FORT WAYNE — “The Year of Faith is a great opportunity for all of us to grow in our relationship with God and to rediscover the truth, beauty and power of the Catholic Faith.” These words from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades sum up the much-anticipated time of spiritual renewal this year.

The Year of Faith begins on Thursday, Oct. 11, and ends on Nov. 24, 2013. The opening date coincides with the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, and the ending date celebrates the feast of Christ the King.

The Year of Faith is an initiative promulgated by Pope Benedict XVI, and observed by the faithful worldwide. In Pope Benedict XVI’s beautiful Apostolic letter “Porta Fidei” published in 2011, he states “The ‘door of faith’ is always open for us, ushering us into the life of communion with God and offering entry into His Church. It is possible to cross that threshold when the word of God is proclaimed and the heart allows itself to be shaped by transforming grace.”

Many faith-building observances and initiatives are planned throughout the year, not only on a worldwide scale, but also at the diocesan and parish level. A keen aspect of many initiatives include a heavy emphasis on the New Evangelization and using social media as a means of deepening and growing the faith of Catholics everywhere.

The Vatican has created a special website dedicated to following the pope throughout the Year of Faith, which also includes some key resource materials designed to increase knowledge of the faith. Visit www.amusfidei.va/content/novaevangelization/en.html.

Closer to home, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has fully embraced the initiatives set forth by the Holy Father, and Bishop Rhoades, including:

**OUR SUNDAY VISITOR**

**Year of Faith Mass**

**Mass for those with disabilities**

**October is Respect Life Month**

**Year of Faith Mass**

**Plenary indulgence information**

**Page 2**

**Dignity of every person**

**Mass for those with disabilities**

**Page 3**

**Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist**

**A welcome to Huntington**

**Page 5**

**Laity needed**

**Building an adoration chapel**

**Page 11**

**‘I believe’**

**Series begins on Apostles’ Creed**

**Page 19**

**Diocese prepares for Year of Faith**

**Year ushered in Oct. 11 with Mass at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception**

**BY SEAN MCBRIDE**

The Year of Faith is an initiative promulgated by Pope Benedict XVI, and observed by the faithful worldwide. In Pope Benedict XVI’s beautiful Apostolic letter “Porta Fidei” published in 2011, he states “The ‘door of faith’ is always open for us, ushering us into the life of communion with God and offering entry into His Church. It is possible to cross that threshold when the word of God is proclaimed and the heart allows itself to be shaped by transforming grace.”

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**Our Sunday Visitor marks centennial anniversary with Mass of thanksgiving and rededication**

**BY TIM JOHNSON**

Our Sunday Visitor marks centennial anniversary with Mass of thanksgiving and rededication.

**BY TIM JOHNSON**

FORT WAYNE — With a spirit of thanksgiving and rededication, the board of directors and staff of Our Sunday Visitor, located in Huntington, celebrated their centennial anniversary of Friday, Sept. 28, at the Grand Wayne Center and Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

The day included a symposium featuring Cardinal Francis George of Chicago and nationally acclaimed speakers and authors Helen Alvare and Scott Hahn. Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli, president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, was the featured speaker at a dinner that followed the Mass.

The celebration fell just prior to the opening of the Year of Faith, with its emphasis on the New Evangelization and begins Oct. 11.

“This anniversary is a way to give thanks from each of us as we are perceived as a company serving the Church for 100 years and to rededicate ourselves to the mission of the Church as articulated by Bishop (John F.) Noll — that is to help form Catholics in their faith, to inform them about the events in the world as seen through the eyes of the faith, and finally defend the Church when necessary,” Greg Erlandson, president of Our Sunday Visitor Publishing Division, told Today’s Catholic.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades speaks of Archbishop John F. Noll, founder of Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington, during his homily at the Mass of thanksgiving and rededication in celebration of Our Sunday Visitor’s centennial anniversary on Friday, Sept. 28, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. Eleven bishops and archbishops as well as priests from around the nation concelebrated the Mass.

Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago, also attended.

At the Mass for the Evangelization of Peoples at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne celebrating the centennial and rededication to its mission, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who also serves as the chairman of the board of directors of Our Sunday Visitor, said, “It is very appropriate that we celebrate the centennial Mass of Our Sunday Visitor here in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception where its venerable founder, John Francis Noll, was baptized and received his first Holy Communion and Confirmation. Here, too, Father Noll was ordained a priest and a bishop. He was the fifth bishop of Fort Wayne and shepherded the diocese for 31 years, from 1925 until his death in 1956.”

Attending the Mass was Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago. Several...
Plenary Indulgence to be offered at the Opening Mass for the Year of Faith

FORT WAYNE — A special papal blessing will be given by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Oct. 11 in Fort Wayne’s Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, at the conclusion of the Holy Mass to open the Year of Faith in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

This papal blessing, which a diocesan bishop is permitted to bestow in the name of the Holy Father on three solemn occasions each year, carries with it a plenary indulgence for all those who meet the usual conditions (listed below).

An indulgence is defined by the Catechism of the Catholic Church (No. 1471) as “a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions through the action of the Church, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints.” Through indulgences, the infinite merits of Christ, as well as the merits of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints, are applied to our purification in this life or in the life to come (an purgatory).

A plenary indulgence removes all of the temporal punishment due to sins, and may be applied to oneself or to the souls of the deceased.

The conditions for obtaining a plenary indulgence are:

1.) Being truly repentant and receiving sacramental absolution in the Sacrament of Penance.
2.) Reception of Holy Communion
3.) Praying for the Holy Father’s intentions.
4.) Total detachment from any inclination to sin, even venial sins.

The first three actions may be fulfilled within 20 days before or after the offering of the indulgence. However, it is most appropriate if they are all done on the same day the indulgence is offered.

Dear Friends in Christ,

On October 11th, the Catholic Church throughout the world will begin the observance of The Year of Faith. This special year is a blessed opportunity to profess, rediscover, and celebrate the truth, beauty, and power of our Catholic faith.

All are cordially invited to the Mass opening the Year of Faith in our diocese on October 11th at 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

We have printed and distributed to parishes throughout our diocese prayer cards containing the Apostles’ Creed on one side and the Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love on the other. I invite all the faithful of our diocese to pray the Apostles’ Creed daily during the Year of Faith, from October 11th, 2012, to November 24th, 2013. I invite families to recite this Creed together at mealtimes or another convenient time each day. I ask all Catholic school and religious education teachers to pray it with their classes. Let us profess our faith, the faith of the Apostles, with renewed fervor and with attention to the principal truths we embrace as Christians.

“To say the Creed with faith is to enter into communion with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and also with the whole Church which transmits the faith to us and in whose midst we believe” (ccc #197)

I entreat this time of grace in our diocese to our patroness, Mary Immaculate, our pillar of faith. She accompanies us on our pilgrimage of faith and keeps us strong and steadfast in our faith in her Divine Son. May the Blessed Virgin Mary intercede for us during this Year of Faith!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

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

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The Year of Faith
October 2012 – November 2013

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

The diocesan prayer cards for the Year of Faith feature a five-century-old tapestry entitled “The Miraculous Draught of Fishes.” It depicts the scene from Luke 5:1-11 — the calling of the Apostles Peter, James and John. Commissioned in 1516 by Pope Leo X as part of a series on the lives of Sts. Peter and Paul, this tapestry was designed by the great Renaissance master, Raphael. Made of wool, silk, gold and silver thread, it was woven in Belgium and delivered to Rome in 1519. On extraordinary occasions, it and three other surviving tapestries from the same set are still hung in the Sistine Chapel.

The App
One of the most exciting faith-building initiatives put forth by the diocese is an app, available for iPhone and Android mobile device users. This app, which goes live Oct. 11, is titled “My Year of Faith” and can be a daily resource for users, and is customizable for each individual. It includes many features that lead users to a deeper understanding of their faith, an increased prayer life, and reflections and thoughts from nationally known bloggers and writers — all with daily content updates. The list of contributors is a “who’s who in Catholic social media” including Lisa Hendey, Brandon Vogt, Father Leo Patalinghug, to name but a few, and other popular Catholic authors and speakers like Dr. Greg Popack, as well as local voices, like Bishop Rhoades. The diocese anticipates this locally-produced app to gain national favor and recognition. The app will be available at the iPhone App Store. Links to the app as well as the My Year of Faith website can be found at the diocesan website www.diocesefwsb.org or access the site directly at www.myyearoffaith.com. Those who do not have smartphones can follow the blog at www.myyearoffaith.com.

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The App
One of the most exciting faith-building initiatives put forth by
Special Mass speaks to value of people with disabilities

SOUTH BEND — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a Mass for those with disabilities, their families and caregivers on Sunday, Sept. 23, at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. The purpose of the Mass was to celebrate the lives and the gifts of people with disabilities, and was sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Office of Evangelization and Special Ministries. A reception followed the Mass.

Throughout the celebration, Bishop Rhoades spoke of the immense value that people with disabilities bring to their parishes and to the diocese. Assisting at the special Mass were altar servers, proclaimers of the word, gift bearers, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, choir members and a sign language interpreter — many of whom had visible disabilities.

“Many people with disabilities in attendance were even inspired by others with disabilities that made their debut in ministries during the Mass. For example, Tracy Rau from Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne proclaimed a reading she braille after making her way to the ambo with the aid of her husband’s arm and her dog, Porter. Her husband, Bill, has a hearing impairment.

Lauren Zmirsiki from St. Monica Parish in Mishawaka who attended the celebration with her mother, Vicki Zmirsiki, thought it was nice to celebrate living with disabilities with others because “sometimes in your parish, you are the only one that is disabled.” Vicki thought the Mass gave “value and meaning to people with disabilities.”

Carolyne Faulstich, a deaf/hard of hearing member of St. Michael Parish in South Bend, who is also an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, said about the Mass, “It was a beautiful celebration — a great example of how life is lived with disabilities.”

Carolyn Faulstich with daughter, Lauren Zmirsiki, from St. Michael Parish in South Bend, who is also an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, said about the Mass, “It was a beautiful celebration — a great example of how life is lived with disabilities.”

Bishop Rhoades said, “In our defense of life and rejection of the culture of death requires that we acknowledge the dignity and positive contributions of our brothers and sisters with disabilities. We unequivocally oppose negative attitudes toward disability which often lead to abortion, medical rationing and euthanasia.”

Bishop Rhoades said, “How sad and appalling it is when the presence of handicapped conditions is used as a rationale for abortion or for neglect after birth or for other offenses against the sacred gift of human life.” Bishop Rhoades added that he agrees wholeheartedly with his brother bishops when they say that people with disabilities “bring with them a special insight into the meaning of life; for they live, more than the rest of us, perhaps, in the shadow of the cross. And out of their experience they forge virtues like courage, patience, perseverance, compassion and sensitivity that should serve as an inspiration to all Christians.”

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Traci Rau, who has also survived three bouts of cancer, said, “We don’t have disabilities. We have different abilities. People with disabilities are put on this earth to teach perseverance to live according to the path God has already planned for us.”

SOUTH BEND — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades gathered with Mass servers after the Mass for those with disabilities on Sunday, Sept. 23, at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. The diocese provided bus transportation for those who wished to attend from the Fort Wayne area.

BY DEB WAGNER

US Jesuit, French philosopher win Ratzinger Prize

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Joseph Ratzinger-Benedict XVI Vatican Foundation, established to promote studies in theology and philosophy, will award one of its two major prizes this year to U.S. Jesuit Father Brian E. Daley, a patristics expert and professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame.

The other prize winner is Remi Brague, a French professor of the philosophy of European religions at Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich.

The two will receive their prize from Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican Oct. 20.

Announcing the recipients of the 50,000 euro (about $64,620) cash prize, retired Italian Cardinal Camillo Ruini said that “unfortunately,” Father Daley, 72, is not as well known in Italy as Brague is.

Calling Father Daley “a great historian of patristic theology,” Cardinal Ruini said he has published an important new book and has done “incredible work” in the field of patristics.

