auction and the chance to win a \$1,000 cash prize will be offered. Tickets are \$25 each and may be purchased in the school or parish office by phoning (574) 233-7169 or at the door.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Knights host breakfast

Fort Wayne — Precious Blood Knights of Columbus Council 11043 will host a breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Most Precious Blood, 1515 Barthold St. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-12 or \$20 for families.

Theology on Tap

Fort Wayne — The Theology on Tap series for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single or married, will be held at Soups, Salad and Spirits, 1915 S. Calhoun St., Thursday, Feb. 16, from 7-9 p.m., on the topic "Dark Night of the Soul: Prayer, Meditation and Contemplation of St. John of the Cross." This event is hosted by the Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/TOT for information.

'Bible Bingo' performed

Granger — "Bible Bingo — An Act of Charity ... in Two Acts" will be performed Saturday, Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Pius X Parish, 52553 Fir Rd. Vicki Quade, creator of "Late Nite Catechism," brings a new show about the Catholic culture of fundraising and bingo. Tickets are \$25 each, \$23 for seniors (65 and older). A ticket request form can be found at www.stpius.net/bible-bingo. For information contact Tom Doyle at (574) 674-5582 or Kristie Sandor at (574) 272-8462, ext. 144.

St. Pius X senior group

Granger — St. Pius X has a senior group (55+) that meets the second Tuesday of the month at noon starting with Mass. On Feb. 14, a St. Valentine's Day celebration will welcome St. Pius X second-grade students as guests. Price is \$3. For information call (574) 272-0732.

REST IN PEACE

Bremen

Phyllis June Leman, 88, St. Dominic

Elkhart

A. Benny Wiercioch, 86, St. Vincent de Paul

Fort Wayne

Marjorie L. Foster, 87, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

John Thomas Goodwin, 87, St. Vincent de Paul

Elsie E. Alter, 91, St. Therese

Connie Colelli, 56, St. Joseph

Huntington

Juanita A. Weaver, 90, Ss. Peter and Paul

LaGrange

Phillip A. Bir, 79, St. Joseph

Mishawaka

Judy M. Daffron, 88, St. Joseph

Barbara Peli, 78, St. Monica

Notre Dame

Father Andrew M. Sebesta, CSC, 39, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Sister Patricia Jean Garver, CSC, 85, Our Lady of Loretto

Plymouth

Marion J. Grodowski, 91, St. Michael

South Bend

Dionizy Danny Grabowski, 90, Holy Family

Therese Ann Michalski, 45, St. Stanislaus

Evelyn T. Murphy, 97, St. John the Baptist

William A. Kopanski, 96, Holy Family

Lula L. Allsop, 93, Corpus Christi

Andrew J. Pecze, 75, Holy Cross

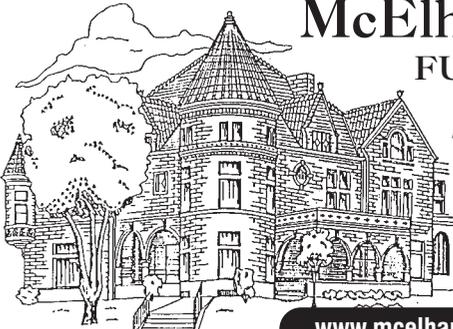
Bernice R. Ciesielski, 92, St. Jude

Josephine Zwickl, 90, Our Lady of Hungary

Holy Cross Father Sebesta dies

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross Father Andrew M. Sebesta died Jan. 30 after a seven-year battle with a brain tumor. Father Sebesta, a member of the Congregation of Holy Cross for almost 15 years, was 39 years old. Father Sebesta was ordained to the Order of the Deacon in 2003 and served as deacon at Christ the King Parish

in South Bend, from July 2003 to December of 2004. On April 2, 2005, Father Sebesta was ordained to the priesthood at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame and served as parochial vicar at Sacred Heart Parish in Notre Dame from 2006-2008. Funeral Mass was celebrated at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Feb. 4,