In addition to teaching and writing, Father Daley serves as the executive secretary of the Catholic-Orthodox Consultation for North America.

The Jesuit is the author of “The Hope of the Early Church,” “On The Dormition of Mary,” “Early Patristic Hesitas,” and “Gregory of Nazianzus,” a volume in the series “The Early Church Fathers.” He also was the English translator of Hans Urs von Balthasar’s “Cosmic Liturgy; the Universe According to Maximus the Confessor.”

Brague, the other winner, is a married father of four children who taught at the Sorbonne in Paris for 20 years, and moved to Munich in 2002. He has been a visiting professor at Pennsylvania State University, Boston College and Boston University.


The Vatican foundation fund- ing the prize, as well as scholar- ships for promising doctoral students, was established in 2010 with Pope Benedict’s approval and his designation of just more than $3 million from royalties earned on his books (the rest of his royalties are given to charity).

The prize winners were chosen by the foundation’s scientific committee: Cardinal Ruini; Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state; Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes; Archbishop Luis Ladaria, secretary of the doctrinal congregation; and Archbishop Jean-Louis Brugués, archivist of the Vatican Secret Archives.

By DEB WAGNER

BY DEB WAGNER
New Evangelization emphasized at OSV centennial anniversary celebration

BY TIM JOHNSON AND KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — A symposium that drew Our Sunday Visitor staff and board members, area laity and priests and bishops from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and around the nation convened on Friday, Sept. 28, and Grand Wayne Chapel to mark Our Sunday Visitor's centennial anniversary celebration. Keynote speakers featured were Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago, and nationally acclaimed speakers and authors Helen Alvaré and Scott Hahn. Msgr. Owen Campion, associate publisher of Our Sunday Visitor and editor of The Priest, acted as moderator.

As chair of the board of directors, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades opened the symposium.

Cardinal Francis George spoke of the challenges between scientism and fundamentalism and called for a need for a new Catholic apologetics. When dialoging with others the cardinal encouraged a loving, humble and respectful response even with the enemies of the church. He said evangelization is to be explained for our contemporaries, “that is, for our youth. We cannot expect our youth to embrace the Church unless they are introduced to it in terms that are meaningful to them.”

When dialoging with others the cardinal encouraged the young to seek the truth, “not to force it upon others, but to be truthful, loving and humble individuals.” He said, “The Church evangelizes every time we celebrate the Eucharist.”

Archbishop Claudio Celli noted, “If the Church is not present in this space, if the Good News is not proclaimed ‘digitally,’ then we risk abandoning the many people for whom this is where they ‘live’: this is the forum in which they get their news and information, form and express their opinions, ask questions and engage in debate.”

Another challenge, he said, is to achieve the types of transformation in our communication style that will make our digital presence effective.

“I am convinced that a particular task for Catholic media is that of helping the Church to find a language appropriate to the new media environment created by the technologies and the social networks,” Celli said. The most effective forms of digital discourse are those that engage people individually, that seek to respond to their specific questions and that attempt to dialogue.

“We need to be more attentive to our vocabulary. Much of our religious and ecclesial language is unintelligible even to believers. Many of our religious icons and symbols need to be explained for our contemporaries,” he added. He pointed out that no one needed a degree in theology to understand the writings of Bishop Noll.

One of the critical motives for the foundation of Our Sunday Visitor, the archbishop noted, was a desire to defend the Church from unjust attacks. Archbishop Celli said, “As Catholics, we need never hesitate to express ourselves forcibly, to correct error and condemn injustices; but we must always speak the truth in love.”

Dignitaries gathered for the anniversary celebration, including Bishop John M. D’Arcy, archbishop emeritus, who told Today’s Catholic, “It was an honor to be closely involved with Our Sunday Visitor for 25 years as chair of the board of directors. It was a learning experience, and I was especially enlightened by the men and women who served with me on the board. OSV has been an instrument of truth and a great blessing for the Church and for the diocese.”

Bishop D’Arcy added, “As part of the OSV Institute, a granting organization, I could see firsthand the many great efforts, which received funds for these works of Christ.”

Legal counsel for the diocese and school reported the matter to the Allen County Sheriff’s Department, according to diocesan and school policy.

The press statement released by the diocese stated: “We do not know if the actions of Mr. Lindsay constitute a criminal offense. That is for the police to investigate and for law enforcement officials to evaluate.”

The matter is now in the hands of law enforcement officials.

In the Sept. 19 statement, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades commented: “I know this matter has been the subject of much speculation in the media and in the community. Because of the concerns of all involved, we have tried to proceed carefully and honestly... My primary concern is the welfare of our students, the community of Bishop Luers High School, and the integrity of our actions. This whole affair has caused turmoil for many people. I ask for your prayers for the Bishop Luers community and for all involved in this very sad affair.”

Principal Mary Keefer told Today’s Catholic, “The outpouring of support from our families and our extended community has been humbling.”

In a communiqué to parents of Bishop Luers students, Keefer said, “I have been overwhelmed with your kindnesses, your words of support, your willingness to trust the diocese and Bishop Luers High School. Throughout this entire week, not one of you called to ask, ‘What happened?’ You trusted the time that it took to sort out what truly did happen. Thank you for that. In situations like this it seems that anything that one does say is not enough for some and too much for others.”

“My prayers this week have been for courage, wisdom and understanding,” Keefer continued. The communiqué added: “All of you and each of your very precious children have been in my prayers. You have been my thoughts because I truly do consider you a part of my family. I have thought of how very loyal each of you has been, how hard you work to send your children to Bishop Luers High School.”

“Please know that our mission remains the same,” Keefer said. “Decisions always have been made and will continue to be made based on what is best for our young people. They will continue to grow spiritually, academically and socially. They will mature and thrive with adults who care deeply about each one of them.”

Last week, the law enforcement officials served a search warrant and seized evidence at the home of Lindsay. The Allen County Sheriff’s Department was investigating whether the videos on Lindsay’s computer warrant criminal charges. No charges had been filed as of press time.

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Bishop Rhoades celebrates Mass, welcomes Sisters to area

BY TIM JOHNSON

HUNTINGTON — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass and welcomed the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist to their home at the St. Felix Catholic Center in Huntington on Monday, Sept. 24.

Twenty postulants as well as six novices are in formation at St. Felix. The sisters arrived Sept. 13 to the fanfare of students from Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger high schools in Fort Wayne, the Tippmann family, which owns and maintains the Catholic Center, Capuchin Father Ron Rieder, pastor of St. Peter and Paul Parish, and Father John Pfister, pastor of St. Mary Parish and several other diocesan well-wishers.

Bishop Rhoades was eager to greet the sisters, saying on Sept. 24, “I have been looking forward to extending a very warm welcome to you, my sisters in Christ. I feel that our diocese and I are richly blessed by your presence here, by your prayers, and by your witness to Christ in your consecrated life or in your formation for the consecrated life. I hope and pray that you feel at home here and that here you will grow in your love for the Lord and His Church.”

Some of the order’s leadership, including Mother Mary Assumpta Long, superior, and Sister Joseph Andrew Bogdanowicz were present at St. Felix for the Mass and luncheon that followed. Sister Amata Veritas will be the superior of the sisters in Huntington. The Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist whose motherhouse is based in Ann Arbor, Mich., has experienced a growth in vocations. This growth has filled the motherhouse to capacity and the sisters will offer postulant formation training in Huntington while the order’s missions expand in other regions of the country.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades reflected upon the day’s Gospel where Jesus tells a parable about a lamp.

“Reflecting on this parable made me think of the holy task of the Church in our day: the mission of the New Evangelization, as well as the upcoming Year of Faith,” Bishop Rhoades said. “We are called to listen to the word of God, to embrace it, and to live it. Only then will our ministries and apostolates bear fruit. Only then will the New Evangelization come about. It begins in our own hearts.”

“I think of the new light that your congregation brings to the Church and to the world,” Bishop Rhoades said. “Or I should say that the Holy Spirit brings through your congregation. Your charism and your role as Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist springs from the word of God and seeks to be an expression of it, as our Holy Father teaches.”

“We need your witness of life, your witness to the radicalism of the Gospel,” Bishop Rhoades added. “The Church needs many lamps that are lit and not hidden, placed on lampstands, and not under the bed, so that the New Evangelization will bear fruit.”

He said, “All this begins, of course, in your own hearts, indeed in all of our hearts. It begins with listening to God’s word, believing it, embracing it and living it.”

Father Rieder and Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick assisted Bishop Rhoades at the Mass.

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Notre Dame Vita Institute
June 9-21, 2013

The Notre Dame Vita Institute is an intensive two-week summer academic program dedicated to educating participants about fundamental human life issues from the perspectives of biology, philosophy, theology, law, and social science. Participants are instructed by world-renowned scholars while being immersed in Notre Dame’s rich Catholic spirituality and strong community fellowship.

This integration of scholarship, spirituality, and community is the basis for Notre Dame’s initiative, Project Guadalupe, to form the next generation of pro-life leaders. Through rigorous coursework, ongoing dialogue, and introduction to community outreach programs, participants are challenged intellectually and equipped to transform our culture’s attitudes toward beginning of life issues. The application deadline is February 1, 2013.

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The trial of Pope Benedict XVI's former butler Paolo Gabriele, seated at right in grey suit, opens at the Vatican Sept. 29. Gabriele is accused of aggravated theft for stealing private documents from the desk of the pope and leaking them to a journalist.

The measure passes, France would of adoption by same-sex couples. If officials. Both France's incoming injurious to society itself,“ he said. Misrepresentation of their true nature, ed and defended from every possible humanity. “Marriage and the family of values essential to the future of ing, said Pope Benedict XVI, but — Defending traditional marriage is reactionary, pope says CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — A Vatican tribunal determined the two suspects indicted for their parts in the VaticLeaks’ scandal should be tried separately. During the opening session of the trial Sept. 29, the judges said the trial against Paolo Gabriele, the papal assistant charged with aggravated theft, was to continue Oct. 2. A separate trial for Claudio Sciarppelliti on charges of aiding and abetting Gabriele will be scheduled at a later date, they said. Giuseppe Dalla Torre, the presiding judge, said four more sessions “next week should be sufficient“ for completing Gabriele’s trial. Gabriele, a 46-year-old married father of three, was the first person to be questioned Oct. 2. No members of Gabriele’s family were present for the trial’s opening. Although under Vatican law a defendant is not obligated to appear in person, Gabriele — dressed in a light gray suit and tie — was present in the courtroom Sept. 29. Sciarppelliti, a computer technician in the Vatican Secretariat of State, was represented by his lawyer, who said his client fell ill unexpectedly because he felt too nervous. The trial’s first session, in a small Vatican courtroom just to the southwest of the apse of St. Peter’s Basilica, lasted two and a half hours, which included an 80-minute break during which the judges were behind closed doors to consider the motions and objections made by the defense lawyers as the trial opened. They decided: The court would exclude evidence from two interviews Domenico Giani, head of the Vatican police force, conducted with Gabriele while in custody because Gabriele was not present in the presence of his lawyers; the court would exclude information gathered during a conversation between Giani and Gabriele. Georg Gaenswein, the pope’s secretary, concerning how Gabriele allegedly obtained a check for 100,000 euro (almost $123,000) and a nugget of what’s presumed to be gold, which were reportedly found in Gabriele’s possession.

Defending traditional marriage is prophetic, not reactionary, pope says CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Defending traditional marriage is not an expression of backward thinking, said Pope Benedict XVI, but of values essential to the future of humanity. “Marriage and the family are institutions that must be promoted and defended from every possible misrepresentation of their true nature, since whatever is injurious to them is injurious to society itself,“ he said. The pope made his remarks Sept. 21 in a talk to French bishops visiting Rome to report on the state of the French church and meet with Vatican officials. Both France’s incoming president, Francois Hollande, and Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault have promised to promote the legalization of same-sex marriage and of adoption by same-sex couples. If the measure passes, France would become the ninth European nation to recognize same-sex marriage. France legalized same-sex civil unions in 1999. The family, which is the foundation of society, “is threatened in many places by a faulty conception of human nature,“ the pope told the group of 32 bishops. How an individual is raised and the well-being of society are interdependent, he said. “Defending life and the family in society isn’t retrograde, rather it’s prophetic,“ he said, because it helps “promote those values that permit the full development of the human person."

Scripture scholar says Vatican II promoted access to Bible for all WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Second Vatican Council gave the Bible a central place in the life of the Church, a Scripture scholar said during a symposium at The Catholic University of America. In a talk on the council’s Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, Hellen Mardaga said Vatican II not only opened the door for scholars to study the Bible using the modern methods of historical criticism, but also enabled them to publish their findings and make them accessible to the Catholic public. Mardaga, an assistant professor of New Testament at Catholic University, said the constitution, known also as “Dei Verbum,“ invited the faithful to nourish their faith from the Scriptures, a sharp break from the 16th-century Council of Trent, which taught that interpreting the Bible was a task reserved for bishops. Her Sept. 27 talk was part of university’s symposium “Reform and Renewal: Vatican II After 50 Years. Mardaga contrasted Vatican II’s teaching on revelation, including the Bible, with that of the First Vatican Council, held in 1869-70, and two papal encyclicals. Vatican II emphasized, she said, the Church’s doctrines are not themselves divine revelation but rather, Christ himself is the sum total of revelation. The council’s understanding of revelation is relational, she said. “It has to do with the relationship between the Father and the Son. It is in that interpersonal relationship that we Christians participate,“ Vatican I taught that faith is submission of one’s intellect and will to God, Mardaga said, but for Vatican II, faith is a gift of oneself to God. Catholic women urged to bring their voices to the public square MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. (CNS) — When the National Council of Catholic Women chose “Be the Voice of Catholic Women“ as the theme of its 2012 convention, the organization’s members probably didn’t foresee how relevant those six words would be in today’s political and cultural environment. More than 540 women who attended the annual gathering Sept. 19-22 in Myrtle Beach heard speakers discuss how vital it is to spread the message in the public square, especially when religious liberty is threatened by, among other things, the HHS mandate on contraception. Bishop Robert E. Guglielmone of Charleston was the principal celebrant of the opening Mass Sept. 20. He was joined by more than 30 priests who are spiritual advisers for women’s councils around the United States. The bishop praised the work that women do in the daily life of the Church, and said it is more necessary today than ever before. He urged attendees not to be discouraged by troubles at the national level or in their personal lives, and to turn to God for solutions and encouragement. “If we are willing to confront and not run away from problems, the presence of Christ will sustain us,“ Bishop Guglielmone said. “As we try to conquer the evils of our times, we need to remember we don’t want to defeat people, we want to convert them. We want them to see the presence of Christ.“ Increased involvement also was encouraged by John Carr, a fellow at Harvard University’s Institute of Politics and former executive director of the USCB’s Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, who gave the keynote address. “This is not a time for discouragement, but a time for increased engagement,“ he said. Carr said women play a vital role in spreading the Church’s message, educating the culture about the sanctity of all human life, and standing up for the most vulnerable in society, including the unborn, the elderly and disabled, poor people and immigrants.

French priest, founder of Oblates of St. Frances de Sales beatified TROYES, France (CNS) — Cardinal Angel Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes, presided over the Sept. 22 beatification of French Father Louis Brisson, founder of the Oblates and the Oblates Sisters of St. Francis de Sales. Some 2,500 people, including a dozen bishops and more than 200 priests, filled the Troyes Cathedral in France for the beatification Mass. Hundreds more watched the ceremony from the cathedral steps. Father Brisson was ordained a priest of the Troyes Diocese in 1840. The order he founded is known today as the DeSales Oblates. Addressing those present, Father Amato told Vatican Radio that Father Brisson’s life and mission were marked by his familiarity with the life of St. Frances de Sales and by his concern for young people. In the mid-1800s, Troyes was a bustling city of factories, a mix of wealth and poverty. As a young priest, Father Brisson began workshops and opened hostels for young workers. Rather quickly, he founded the religious orders for women and for men, laic associations that are now open to run schools, colleges and parishes.

Marian expert says rosary key to evangelization, helping families ROME (CNS) — As the Church is set to begin the Year of Faith and a synod on the New Evangelization, the rosary can play a key role in strengthening and spreading the word of God, said a leading American expert in Marian studies. “This Year of Faith is a call for evangelization, a new evangelization that’s to start with ourselves“ in reawakening one’s love for Christ and then reaching out to those who have become distant from the Church, said Holy Cross Father James Phalan, director of Family Rosary International. October is the month the Church dedicates to the rosary, and the world Synod of Bishops will start Oct. 7, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Pope Benedict XVI entrusted the synod to the Virgin, and he has said the rosary can stimulate missionary activity by leading Christians to meditate on the life of Jesus and to share the message of Year of Faith “we’re to take up the rosary in our hands again,” Father Phalan told Catholic News Service during a visit to Rome in mid-September.
SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL RANKED AS TOP 50 CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph High School announced that the school has once again been selected as a Top 50 Catholic High School in the nation, a distinction it has held since 2006. The National Catholic High School Honor Roll is a biennially published list of America’s Top 50 Catholic high schools, judged on the criteria of academic excellence, Catholic identity and civic education. The Honor Roll is designed to recognize and encourage excellence in Catholic education.

The Catholic High School Honor Roll is now sponsored by the Cardinal Newman Society, beginning with the 2012-2013 Honor Roll. The Acton Institute, which has sponsored the Honor Roll since its inception, is turning the program over to the Cardinal Newman Society.

Father Robert Sirico, president and co-founder of the Acton Institute states, “It has been gratifying to see how the Catholic High School Honor Roll has grown to be a reliable standard of faithful Catholic education. In order to insure its continued growth, it seems logical to us that its mission be entrusted to a fine organization with a solid track record to take it to the next level.”

Saint Joseph is extremely gratified to have earned this outstanding recognition, which is a direct reflection of the quality, integrity and commitment of the administration, faculty and staff.

Philip and Katherine Bail Personal Achievement Scholarship

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School senior Kayleigh Hutson has been awarded the Philip and Katherine Bail Personal Achievement Scholarship this year. The $5,000 financial need-based academic scholarship is awarded annually to a rising senior at Bishop Luers High School who possesses outstanding moral character, strives to perform to the highest level of his/her God-given talents, and does not allow adversity to define or limit the constructive pursuit of his/her dreams.

ST. MARY SCHOOL SUPPORTS OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH

September was Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, and the students and staff of St. Mary’s School in Avilla recently sported teal ribbons to show their support for close friends and family affected by this disease.

Radio personality Father Albert Haase presents at St. Jude Parish

SOUTH BEND — Franciscan Father Albert Haase will be the guest presenter at the St. Jude Parish Mission, titled “Three Challenges in the Spiritual Life,” on Oct. 8, 9 and 10 beginning at 7 p.m. in St. Jude Church.

Ordained a Franciscan priest in 1983, Albert Haase is a popular preacher, teacher, spiritual director and radio personality. A former missionary to mainland China for over 11 years, he is the author of five books on popular spirituality. He is also the co-host of “Spirit and Life,” a radio show heard every weekend on the Relevant Radio Network, Baraga Broadcasting and The Presence Radio Network.

St. Jude Catholic Church is located one half mile south of the U.S. 20 bypass and one block east of U.S. 31 South on Johnson Road. For more information contact the St. Jude Parish office at (574) 291-0570 or visit www.stjudeparish.org.

To learn more about Father Haase visit www.albertofm.org

Holy Cross College named a college of distinction

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College has been named to the 2012-2013 list of Colleges of Distinction, created by college education professionals as a guide to recognize excellent schools, with qualifying aspects such as the success of its graduates, the quality of its teaching and the atmosphere of its campus. As a Colleges of Distinction, Holy Cross College is strongly focused on the relationship-based teaching of undergraduates with small classes sizes. Holy Cross College’s residential community offers many opportunities for co-curricular involvement and leader- ship development in areas such as athletics, drama, hobbies, music, politics, religious life and service. Holy Cross College is a Catholic, four-year, co-educational, liberal arts institution founded in 1966 by the Brothers of Holy Cross. With a 13:1 faculty to student ratio, students find personal attention from professors who care about their success and development in mind, body and spirit.

For more information on Colleges of Distinction visit www.collegesofdistinction.com.

University of Saint Francis expands downtown presence with Chamber building purchase

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will expand its downtown Fort Wayne presence with the purchase of the Greater Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce building at 826 Ewing Street, as a home for its Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership. A fall closing date is anticipated.

The purchase locates the business school near the USF Performing Arts Center at 431 W. Berry St. The university purchased the former Scottish Rite Center in January as a performance hall and as a location for its Media Entrepreneurship Training in the Arts (META) program.

“Locating the school of business near the USF Performing Arts Center supports the META program’s downtown momentum,” said Sister Denise Fisette, university president. “Since META intersects with business courses, locating the study centers near one another creates convenience for our students while partnering with the city to draw visitors to an enhanced downtown. The move also provides more space for the Chamber of Commerce’s other programs and opens up main campus space for the School of Arts and Sciences.”

The chamber building has been for sale since 2010. The chamber is expected to remain in the building through the spring of 2013 while a search is undertaken for new office space in downtown Fort Wayne.

“We certainly appreciate the historical significance of the Chamber building in so many of Fort Wayne’s business establishments over the past 44 years,” said Chamber President and CEO Mike Landram. “Selling the building to the University of Saint Francis is the best and highest use of the property in service to the business community.”

SEPTEMBER 7, 2012 T O D A Y ’ S C A T H O L I C
Six Bishop Luers High School students were chosen by their theology teachers to receive the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Award. These students, who have expressed a love for the study of theology and the truth, are from left, James Franke of St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne, Kayleigh Hutson and Wesley Hutson of St. Therese Parish, Joseph Lewis, Corinne Zay of St. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington, and Criselda Huerta of St. Patrick Parish in Fort Wayne.

DACA workshop held for dreamers
BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — A collaborative effort to assist young immigrants with applications for DACA (Deferred Action for Children Arrivals) work authorizations was held at Villa of the Woods in Fort Wayne, Friday, Sept. 14. The “Free DACA Clinic for Dreamers” workshop was sponsored by Catholic Charities, in association with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the Hispanic Leadership Coalition of Northeast Indiana (HLCNI), the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic and the City of Fort Wayne.

Luz Ostrognai, immigration supervisor at Catholic Charities in Fort Wayne, who organized the event, says this DACA immigration workshop, following on the heels of another held at St. Adalbert Church in South Bend recently, is the first of its kind in Fort Wayne. “It’s important that we advocate for these people,” she says.

DACA or Deferred Action for Children Arrivals refers to a process implemented by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on Aug. 15 in which youth who come to the United States as children, are not security risks and meet other requirements may be “considered for relief from removal from the country” and eligible to receive deferred action, reports the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services website www.uscis.gov.

To be eligible an applicant must have come to the United States under the age of 16; have continuously resided in the United States for at least five years preceding June 15, 2012 and have been physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012; currently be in school, have graduated from high school, obtained a GED, or be an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; have no felony, significant misdemeanor or multiple misdemeanor convictions or otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety; and not be above the age of 30.

Ostrognai says these young people are children who came into the country undocumented with their families or had visas that have expired. This new process to receive a work authorization will grant them permission to be in the country.

“Work authorization allows them to get a driver’s license, to work, attend school and live normal lives,” she reports, but warns it does not replace a green card, permanent residency or citizenship. The work authorization must be reapplied for every two years.

Groups of local young people seeking assistance met at 8:30 a.m. for a specialized screening process for eligibility that was conducted by accredited local attorneys. Of the 100 participants screened on a first come, first served basis due to limited legal staff, those found eligible returned in the afternoon for an English-speaking presentation lead by Ostrognai and Desiree Koger, attorney for the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic. The presentation assisted the participants with DACA packet information and step-by-step instructions on how to fill out the forms necessary for application.