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TV MASS SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

2012	Feast Day	Fort Wayne 10:30 a.m. WFFT-TV, Ch. 55	South Bend 10:30 a.m. WNDU-TV, Ch. 16
February 5	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Msgr. Owen Campion Our Sunday Visitor Huntington	Father Glenn Kohrman St. Vincent dePaul Elkhart
February 12	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Father Anthony Steinacker St. Charles Borromeo Fort Wayne	Father Michael Matthews, CSC Holy Cross/St. Stanislaus South Bend
February 19	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	Father John Stecher University of St. Francis Fort Wayne	Father Pat Maloney, CSC Notre Dame
February 26	First Sunday of Lent	To Be Announced	Most Rev. John M. D'Arcy Bishop Emeritus

PRINCIPAL- SOUTH BEND, INDIANA Beginning July 1, 2012

St. Adalbert Catholic School is a mission-driven, growing, inner-city, Pre-K-8 school with an enrollment of 217, roughly 90% Latino, and a close association with the University of Notre Dame and its Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program.

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- has at least 5 years of experience in Catholic schools as either a teacher or administrator.
- is eligible for an Indiana Administrative License. Some Spanish fluency and computer literacy are strongly preferred.

For more information, contact Rhonda Scher at the Catholic Schools Office at 260-422-4611 x3335. Applications on the web at www.diocesefwsb.org/CSO Application review begins March 1.

Bishop Rhoades visits Bishop Dwenger High School

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — “It’s great to be back at Bishop Dwenger High School ... it’s perfect,” said Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades as he began Holy Mass during his recent visit during Catholic Schools Week.

The school gymnasium was filled nearly to capacity by staff, guests and the student body of more than 1,000 as the bishop entered and processed to the altar accompanied by school chaplains Father Tony Steinacker and Father Jason Freiburger and deacons, Jim Tighe and Jim Fitzpatrick.

Dwenger Principal Jason Schiffli acknowledged that the students feel a great sense of pride in their school when the bishop visits.

“They just come alive,” he said, when they have his undivided attention.

Indeed, they listened intently to the bishop’s homily during Mass, which was both a discussion of the Gospel reading and a tutorial on prayer.

Mark’s Gospel related the story of Jairus, a synagogue official whose daughter was dying, and the story of a woman afflicted with hemorrhages.

In both cases, Jesus performed miracles by restoring life to the child and good health to the woman. Those miracles were a foreshadowing of events to come and a symbol of Jesus’ death on the cross, which saved us from sin, he said.

The bishop explained to his listeners that he prepared his homily by slowly and prayerfully reading the Gospel, then thinking and meditating on its message. He learned to read Scripture deeply in college, he said, and often while reading would see a “message” from God.



PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE

Bishop Dwenger students and Campus Minister Barbara Ruden, right, give Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades a walking tour of the school, highlighted by visits to the band room, where diocesan Pueri Cantores singers were practicing; the new weight room, where the bishop tried the heavy ropes exercise; and the classroom of Spanish instructor Julio Garcia.

He recommended that students do the same as a form of prayer and to develop a special relationship with Jesus.

He believes that God moves hearts when they are open to His Word.

The Catholic faith is not just rules and regulations, not a philosophy or a discipline. “Our faith is about a person, Jesus Christ. ... Make your faith real in your life” by developing a friendship with Him, the bishop advised them.

Following Mass, Bishop Rhoades visited Kelly Fogarty’s junior morality class where students were studying natural law, and Joe Garcia’s Sacred Scripture class where seniors were

surveying the Bible.

Students in both classes were eager to get the bishop’s perspective on a recent mandate by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services requiring employers who offer health insurance to their employees to cover the cost of contraceptives, abortifacients and sterilization. Regrettably, the legislation does not exempt Catholic schools, hospitals or social services.

The Catholic Church will fight the mandate, the bishop assured them, both through the legislature and through the courts.

“We’re really in a battle ... but we can’t cooperate with evil,” Bishop

Rhoades said.