Ostrognai was pleased with the turn out and hopes that Catholic Charities and other organizations will continue to assist these young people as they strive to gain permanent residency and citizenship in the U.S.
BISHOP RHOADES BLESSES NEW REHAB CENTER

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blesses the new Rehabilitation and Wellness Center Chapel at Sanctuary at Holy Cross in South Bend on Sunday, Sept. 16. Tours of the center, which opened Oct. 1, followed the Mass. The new center, located near Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, features 48 private suites and personalized therapy programs that may include physical, occupational, speech, therapeutic recreation and aqua therapy. Sanctuary at Holy Cross, affiliated with Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, is accepting reservations for rehabilitation. For more information call (574) 247-7500.

St. Michael celebrates with street fair

BY IDA CHIPMAN

PLYMOUTH — St. Michael Church celebrated its sesquicentennial feast day on Sept. 29 with an intercultural street fair and Mass. The event marked the 150th year of St. Michael’s mission to the Catholic faithful of the area.

Jorge Mendoza, a parishioner of Mexican heritage, had a dream in which both Anglo and Hispanic church members would celebrate this anniversary with a religious event open to the entire community.

“The spark gathered momentum,” Mendoza said, “when both Father William Kummer and Father Jimenez Eloy supported the idea of creating an outdoor event in honor of the occasion.” He called it St. Michael Street Fair.

Mendoza’s plan grew and scores of individuals volunteered their time, ideas and donations. “I feel blessed,” Mendoza said. “All the food, prizes, games and performances are donated by various good-hearted people of many faiths and I cannot thank them enough.”

The mayor and City Council of Plymouth granted permission to block off Center Street outside St. Michael Church from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29. At noon, Fathers Kummer and Eloy offered prayers, after which 150 blue and white balloons — St. Michael colors — were launched.

The afternoon event consisted of both authentic Hispanic and American foods for sale. Games for all ages, with raffles, corn hole and basketball tournaments, a dunk tank and hay rides were also available for all to enjoy.

A Hispanic-Indian dance performance and a Mexican folklore dance were highlights of the day, along with a live band and songs by Quentin Flagg and Daniel del Real.

An Orlando deejay spun music for dancing until 6 p.m., when the fair concluded with a bilingual Mass inside the church.

Mendoza, whose efforts helped make the feast day a success, said, “My dream is that the event becomes a major hit and that more events like this will follow.”

KNIGHTS FROM EIGHT CITIES TO MARCH IN WASHINGTON SUPPORTING PRO LIFE.

You are invited! On January 23, 2013 Pro Lifers from Merrillville, Lafayette, South Bend, Fort Wayne, Muncie, Indianapolis, Columbus and Lanesville depart for Washington, D.C. to March for Life!

Non-Knights are welcome on this historic trip!

Wednesday, January 23, 2013: Depart from one of the Indiana locations approximately 8:00 p.m. on tour bus.

Thursday, January 24: Arrive Washington, D.C. approximately 10 a.m. Tour Washington Mall. Check in. Leave for National Shrine of Immaculate Conception. Friday, January 25: Breakfast at motel, board bus for ride to Rally. Pick up box lunch, join March, after which we board bus to hotel. Bus ride to banquet center for evening dinner. Saturday, January 26: Breakfast at motel, board buses and head home, arriving at 8:00 p.m.

The Cost: $275 per person. Cost includes: Round-trip on tour bus, Motel for 2 nights, double-occupancy, 2 breakfasts, Box Lunch, Friday night dinner and celebration...the unbelievable feeling of euphoria having participated in this event! 50% due October 30, 2012. Balance due November 30, 2012. (Can’t make these dates? Phone us.)

Date of 1st payment Check # Amount Date of last payment Check# Amount

More info on website www.indianakofc.org or phone Michael Velasco at 219-663-0509. (RETAIN UPPER PORTION)

Return lower portion with your check. Please print all information

Name______________________________Council_____Knight____Spouse____Son of Knight____Daughter of Knight____Address_________________________

City___________________Zip________Phone(_____)_____________Cell Phone(____) __________Leaving from: (Check one) Merrillville___ South Bend___

Lafayette___ Fort Wayne____ Muncie___ Indianapolis__ _ Columbus___ Lanesville___

(In case of emergency, please contact:) Name________________Relationship____Phone(____) __________________

Please list any medical information that we need to know about

DO NOT SEND CASH...Make checks payable to: INDIANA STATE COUNCIL. Memo Line: DC March...Send your check and bottom of this form to:

Pro Life Director - 3993 Willowood Court - Crown Point, Indiana 46307-8945
New postulants from the diocese join Sisters of St. Francis

MISHAWAKA — The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka received two new postulants — Angela DeVreese and Patricia Roeder — on Sunday, Sept. 2.

DeVreese comes from Queen of Peace Parish in Mishawaka, just a few miles from the motherhouse. She obtained a bachelor of science degree in accounting from Indiana University-South Bend. She first came to visit the convent for a Day of Reflection hosted by one of the sisters. A year later, she returned at the suggestion of her pastor, Father Daniel Scheidt, to more seriously discern if God was calling her to religious life.

Of the gift of her vocation DeVreese says, “There is nothing better than to be all His and to live in a place where Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is perpetually adored!”

Roeder is a member of St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish in Bristol. She graduated in May of 2012 from St. Joseph College in Rensselaer with a bachelor of arts degree in English. She considered religious life for several years and eventually the question became “when” and not “if.”

Roeder says, “Always listen to the Holy Spirit and make sure your will is in line with His.” She echoes St. Augustine with fondness when he said, “You have made us for yourself O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.”

Approximately 130 people gathered Sept. 26 for the kick-off event marking the 40 Days for Life campaign in South Bend. Held near the Woman’s Pavilion abortion clinic on Ironwood Circle, Msgr. Bill Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish, Granger, led prayer to inaugurate the 40-day campaign of prayer and fasting. The peaceful campaign is intended to raise awareness in the community and reach out to women considering abortion. Typically, women come to the clinic in crisis, believing abortion is their only choice. The 40 Days for Life campaign shows support for women to offer hope and help.

Scouts honored for studying the faith at diocesan camporee

NOTRE DAME — Boy Scouts from across the diocese gathered in South Bend over the weekend to mark the culmination of weeks of study on the Catholic faith.

The youth camped out overnight on the campus of Holy Cross College Friday, and on Saturday attended Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. After the ceremony, several dozen of them received Scouting emblems signifying that they had learned about and reflected on the riches of the Catholic faith and Tradition.

At 4 p.m. Mass at the Grotto of Lourdes at the University of Notre Dame Saturday, Bishop Rhoades spoke about Jesus’ question to the disciples, “Who do you think that I am?” and asked the Scouts and the adults present the same question.

The answer, he said, is one we give at every Mass — the Creed.

“We make that solemn profession of faith as Catholics. We believe that Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of the Living God, is Christ,” he told worshippers.

Faith is also living what we believe, which means living in friendship, he continued.

“That’s why Scouting is so very important for you. Is Jesus your best friend? Having Jesus as our best friend means that we pray to Him, talk to Him, listen to Him, that we be faithful to attending Sunday Mass and that we have a relationship with Him every day and with the community that is His Church.”

“Faith has to be lived and practiced. And so much of what you do as Scouts has to do with living your faith. You do good work, ... and true faith bears fruit in good works of charity,” Bishop Rhoades said.

After Communion, Bishop Rhoades received and blessed emblems that had been earned by the Boy Scouts present. The Catholic religious medals and emblems program, the National Catholic Committee on Scouting reinforces family and parish efforts to teach the faith. The youth are challenged to integrate the Scouting values of duty to God, reverence and faithfulness into their everyday lives.

The emblems and awards that the students and the adults in their lives may earn are, for Boy Scouts: The Light of Christ program for grades 1 and 2; the Parvuli Dei program for grades 3-5; the Altare Dei program for grades 7-12; the Pius XII program for grades 9 to college; the International Awareness Activity program for all ages; the Pope Paul VI special unit recognition; the Golden Bowl Unit Recruitment Award; the Gold Medalion National Unit Recognition Award; the Bronze Pelican Medal, a diocesan adult award; and the St. George Medal, a national recognition for adults.

Girl Scouts may pursue the Family of God program for ages 7-9; the I Live My Faith program for ages 9-11; the Marian Medal program for ages 12-15; the Spirit Alive program for Senior Scouts; the International Catholic Neighbor program for all ages; the Annual Bishop’s Award, a diocesan award for outstanding troops; the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Medal, a diocesan adult award; and The St. Anne Medal, a national adult recognition.

In order to achieve the emblems, each Boy Scout studied numerous hours with an appointed counselor who guided him in the correct teachings of the Church.

Adam Dunford, an eight-year-old Cub Scout from Fort Wayne, planned and led a family prayer service as a requirement for his Light of Christ emblem. His brothers Eric, a Tiger Scout, and John, a Cub Scout, received emblems as well. Some of the older Boy Scouts, like 14-year-old Andrew Scott of Granger, planned and participated in the Saturday program as part of their requirements.

The emblems may be obtained by Scouts of any faith who are willing to study to complete them. Theresa Dirig, chairperson of the Catholic Committee on Scouting, said, Most of, of course, are Catholic, although they belong to troops that meet at both public and Catholic schools or parishes.

In the past, Scouts living on the east side of the diocese organized a campout and ceremony to confer religious Scouting emblems, and the South Bend side of the diocese conducted a separate event. But this is the second year of a challenge from Bishop Rhoades to combine their efforts and create a unified event.

Some then opted to continue camping out until the following day. Just by attending the Camporee, the Scouts could earn another patch.

While on the college’s campus, they explored trails, enjoyed a campfire, heard from seminarians about the process of discerning a call to voca- tion, had the opportunity to join in a living rosary, and visit various stations set up on Saturday afternoon that featured other activities related to the faith.
INDIANA SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION CANDIDATES WEIGH-IN ON THE ISSUES

Editor’s note: In the next three weeks, the Indiana Catholic Conference, the public policy arm of the Indiana Bishops, offers Hoosier Catholics a three-part series of articles profiling statewide-elected officials including the candidates for Indiana governor, U.S. Senate, and Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction. In each article, the candidates were asked pertinent questions that relate to the office that they seek to hold. The questions and answers appear in their entirety below. The articles are to serve as a resource for Catholics.

INDIANAPOLIS — The 2012 elections bring opportunity for Catholics to shape public policy. “The Catholic Church does not and cannot tell voters which candidate to vote for,” said Glenn Tebbe, Indiana Catholic Conference executive director. “Rather, the Church encourages people to form their consciences on basic Church moral tenets and career preparation of all students well by sharing important issue for the Church to address.”

Superintendent of Public Instruction candidates Tony Bennett and Glenda Ritz share their responses to questions from the Indiana Catholic Conference on education issues and policy.

Responses from Tony Bennett

Question: The existence of quality educational opportunities is critical to the wellbeing of children and to the state. What role does the DOE have in ensuring that quality educational opportunities are available in urban and rural areas?

Bennett: “I believe we must elevate the academic achievement and career preparation of all Indiana students to be the best in the United States and on par with the most competitive countries in the world. Through the hard work of Hoosier students and educators we have found success — and I’m pleased to report that by every measure, our students are achieving more today than they were four years ago.

Almost 86 percent of Indiana students graduated high school in 2011 — the highest mark in Indiana’s history. Student test scores have improved by more than eight percentage points, and Indiana is second in the nation for student performance gains on advanced placement exams. We must continue to ensure that more quality educational opportunities are available to students in every area of the state.”

Question: How do the Catholic and other non-public schools contribute to the common good and public instruction?

Bennett: “As an alumnus of Providence High School, Catholic education has had a profound impact on my life. This experience is a daily reminder for me that both nonpublic schools and Catholic schools are integral to the future success of Indiana.”

“We are especially indebted to the multitude of great educators that serve in Catholic and non-public schools. There’s nothing more critical than ensuring every Indiana classroom has a great teacher. Your system of schools serves students well by sharing this focus and priority.”

Question: How should the State of Indiana protect and promote the right of parents to choose the most appropriate educational opportunity best suited to the needs of their children?

Responses from Glenda Ritz

(Bennett) “One of the best ways to engage parents in education is through school choice. I want every parent to know that we’re committed to providing families as many high quality school options as possible. We don’t need more of a certain type of schools — we need more good schools, period.”

“As Indiana’s Superintendent of Public Instruction, I’m committed to promoting and protecting the right of parents to choose the school that best meets their child’s needs.”

Question: What is the proper relationship between the Superintendent or DOE and non-public schools?

Bennett: “I believe it’s my job to make sure that we have the best education system in the United States for the public of Indiana. My definition of public is all 1.2 million Hoosier children. It is not limited exclusively to public schools; it is every child in the State of Indiana who receives an education.”

“With that in mind, I do believe that decisions are best made at the local level. It is the state’s job to set high expectations, provide a menu of best practices, explain the consequences for success and failure, and then get out of the way so local schools and educators can get the job done.”

Resources

Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC): www.indianaccc.org
St. Catherine of Alexandria hosted a women’s ecumenical gathering on Sept. 17. The 59 women in attendance came from Laud Christian Church, Washington Center United Methodist Church, Hope Lutheran Church, Pleasant Chapel Church, Saturn Christian Church, Jefferson Chapel Church and St. Joseph Catholic Church, and were entertained by Janelle and Jones. The women toured the 113-year-old historic church, which was named a historical site in Whitley County in 2002 by the Whitley County Historical Society.

FORT WAYNE — Author Jane Knuth began her trek across country two years ago when Loyola Press published her first book “Thrift Store Saints.”

In March, Knuth’s second book, titled “Thrift Store Graces: Finding God’s Gifts in the Midst of the Mess” (Loyola Press, $13.95) hit bookstore shelves and Knuth is on the road again. Knuth will visit St. Louis Besancon to talk on her books on Oct. 11 at 6:30 p.m. The St. Louis Besancon Rosary Sodality and the Besancon chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul are hosting this event.

Both books explore the spiritual growth Knuth has experienced as a volunteer at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in downtown Kalamazoo, Mich. “Thrift Store Saints” won first place for “Popular Presentation of the Catholic Faith” from the Catholic Press Association. Knuth also received the Bishops’ Award from Hackett Catholic Central High School last year, in recognition of her work at St. Vincent’s and the book that describes it.

When asked what she hopes readers gain from her books, Knuth says: “Hope. Hope for the poor and hope for themselves.”

Free will donations to the St. Louis Besancon restoration project will be accepted at the door.

Respecting ALL LIFE through our ministries including the elderly, children, refugee, homeless, poor, sick and underserved.

Dignity and Respect for All — a Core Value of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

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Respecting LIFE

Respecting "God doesn't require us to succeed, he only requires that you try."
— Mother Teresa
Mother-daughter team fight for life, support adult stem cell research

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Ruth Beier and her daughter Anna have been in the fight of their lives. A year ago in August, a very active Anna, then 12-years-old, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a cancerous bone tumor, and began the arduous journey back to health. Now after months of painful chemotherapy, surgery and rehabilitation, Anna is cancer free.

The promise of health has brought a new awareness to this seventh-grade, homeschooled student and her mom, both of whom have developed a passion for life that now includes hope for others who face cancer. And with that hope comes an interest in ethical research methods and right to life issues.

Respect for all life began with Ruth’s mother who was one of the first to pray outside the abortion facility in South Bend years ago. Her passion for pro-life issues was passed to Ruth, who has now instilled it in her own daughter.

Ruth says, “I believe in the Church’s teachings on the sanctity of life from womb to the tomb. So many moral issues make sense when you understand the consistent teaching of the Church.”

Among the many pro-life issues, including contraception and abortion, lies the controversy surrounding the use of embryonic stem cells, obtained only by destroying living human embryos, for research toward cures, therapies and treatments for the multitude of diseases the population faces currently, including cancer. And after experiencing firsthand the rigors of the present day treatment for osteosarcoma, a protocol decades old, the Beiers place their hope in the future of alternative stem-cell research to produce a cure for it and many ailments, all framed in a firm belief in dignity for all life.

As a devout Catholic and parishioner of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Anna, along with her parents and four siblings, is passionate about respecting life and says of her cancer treatment, “If getting better meant killing innocent babies, I would have never gone through with cancer treatment.”

She believes there’s more to respecting life than just rallying against abortion as well. “Being pro-life means more to me than just praying for a change. It means reaching out to others and making a change happen,” she says. So she and her mom began to investigate ways they could make a difference in the ethical and moral cause for cures, especially with the use of adult stem cell and umbilical cord blood research.

Ruth’s urgency to help find a cure for cancer due to her courageous daughter’s experience continues still. She says, “Anna’s cancer made me pray and think more specifically about organizations that I would like to support. … Sadly, we know many other young people who are still fighting the good fight.”

With over 300 nonprofit research foundations and academic stem-cell research, Ruth was thrilled when she heard about the John Paul II Stem Cell Research Institute based in Iowa.

“I immediately wanted to get involved because it is exactly what I believe our culture needs. We cannot hope to make true medical progress unless we hold onto the beliefs and practices that protect life at every stage, especially the most vulnerable and innocent life,” she says, adding, “The road you take to get to your destination is just as important as where you are going. We can’t use immoral methods to get to a moral end.”

According to the John Paul II Stem Cell Research Institute’s website www.jp2sri.org, the organization is a “nonprofit research institute whose mission is to advance research and education on stem research in a manner consistent with bioethics that recognizes the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception to natural death.”

An exciting new national gift campaign that began at the institute in July, with former GOP presidential candidate Rick Santorum as official spokesman, titled Give Cures, hopes to raise funds from parish giving for advancements of ethical research and education.

Plans to open a cord blood bank where mothers can donate cord blood from their newborns as an alternative to embryonic stem-cell use, are also in the works. Ruth and Anna are spreading the word about this effort, supported by the bishops of Iowa and the Vatican, and hopes it is successful in funding ethical regenerative research.

Anna says, “Give Cures is offering a way to fight cancer in a moral way. And they have been having more success then research on aborted babies ever did. So if you want a cure for cancer, do it the more effective way. … I think Give Cures is a great way to find answers because no one dies.

“I’ve been to hell and back and there was never a point where I didn’t think life wasn’t worth fighting for. So no matter how dark life may seem you should never think it’s not worth saving. Babies aren’t products to be used for medical research,” she adds with passion.

Ruth says of this fight for all life, “Even though I believe with all my heart that Anna is cancer free, I still feel an obligation to do whatever I can to support finding a cure for cancer in an ethical way. I believe that research on adult stem cells being done at the John Paul II Stem Cell Research Institute will provide that breakthrough.”

For more information on the Give Cures campaign visit givecures.org.

As a gift from God, every human life is sacred from conception to natural death.

PROVIDED BY RUTH BEIER

Ruth and Anna Beier work together for ethical research for a cancer cure.

St. Joseph Parish - Bluffton

May the example of the patron of our parish, as a protector of the Holy Infant, and The Holy Family, advance the cause of Pro Life.

Our parish is dedicated to The Mother of Our Saviour The Star of Hope The Comfort of the Afflicted

And the one chosen to guide us through the sorrows of life, including the agony brought about by abortion.

Queen of Peace, be with us.

SAINT MARY PARISH - HUNTINGTON

Respect Life

Saint Pius X Catholic Church • Granger, Indiana
www.stpius.net/respectlife

As a gift from God, every human life is sacred from conception to natural death.
Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship 2012

What the U.S. bishops’ updated reflection on Catholic teaching and political life teach us

BY FRED EVERITT

In the “Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church” that was issued by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace in 2004, we find the following paragraph highlighting the three most important areas in which Christians should be promoting human dignity in our day: “Promoting human dignity implies above all affirming the inviolability of the right to life, from conception to natural death, the first among all rights and the condition for all other rights of the person. Respect for personal dignity requires, moreover, that the religious dimension of the person be recognized. … The effective recognition of the right to freedom of conscience and religious freedom is one of the highest goods and one of the most serious duties of every people that truly wishes to ensure the good of the individual and of society. In the present cultural context, there is a particularly urgent need to defend marriage and the family, which can be adequately met only if one is convinced of the unique and singular value of these two realities for an authentic development of human society” (553).

This passage has proven prophetically true, since all three are important issues in the 2012 general election. In their updated 2007 document, “Faithful Citizenship,” the U.S. bishops have included an introductory note that also lists these three foundational areas noted in the Vatican document. Throughout the document, the bishops have set out clearly how faithful Catholics should go about forming their consciences in preparation for the 2012 election.

The bishops start by reminding us that “the Church’s obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith. It is a basic part of the mission we have received from Jesus Christ. … What the Church teaches about the dignity of the human person and about the sacredness of every human life helps us see more clearly the same truths that also come to us through the gift of human reason. At the center of these truths is respect for the dignity of every person. … Because we are people of both faith and reason, it is appropriate and necessary for us to bring this essential truth about human life and dignity to the public square.”

The bishops further underline that as Catholic citizens, “participation in political life is a moral obligation. … As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group.” The document points out that, “clergy and laity have complementary roles in public life.” The clergy “have the primary responsibility to hand on the Church’s moral and social teaching, to teach fundamental moral principles that help Catholics form their consciences correctly, to provide guidance on the moral dimensions of public decisions, and to encourage the faithful to carry out their responsibilities in political life.” In doing this, the clergy are not to go about endorsing or opposing specific candidates. This, in fact, is the job of the laity who have formed their consciences in accord with fundamental moral principles. They should “actively, responsibly and prayerfully involved; running for office; working within political parties; communicating their concerns and positions to elected officials and … other efforts to apply authentic moral teaching in the public square.”

The bishops go on to explain how a Catholic gains such a well-formed conscience: “Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere ‘feeling’ about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil. … The formation of conscience includes several elements. First, there is a desire to embrace goodness and truth. For Catholics this begins with a willingness and openness to seek the truth and what is right by studying Sacred Scripture and the teaching of the Church as contained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It is also important to examine the facts and background information about various choices. Finally, prayerful reflection is essential to discern the will of God.”

Such discernment requires that the faithful develop the virtue of prudence that enables us “to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it. Prudence shapes and informs our ability to deliberate over available alternatives, to determine what is most fitting to a specific context, and to act decisively.” Further, the bishops remind us that “a good end does not justify an immoral means. As we all seek to advance the common good, it is important to recognize that not all possible courses of action are morally acceptable. We have a responsibility to discern carefully which public policies are morally sound. … Aided by the virtue of prudence in the exercise of well-formed consciences, Catholics are called to make practical judgments regarding good and evil choices in the political arena.”

The document reminds us that, “there are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor. Such actions are so deeply flawed that they are always opposed to the authentic good of persons. These are called ‘intrinsically evil’ actions. They must always be rejected and opposed and must never be supported or condoned. A prime example is the intentional taking of innocent human life, as in abortion and euthanasia. In our nation, abortion and euthanasia have become preeminent threats to human dignity because they directly attack life itself, the most fundamental human good and the condition for all others. It is a mistake with grave moral consequences to support or condone the destruction of innocent human life merely as a matter of individual choice. A legal system that violates the basic right to life on the grounds of choice is fundamentally flawed.”

“Similarly, direct threats to the sanctity and dignity of human life, such as human cloning and destructive research on human embryos, are also intrinsically evil. These must always be opposed. Other direct assaults on innocent human life and violations of human dignity, such as genocide, torture, racism, and the targeting of noncombatants in acts of terror or war, can never be justified. … Blessed John Paul II explained the importance of being true to fundamental Church teachings: ‘Above all, the common outcry, which is justly made on behalf of human rights — for example, the right to health, to home, to work, to family, to culture — is false and illusory if the right to life, the most basic and fundamental right and the condition for all other personal rights, is not defended with maximum determination.’”