Civil law must conform to natural law or it is unjust. And this is a direct violation of the freedom of religion guaranteed in the Bill of Rights and reveals the pro-abortion, anti-Catholic sentiment of the U.S. government. “We have to fight this government intrusion,” he said.

More photos are available at www.diocesefwsb.org



It is no surprise that Bishop Dwenger students were keenly aware of the issue and wanted

updated information on the subject, since the school has built its foundation on four strong pillars: an academic life, a spiritual life, an active life and a life of service. This issue touches closely on all those areas.

Spiritually, students are required to take theology classes each semester. Classes begin with daily prayer. Mass and Reconciliation are offered weekly. Eucharistic Adoration is offered monthly. Students assist with Mass as lectors, sacristans, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist and servers, and also participate in other spiritual co-curricular activities.

Eighty percent of students are involved in extracurricular activities such as the 20 Indiana High School Athletic Association sanctioned sports and four club sports, as well as the Academic Super Bowl.

Community service hours are required for all students with a focus on the poor, the indigent and the

needy, with 50 sites available for service opportunities. Weekly prayer in front of the local abortion clinic is encouraged. There is an active Social Justice Club, Key Club and Saints for Life Club, with many participating in the local and national March for Life. Saints for Life draws many more volunteers to help with community projects.

Academically, Dwenger students may take basic honors courses, advanced placement (AP) and college/dual credit courses at the University of Saint Francis and Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne.

Recent statistics reveal that 96 percent of graduates are attending college or technical school, with the remaining 4 percent in vocational training, the military or the workforce.

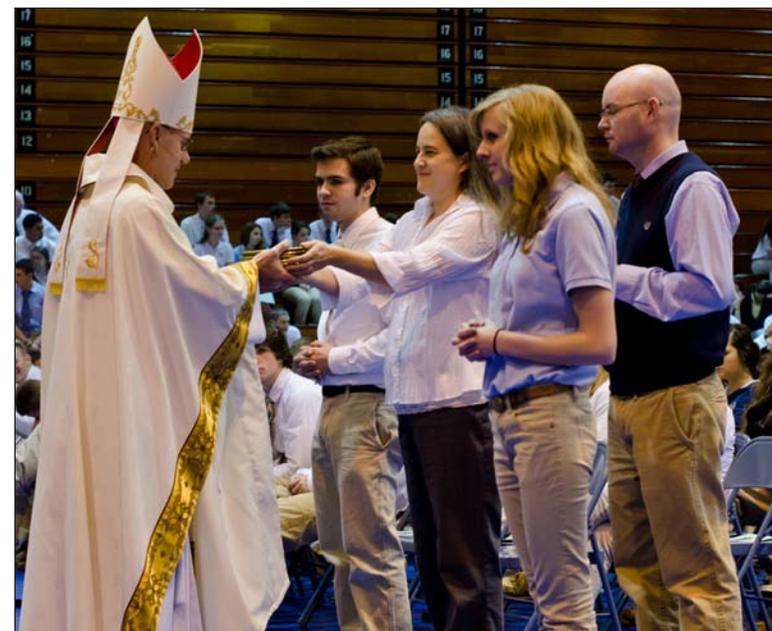
“In order for our students to be successful after high school, we must educate the whole person. ... We must provide opportunity for growth in all aspects of life,” states a student pamphlet.

The school’s mission statement reveals it to be founded in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ in order to provide a faith-filled community dedicated to academic excellence, growth in the spiritual life, a Christ-centered active life outside of class, and a Christian life of service to the community.

Bishop Rhoades no doubt felt that passion and dedication in the Dwenger student body and is surely pleased at the good work being done there and throughout the diocese. “I love all our high schools,” he declared.



A large stone just outside the main entrance of Bishop Dwenger High School echoes the school’s vision: students as “Citizens of Two Worlds.”



Bishop Rhoades receives the offertory gifts from students and faculty of Bishop Dwenger during the all-school Mass that kicked off his visit.



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