The bishops then go on to warn that “two temptations in public life can distort the Church’s defense of human life and dignity.” The first is “a moral equivalence that makes no ethical distinctions between different kinds of issues involving human life and dignity. The second is ‘a moral equivalence that makes no ethical distinctions between different kinds of issues involving human life and dignity. The second is a moral equivalence that makes no ethical distinctions between different kinds of issues involving human life and dignity.’”

Respect for life requires that science and technology should always be at the service of man and his integral development. Society as a whole must respect, defend and promote the dignity of every human person, at every moment and in every condition of that person’s life.

JOHN PAUL II, Evangelium Vitae

Sacred Heart Basilica

NOTRE DAME
Protecting the most important habitat

When sperm meets egg in the upper portion of the fallopian tube near the ovary, fertilization occurs. What is properly called a “fertilized egg” exists for only about 24 hours, before the fusion of the pro-nuclei of the sperm and the egg. When this fusion is complete, a new, unique human being comes into existence at the one-cell or zygote stage — a stage that lasts only about an hour. Then the first cell division is completed and the new human being is now called an embryo. Cell division continues to take place as the embryo moves slowly down the fallopian tube toward the uterus. About six to 10 days after conception, the tiny human being — who by this time has more than 100 cells — reaches the uterus and submerges herself in the endometrium, or lining of the uterus, which has been made lush and thick for this purpose, like a shag carpet, by the ovarian hormones. This event is called implantation and it is critical to the survival of the new human being.

Morally speaking, we may not interrupt the development of an embryo or interfere with her implantation in any way, because to do so would cause a very early abortion. This means that any drug or device, whose mechanisms of action include interfering with the implantation of an embryo, are considered abortifacient. Many people do not realize that hormonal contraceptives, whatever their method of delivery, achieve their high degree of effectiveness in part by thinning the lining of the uterus to prevent implantation should pregnancy occur. Take, for example, the Mirena IUD. The FDA-approved patient information for this product contains the following description of how it works:

“Mirena may work in several ways. It may thicken your cervical mucus, thin the lining of your uterus, inhibit sperm movement and reduce sperm survival. Mirena may stop release of your egg from your ovary, but this is not the way it works in most cases. Most likely, these actions work together to prevent pregnancy. Mirena can cause your menstrual bleeding to be less by thinning the lining of the uterus.” (www.drugs.com/pro/mirena.html)

Oral contraceptives (OCs), which are taken by an estimated 100 million women worldwide, can also have an abortifacient effect. The Food and Drug Administration–approved product information for OCs in the Physicians’ Desk Reference states: “Although the primary mechanism of this action is inhibition of ovulation, other alterations include changes in the cervical mucus, which increase the difficulty of sperm entry into the uterus, and changes in the endometrium, which reduce the likelihood of implantation.”

That the thinning of the uterine lining does prevent implantation of an embryo has been documented through research done on clients undergoing in vitro fertilization, according to an article entitled “The Post-Fertilization Effects of Oral Contraceptives and their Relationship to Informed Consent.”
It was you who created my inmost self, and put me together in my Mother’s womb, for all These mysteries I thank you, for the wonder of myself, for the wonder of your works.

Psalm 139, 13 - 14

To be unconditionally pro-life means to do what we can to protect the life of every person, no matter how small. This Respect Life Month, let us look honestly at how willing we are to protect the most important habitat on the planet, the one on which the very survival of our sons and daughters depends. To find a natural family planning class near you, visit www.diocese-fwsb.org/diocesan-offices/family-life-office/family-planning/.

Lisa Everett is the codirector of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Published in February 2000 in Archives of Family Medicine, a publication of the American Medical Association:

“Larger, more recent, and more technically sophisticated studies all concluded that endometrial thickness is related to the functional receptivity of the endometrium. Furthermore, when the endometrial lining becomes too thin, then implantation does not occur. The minimal endometrial thickness required to maintain a pregnancy in patients under-going in vitro fertilization has been reported, ranging from 5 mm to 9 mm to 13 mm, whereas the average endometrial thickness in women taking OCs is 1.1 mm.”

Unlike the Pill, the “patch,” Depo-Provera, Norplant, the Mirena IUD, and Plan B, among others, there is a way to plan our families that does not damage the delicate habitat in which new human life is meant to flourish.

Natural family planning (NFP) is an umbrella term for methods of family planning based on daily observation and interpretation of the biomarkers of fertility in a woman’s body. Unlike the outdated “rhythm method,” modern methods of NFP are easy to learn and highly effective. Three decades ago, the World Health Organization conducted a prospective study of the ovulation method of NFP in five different countries, including Bangalore, India. Couples at this site were drawn from both urban and rural areas and were mostly illiterate or semiliterate. The method-failure rate was zero in Bangalore while the user-effectiveness of the method was 96 percent in over 7,514 cycles of observation. Due to the success of this study, the World Health Organization recommended that the ovulation method be used in India, one of the nations of the world, which truly suffers from overpopulation. More recently, according to a 2007 report published online in Europe’s leading reproductive medicine journal Human Reproduction, researchers who conducted the largest prospective study of the sympto-thermal method of NFP found it as effective as oral contraceptives for avoiding pregnancy if used correctly.

Adapted from the rite of blessing of a child in the womb

Christ the King Catholic Church
52473 State Road 933
South Bend, Indiana 46637

Abortion cannot be a human right...it is the very opposite.
-Cardinal Franz König

St. Joseph County Right to Life, Inc.
320 North Lafayette Blvd., South Bend
232-5433 prolifemichiana.org

God, author of all life, bless, we pray, all unborn children give them constant protection and grant them a healthy birth that is the sign of our rebirth one day into the eternal rejoicing of heaven

Adapted from the rite of blessing of a child in the womb

Praying For Life • From Conception • To Natural Death

Lisa Everett is the codirector of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.

-Jeremiah 1:5-

St. Thérèse, Little Flower Catholic Church
South Bend, IN

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It was you who created my inmost self, and put me together in my Mother’s womb, for all These mysteries I thank you, For the wonder of myself, for the wonder of your works.

Psalm 139, 13 - 14
I Vote Pro-Life First Campaign brought to IPFW

BY MICHELLE LANDRIGAN

FORT WAYNE — Fueled by the belief that the right to life is undeniably the most fundamental issue of the upcoming election, the national organization Students for Life of America has launched an I Vote Pro-Life First Campaign focused upon convincing voters of all ages that abortion is the qualifying issue this November.

The I Vote Pro-Life First Campaign seeks to encourage people across the nation to sign a pledge stating that they will never support or vote for a candidate that endorses the killing of pre-born children.

On Wednesday, Sept. 19, Students for Life of America’s (SFLA) I Vote Pro-Life First Campaign came to Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne as part of a nationwide campus tour week, conducted Sept. 16-22.

SFLA was brought onto campus by the student organization IPFW Students for Life as a means of raising awareness of the importance of electing pro-life officials. In conjunction with IPFW Students for Life, Allen County Right to Life sponsored this event in an effort to spread the pro-life message to college students.

The rally brought in IPFW students and faculty, senior students from Bishop Dwenger High School and local community members.

Beginning the rally with a call to action, SFLA’s field director Brendan O’Morchoe passionately encouraged all students and adults present to sign the I Vote Pro-Life First pledge. A line of speakers followed O’Morchoe, including a testimonial from Operation Outcry, Michelle Landrigan and Alicia Bigelow from IPFW Students for Life, Becky Rogness from Allen County Right to Life and Indiana Right to Life, Allen County Right to Life Executive Director Cathie Humarger, Rock for Life’s Eric Whittington, and well-known pro-life activist and author Jill Stanek.

Speakers called upon the young people to stand strong in their convictions. The speakers stressed the importance of determining and defending those beliefs and recognizing them as nonnegotiable.

With approximately 3,300 abortions taking place each day in America alone, the speakers emphasized that abortion rises to the forefront as the moral issue with the greatest and most grave consequences. Rally speakers called upon all present to not forget the magnitude of that number.

Arguing that voters must be promoters of a culture of life, the speakers asked all pro-life supporters to always be ready to show women in need that they are not alone, that abortion is not the only option, and that they want to help. Those present were told that the registered nurse who worked at a hospital in Oak Lawn, Ill., and brought to the public’s attention that aborted babies still alive at the hospital were left to die without medical care.

Rally participants were asked to embrace the mission to stop devaluing life and the culture of death gripping the American society. Citizens of all ages are encouraged to join thousands of others in signing the I Vote Pro-Life First pledge (www.ivoteprolifefirst.com).

Katie Berghoff, from IPFW Students for Life, commented, “It is inexcusable for us to fail to defend the weak and most defenseless among us — I Vote Pro-Life First.”

I think life is great... don’t you?

St. John the Evangelist Parish - Goshen
Rev. Tony Steinacker, Pastor

St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish - Bristol
Rev. Robert Van Kempen, Pastor

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish - Elkhart
Rev. William Sullivan, Pastor

St. Vincent de Paul Parish - Elkhart
Rev. Glenn Kohrman, Pastor

since 1973, over 50 million babies have died by abortion.
It’s time to stop the violence!
Pray to end abortion... and begin emotional and spiritual healing
St. Mary of the Assumption
and St. Joseph School

Our bodies... are shaped to bear children, and our lives are a working out of the processes of creation.
All our ambitions and intelligence are secondary to that great elemental point.
Saint Augustine, 354 - 430
DOCTOR of the CHURCH

Provided by the Allen County Right to Life

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
FORT WAYNE
We are all God’s precious children

**THE SUNDAY GOSPEL**

**MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION**

**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Mk 10:2-16*

The Book of Genesis is the source of the first reading for this weekend. Among the first five books of the Bible, Genesis reveals great facts. God is the creator of all. He gave life.

God created humanity in the genders of male and female. God willed that the two genders complement each other and live with each other. Marriage was, and is, the most perfect union of a man and woman.

Unfortunately, the Scriptures at times are accused of belittling women. Certainly, the Scriptures were all developed with varying cultural contexts, and to an extent they were influenced by these cultural contexts.

Both the Old and New Testament are not less than revolutionary in their revelation that all humans, regardless of gender, possess equal dignity, because all are created in the image and likeness of God and infused with an eternal soul.

Throughout the history of salvation, from Genesis to the last recorded event in the New Testament, paganism was a factor. Among pagans, women were little better than animals. The dignity of women, equal to that of men, is the meaning of the story that Eve was created from Adam’s rib.

This reading also is a powerful testament, indeed from very ancient times, to the historic Jewish and Christian concept of marriage. It is a union, created by God, and never should it be defiled by exploitation, selfishness or insincerity. It is the union that blesses procreation and places it within the divine plan.

For its second reading, the Church this weekend offers us a passage from the Epistle to the Hebrews. According to the reading, each person is created only “a little lower than the angels,” although this condition will change. Humans who love God, and are faithful to God, one day will rejoice in the presence of God, just as the angels rejoice. The key is Jesus. Jesus loves all people, brothers and sisters. Those who are loyal to God respond to this great love.

St. Mark’s Gospel provides the third reading. It is a familiar passage. The question centers upon the legality before God of divorce itself, not the grounds for divorce. Often it is assumed that this question put to Jesus opened an entirely new debate, and that in replying, Jesus set aside the Law of Moses.

Actually, the debate was vigorously underway even among those persons learned in the Mosaic tradition.

Jesus addressed in the role of the divinely constituted and divinely empowered representative of God the Father. He put the question in his proper context. Marriage is God’s creation, created for a man and a woman to unite with each other ultimately with God.

In the same passage, though on another occasion, Jesus blesses the children. God is the author of life. The coming of each new generation continues the dignity of humanity, and the coming of each new generation proclaims the majesty and love of God.

**READINGS**

**Sunday:** Gn 2:16-24 Ps 128:1-6 Heb 29:11 Mk 10:12-16

**Monday:** Gal 1:16-2 Ps 111:1-2, 7-10 Lk 10:23-45

**Tuesday:** Gal 1:16-2 Ps 113:1-3, 13-15 Lk 10:38-42

**Wednesday:** Gal 1:16-2, 7-14 Ps 117:1-2 Lk 11:1-4

**Thursday:** Gal 1:16-2 Ps 116:1-7 Lk 11:15-17

**Friday:** Gal 1:16-2 Ps 111:1-6 Lk 11:25-28

**Saturday:** Jn 1:1-14 Ps 105:2-7 Lk 11:27-28

**Jaffa, Israel — Historical city in midst of modernity**

Historically, Jaffa is an important Christian center. Jaffa (also known as Joppa, Apollonia) was a natural harbor on Israel’s west-central coast of the Mediterranean Sea. According to archeologists, it was inhabited by 5000 B.C. While a letter dated 1440 B.C. mentions Joppa, the biblical reference is in Joshua 20:46, where the city was assigned to the Danites. At that time the Promised Land was distributed to the Hebrews by tribe after the exodus and the 40 years of wandering in the desert.

Later, Joppa was the entry point for the cedars that King Hiram sent to King Solomon to be used to build the temple in Jerusalem (2 Chr 2:16.). About two centuries later, Jonah set sail from Joppa as he ran from the Lord’s command to prophesy to the people of Nineveh (Jonah 1:3). Ezra mentions that the cedars to rebuild the temple were sent to Joppa from Lebanon (Ezr 3:7).

While there are no specific references to Jesus being in Jaffa, there are 10 references in Acts (chapters nine to 11) identifying the early Church after the Ascension of Jesus.

While visiting Israel earlier this year I learned that Israel has changed hands 38 times in its known history. Jaffa is a good example of that legacy. The city has been controlled by Babylon, Phoenix and Alexander the Great (when Alexander the Great was King.) This occupation led to control by Macedonia, the Maccabaeans and the Roman Empire.

The house of Simon the Tanner (Acts Chapter 10) where Peter stayed on his trip to Joppa has two towers. One is the roof of the house and the other is a light-house. The city was still operated by the family that lives in this house.

In the central city there are streets that have doors that are used as decorations on the side of the buildings. One such street leads to a pear shaped hanging planter.

One of my fondest memories of Israel is the incredible sculptures that are seen everywhere. Jaffa is no exception. The extended plaza outside the entrance of the Church, the new plaza on the 12th century. While that is historic, the ancient city is still in use.

While there are many sites to visit, the best are the cool air and the beauty of the Mediterranean Sea.

**PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND**

**SCOTT FLEISCHMANN**

great treats is the Basilica of St. Peter’s, which includes a hospice. It overlooks the Jaffa port and a beautiful view of the Mediterranean Sea, including sculptures, gardens and an ancient cannon. It was built in 1654 over the site of a citadel built in the 12th century by Frederick II, a Roman emperor, and restored by Louis IX of France later in the same century. Since then it has been destroyed and rebuilt several times. The present church and attached hospice were completed in 1894 and renovated in 1903, as is now operated by the Franciscans.

Those visiting Jaffa may also be interested in the many other sites in the area. The following are a few of the best:

• The port of Jaffa. In addition to the history mentioned above the beautiful blue-green Mediterranean is breathtaking. The port is clean and perfect for an early morning walk or bike ride.

• The distinctive three story clock tower in central Jaffa was finished in 1903 to observe the 25th anniversary of the start of the reign of the Ottoman Sultan Abdul Hamid II. The last emperor to maintain control over the Ottoman Empire.

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While there are many sites to visit, the best are the cool air and the beauty of the Mediterranean Sea.

**The diversity and contrast of the 12th century. While that is historic, the ancient city is still in use.**

**THE APSTOLS’ CREED**

**TIM O’MALLEY**

**Reflection**

Fundamentally, these readings call us to divinely revealed truths so often and so outrageously ignored in the world. God, the Creator, is supreme. No one can follow a standard opposite God’s will.

Since each human being is God’s precious child, God’s priceless masterpiece of creation, no one, and no society, has the right to demean or compromise this dignity. It especially is a powerful thought in the face of legalized abortion on demand and the movement to allow euthanasia.

Secondly, marriage comes from God. Children are indispensable in any concept of marriage drawn from Christian tradition.

The increasingly accepted option of divorce has clouded popular views of marriage. Years of accepting contraception has dulled for us the sense that children are God’s gift and come from God.

We are called to see life, marriage and procreation in the light of God’s will.

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**

**Scott Fleischmann** is a writer, editor and publishing coach living in Grayslake, Ill.
Porch sitting

Cracked and peeling old white wicker furniture waits for me on our front porch. My husband bought me the set years ago when we lived in a different house and frankly, lived a different life. Back then, I sat on the then new wicker rocker and swayed back and forth with my newborn daughter, smelling the freshly mown grass from the neighbor’s yard and taking in the laughter of the young children who rode their bikes on our subdivision driveaway.

I sat on that same furniture when I was reeling from a cancer diagnosis, and I sat there, months later, huddled in blankets on a cold October afternoon when I finished my last round of chemotherapy, relieved.

In the wicker chair I watched the rhythm of the lives around me press on. A middle-aged mother whose children had grown rode her bike past my house nearly every afternoon. A policeman neighbor returned from work in the morning after a long night’s work. Children climbed off of a bright yellow school bus at 3 p.m. Their loud and jolting manner, and their playful pushing and shoving one another made me crave both their energy and pine, if only for a moment, for a time in my life when the biggest decision was what snack to eat after school.

Today, the same wicker furniture, now flaking bits of paint, decorates a porch in front of the country home in which we now live. The newborn who once rested in my arms in that rocker is now reading and writing and taking ballet lessons. The son whom I waved goodbye to on that old front porch has been out of school for several years and lives in another state, a young adult, making his own life. I still sit in that same rocker. I shake my head, and take this all in.

Instead of watching a bustling neighborhood, I now see in my wicker chair God’s majesty and glory in nature. A red-tailed hawk has made our land his own, and daily I see him watch and wait for the little ground squirrels that pop their heads up in the field. I hear the gentle cooing of a mourning dove or observe a doe and her fawn prance across the dew-strewn, long grass. I watch the sun rise red over the neighbor’s pond and while I do not formally pray on the porch — I have a special place in the home where I like to do that — I do contemplate God there.

Last summer my second oldest son graduated from college and was embarking on his career in a city far away. That summer he offered to do some chores before he left, to help his mama catch up on projects she wanted to accomplish. God bless him. Of course one of the first projects I wanted done was to keep up the front porch and have the wicker furniture repaired and in top condition. Together we repainted the white railing surrounding the porch. Then he carefully and meticulously repaired the legs on my white wicker rocker, rewrapping a bit of wicker that had come loose and gluing it, then nailing the leg back securely on.

In the early summer of this year, June to be exact, my oldest, college-aged daughter and I away to college on that old front porch has been out of school for several years and lives in another state, a young adult, making his own life. I still sit in that same rocker. I shake my head, and take this all in.

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Sitting together on the porch, in the wicker, watching God’s hand in the beauty around us, time flew. The relationship grew. Porch sitting is such a gift!

Theresa Thomas

A tribute to Msgr. Raymond Balzer

By Father Derrick Sneyd

“A simple man. A holy man. A priest of God.” That was Father Ray for the 40 years that I had known him. My first acquaintance with Father Ray was in 1972 when I was doing my postgraduate studies and serving as a curate at Our Lady of Hungary Parish, South Bend. The first impression was the lasting impression of the man.

Within a short while I had come to know that Father Ray was an avid Notre Dame fan and he cheered the Irish for all of them! If they won, he was happy. If they were not the winners he would say, “They’ll win the next game.”

On one occasion I asked him how he managed to find a replacement for the Saturday evening Mass consistently. He said, “God provides!” and he meant it too. Well, now the Irish have a fan in the heavenly kingdom.

Father Ray’s pastoral ministry was admirable for his kindness and the amazing ability to avoid conflicts. Now that’s an art! Maybe a science! His devotion to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist gave him the strength and grace to withstand the administrative pressures of being a pastor. He is fortunate that he retired from administrative responsibilities several years ago. Shortly after he turned 75, I met him at Notre Dame and a very pleasant conversation ensued. In bidding farewell, he said, “Love the Priesthood. It is His gift.” I am currently pastor at Immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn. Father Ray’s final assignment was in his very parish. However, I am confident that (and continue to have) a great appreciation and love for his gentleness. His most memorable contribution to this faith-filled community was the start of an Adoration Chapel. The Lord is with us in this chapel and the people faithfully spend an hour or even two in His Presence (Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.). And they remember Father Ray.

And as it always happens with the passing of years, pastors age and retire. Their names are remembered in the history of the parish. Father Ray will now be remembered as Msgr. Ray Balzer. That tradition is followed upon him this honorary title when his days of active ministry were over.

Whatever the folks remember about the rest of us who have served this community, we can only hope that they would be kind to each one just as the then-Father Ray was kind to each of them.

May the soul of the good Msgr. Ray (Balzer) rest in peace. Amen.

Father Derrick Sneyd is the pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Auburn.
BISHOP LUERS SOCCER TEAM WINS SAC TITLE

The Bishop Luers boys’ soccer team recently clinched the Summit Athletic Conference (SAC) title beating Snider, 5-0, on Sept. 24. The Knights were undefeated in conference play for 2012 finishing 7-0 helping them maintain a No. 2 (1-A) rating for the final week of the 1-A state polls released the same day. Bishop Luers swapped places with No. 4 ranked Evansville Mater Dei in the Week 5 Indiana Soccer Coaches Association votes on Sept. 10. The 2011 Sectional champs return four of their top scorers this season and their leading defender giving them high hopes for the 2012 postseason, which kicks off Oct. 1. — Michelle Castleman

Sports

Cardegles start cross-country season with a bang

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In Catholic Youth League (CYO) cross-country action, the Cardegles of St. Jude and St. Charles started their 2012 season with a bang running in several races to date. Coach Dan Kauffman reports that his talented team is making good progress with 27 boys on the team and 21 girls on the roster. At the midway point, the boys’ team has a record of 45-24 and the girls’ have compiled a 22-39 start.

Running with a split squad, the team recently competed at the 42nd West Noble Invitational in Ligonier. The remainder of the team raced in the Huntington Catholic Invite where the girls finished second and the boys finished third to winners, St. Vincent.

At West Noble, the boys had a good performance finishing 14th out of 28 teams. The girls, who ran a little shorthanded, finished 23rd.

Kauffman explained, “The meet included some of the best middle school runners from northern Indiana.”

Individually, Abbey Brelage was the top Cardegle finisher at 11th with the second fastest time in Cardegle history of 11:37 at the West Noble Invitational.

Cardegle Abbey Brelage with her trophy after running the second fastest girl’s time in Cardegle history of 11:37 at the West Noble Invitational.

— Michelle Castleman

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BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — The Inter-City Catholic League hosted a battle that would shape the league championship as the undefeated Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders and their unblemished record squared off against an up-and-coming, one-loss St. Matthew (St. Jude, St. Michael, Our Lady of Hungry) Blazer team at Saint Joseph High School.

For the blue-clad Crusaders the opening drive would start as any textbook drive — strong running by a convoy of runningbacks Danny Chimuta, Paul Murphy and Jake Rolinski, then pepperin in passes by quarterback Tom LaViolette.

Raiders take their first loss to ICCL Blazers

Crusaders take their first loss to ICCL Blazers

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Bishop Dwenger captures SAC cross-country title

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School captured the Summit Athletic Conference (SAC) 2012 cross-country title at the Fort Wayne Plex on Sept. 29. The Saints were paced by four top 10 finishers.

Senior standout Luke Miller led the pack finishing third with a time of 16:35. Greg Tippmann was fifth, Jack Obergfell was seventh and Mark Berghoff placed tenth. Derek Goudemans ended up in the 16th spot, rounding out the scoring for Bishop Dwenger. The Saints are looking forward to a strong post-season run after coming up just short as a team in 2011 at the state meet.

Miller, Tippmann, Berghoff and Bishop Luers’ Sean McManus were named 2012 all-conference recipients. McManus had a 13th place finish leading the Knights to an eighth-place team finish.

Both the Bishop Dwenger boys’ and girls’ teams won the junior varsity SAC meets. In varsity girls’ action, Bishop Luers finished third and Bishop Dwenger fourth. The Saints’ top-two finishers, Madison Busch (eighth) and Robin Schafer (10th) earned all-conference honors.

MARIAN SOCCER HELPS WITH WALK

The Marian High School, Mishawaka, soccer teams help the Annual Michiana Down Syndrome Buddy Walk at St. Joseph County 4-H Fairgrounds Sept. 29. The students worked with children of all ages with Down syndrome engaging them in different activities such as dancing, ball and ring tossing, duck pond fishing and bubble blowing. Shannon Hendricks, a Marian High School soccer player, has a brother with Down syndrome named Brian. He is pictured in the back row with the group of Marian soccer players and is the team’s biggest supporter.

ICCL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

moving the pigskin straight ahead with the occasional break out run from quarterback Justin DeClark and Kaznia and with 31 seconds left in the half, DeClark threw a left-handed strike to Kendall Ranges in the back of the end zone for a huge touchdown. Jack Tiller’s points after kick was true making the score, 14-0, at intermission.

To start the second half the single wing attack of the Blazers chewed up yardage as well as almost seven minutes of clock until the defense of the Crusaders forced a turnover on downs.

The Crusaders were a little nicked up as Murphy and Rolinski nursed wounds on the sidelines and Chimatu ran gingerly on a banged up leg, but they still had hope to keep their perfect season alive until after a Nick Monnin sack forced another long play.

With 3:29 to play facing a fourth and 14, Crusader quarterback LaViolette lofted a deep pass that was intercepted by DeClark and the speedy defensive back raced 70 yards to put the score out of reach and the score, 20-0, in the record book.

“We had a little adversity this past couple of weeks with grades, but as a team we overcame and persevered,” remarked Blazer head coach Ben Domonkos. “Our captains — DeClark, Kaznia and...”

ICCL LEAGUE STANDINGS

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Jorden Brown — really stepped up in practice and the team rallied around that positive influence.”

Blocking and tackling has always been the key to success in this league and today, we didn’t do a great job of either,” remarked Crusader skipper John Krzyzewski. “We have to do a better job at getting the little things done if we expect to compete, as for the St. Matthew’s team, they run a unique offense but their coaching staff has them running it extremely well.”

In other ICCL action, the Mishawaka Catholic Saints defeated West Side Catholic, 18-6, behind runs by Alexander Horvath of 23 and six yards and a 34-yard touchdown strike from quarterback Alex Morton to Shawn Cameron. Courtney Rowell had the lone West Side score.

The last week of the regular season takes place Sunday at Saint Joseph and Marian high schools with the league championship still undecided. For a complete schedule go to the website www.icclsports.org.

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Men's smoker planned
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Athletic Booster Club will have a men's smoker night Saturday, Oct 6, at Bishop Luers High School. Enjoy football, cigars, food, drinks and raffle. Tickets are $25 per person, must be 21 to attend.

St. Mary's Soup Kitchen plans fundraiser
Fort Wayne — A fundraiser featuring the Junk Yard Band will be Saturday, Oct. 20, at St. Mary's Church, 1101 S. Lafayette St., from 7:30-11 p.m. Tickets are $10 or $120 for a reserved table of 8. Music, dancing, 50/50, silent auction, cash bar and food available. Contact Dottie at (260) 705-1690, for information.

Women's fertility workshop offered
Huntington — A NaPro TECHNOLOGY introductory meeting about women’s cycles and standardizing monthly record keeping is being presented Saturday, Oct. 6, from 10-11 a.m. at St. Jude Parish in the Parish Center Room C. Contact (260) 494-6444 or at chartdaily@frontier.com. Gentlemen are invited. Please bring your own cards.

Catholic Business Network plans meeting
Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, Oct. 5, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel. Mass will be followed in the Cathedral Center by guest speaker Bob Hartenstein from Redeemer Radio and a Benedictine Oblate. Refreshments will be provided by Redeemer Radio.

Rosary Society plans family rosary
Fort Wayne — The Most Precious Blood Parish Rosary Society will have a rummage and bake sale Saturday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Mohr Hall. A family rosary will be Tuesday, Oct. 9, at 6 p.m. in the church, 1515 Barthold St. Eucharistic Adoration will be from 5-6 p.m.

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Marian High School Homecoming Tailgate
Mishawaka — Marian High School Homecoming Tailgate will be Friday, Oct. 12, from 6-8 p.m. on the patio adjacent to the football field for food, fellowship and activities for children. Cost is $5 per person over age 14. RSVP to rsvp@marianhs.org or call (574) 258-7676.

Bishop Luers announces Walk-A-Thon
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers Walk-A-Thon will be Friday, Oct. 5. Students will accept donations towards their fundraising goal of $46,000. If you would like to sponsor a student, or make a check, pay to Bishop Luers’! Contact (260) 456-1261 or email jan dorfer@bishopluers.org.

Halloween trivia night planned
South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary School, 735 W. Calvert St., will have a trivia night Friday, Oct. 5, at 6:30 p.m. Prizes will be given to participants who bring snacks to share and can wear a costume. $200 prize to table with the top score. Other prizes, including one for best Halloween costume, will be awarded. Proceeds benefit the church building fund. Tickets are $10 or $100 for a table of 10. Call (574) 287-1700 to reserve a table.

St. Hedwig plans Polish Festival
South Bend — St. Hedwig will have a Polish Festival Saturday, Oct. 14, from noon to 4 p.m. at the St. Hedwig Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St. A Polka Mass will be at 11 a.m. and continue with a piggy raffle, balloon art, games and a pastry booth. Polish fare will include kielbasa, chicken, noodles, sweet and sour cabbage, pierogi and golabki. Polka music provided by Tim Deka Orchestra.

Music Boosters host pancake breakfast
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger High School Music Boosters will host a Pancake Breakfast Saturday, Oct. 6, from 7-11 a.m. in the Bishop Dwenger Cafeteria. Entertainment will be provided by Bishop Dwenger music students. Proceeds support the Fine Arts of Bishop Dwenger High School.

Memorial Service for the Unborn
Fort Wayne — The 20th annual Memorial Service for the Unborn will be Saturday, Oct. 6, at 2 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church, 3050 Lake Ave. This non-denominational service is for the hundreds of victims of abortion in Allen County. All are welcome to come to give thanks for the children lost to abortion and pray for all who are suffering from the pain of abortion.

Knights plan fish fry
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry Friday, Oct. 5, from 5-7 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $4 for children 12 and under.

Rally to protect religious liberty planned
Fort Wayne — Defenders of religious liberty will have a rally to show respect and protect the First Amendment of the United States Constitution at 10 a.m. on Oct. 6, on the Allen County Courthouse Green. Speakers include Rep. Sue Ellsperman, Indiana House District 74; Sue Swayze, policy director, Indiana Right to Life; Fred Everett, director of Family Life, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend; and Pat Miller, vocal defender of religious freedom.

Trivia Night planned
Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist Parish, 4500 Fairfield Ave., will have a trivia night Saturday, Oct. 20, at 6 p.m. Questions begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are $100 per table, up to 10 people. Beverages available, costume contest, cash prizes. Contact Emily VanFossen at (260) 745-7999 or evanj@hotmail.com for information.

Mass of healing offered
Auburn — Immaculate Conception Church will offer a Mass of Healing and Anointing on Friday, Oct. 12, at noon. A complimentary lunch will be provided after the Mass in the parish hall. RSVP to Lisa Hess at office@acauburn.com or (260) 925-3930.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, Oct. 11, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets are $7 for adults and $2.50 for children 5-12. Proceeds will benefit St. Joseph County Right to Life.

St. Anthony de Padua School eighth grade hosts annual spaghetti dinner
South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School, located at the corner of Ironwood and Jefferson Blvd., will have a spaghetti dinner Friday, Oct. 5, from 4-7 p.m. in the school gym, featuring Papa Vino’s sauce, salad, dressing and bread. Beer, wine, beverages and dessert will also be available. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door. Tickets are $6 per adult and $5 for seniors and children age 12 and under. All proceeds benefit the Class of 2013.

School ball and auction planned
Wabash — The 21st annual St. Bernard School Ball and Auction will be held Saturday, Oct. 13, at Legacy Hall of the Honeywell Center at 6 p.m. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. followed by the live auction. Entertainment provided by the band Small Town. Cash raffle tickets are also available for the drawing to be held that night. Only 850 tickets will be sold for cash prizes of $5,000 and $1,000. All proceeds provide scholarships and aid to the school. Call (260) 563-5746 for reservations and/or raffle tickets.
OSV CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bishops and priests from across the United States and Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli, president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, conclebrated.

"Today it is good to remember his extraordinary life and legacy, particularly his role as founder of Our Sunday Visitor, one of the largest Catholic publishing houses in the world," Bishop Rhoades said as he reflected upon the life of Bishop Noll.

"His first 14 years as a priest included ministry in a number of parishes, where he had already become known for his defense of the Catholic faith at a time of much anti-Catholic bigotry," Bishop Rhoades said. "He had already begun his life’s work of explaining the truths of the Catholic faith with clarity to Catholics and Protestants alike. He did so in preaching and in writing."

Then Father Noll was recognized nationally as a Catholic publicist through the national magazine The Parish Monthly. In 1912, he began a new newspaper named Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington.

"The immediate context was to defend the Church from the virulently anti-Catholic periodical called The Menace, a hate-filled publication that unleashed a wave of anti-Catholic bigotry around the country," Bishop Rhoades said. "Our Sunday Visitor was a weekly national newspaper that not only countered anti-Catholic lies and attacks, but also educated the faithful on the truths of the Catholic faith. The rest is history."

Today Our Sunday Visitor continues its mission in evangelization, its mandate to spread the Gospel, and its service to the truth. This mission includes the defense of the faith. This aspect of the mission, prominent at the founding of OSV during a time of widespread anti-Catholic bigotry, cannot be neglected today," Bishop Rhoades said. "Anti-Catholicism has rightly been called ‘the last acceptable prejudice,’ and is seen today in the animosity toward the Catholic Church from various sources, most cruelly perhaps in the influential entertain-

Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago, attended the Mass of thanksgiving and rededication at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Friday, Sept. 28. Earlier in the afternoon he was a featured symposium speaker at the Our Sunday Visitor centennial celebration.

Bishop Rhoades said, "Our Sunday Visitor has been a shining example of the lay faithful exercising their prophetic role through the media in service to evangelization and continues to seek new ways of proclaiming the Gospel through traditional and new media."

In a letter conveying the congratulations of Pope Benedict XVI on the 100th anniversary of Our Sunday Visitor, the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, wrote, “As the universal Church engages in the work of the New Evangelization, which reminds us of her perennial mission of leading all people to the fullness of life and salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and on the threshold of the Year of Faith, the Holy Father is confident that Our Sunday Visitor will continue to respond with the same deep and zealous faith which has marked and inspired its efforts these past 100 years.”

Bishop Rhoades offered a special blessing on the board members and staff of Our Sunday Visitor at the end of the Mass.

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The new Girl Scouts My Promise, My Faith pin invites girls in grades K-12 to experience a faith journey through exploration of the Girl Scout Law and teachings from their faith. Adult volunteers partner with Catholic girls by guiding them through a personal faith journey and linking the national pin with the Catholic religious recognitions.

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Director of Mission Delivery
800.283.4812 ext. 132