SOUTH BEND — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Black Catholic Advisory Board is determined to make a stronger black presence in the Catholic Church and around the diocese.

Since their first meeting after attending the National Black Catholic Congress XI that was held in Indianapolis in July the group has been working on a plan. Soon they will be ready to reach out to black Catholics to share the richness of their traditions and culture with others in the diocese in meaningful ways.

One theme of the congress was faith in action and the board is currently working on a plan of action.

November is considered Black Catholic History month and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend wanted to recognize that history. It all began in 1990, during a convention at Fordham University in New York, where the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of the United States voted to establish November as Black Catholic History Month. November was chosen because of the number of important dates associated with the world’s Black Catholics that fall within this month. Dates such as Nov. 1, All Saints’ Day — an opportunity to incorporate the lives of the hundreds of black saints, especially in the first 300 years of the Church, and Nov. 2, All Souls Day — a time to remember all those Africans lost to cruel treatment in the Middle Passage crossing of the Atlantic Ocean, according Black Catholic Congress website.

Recognizing the rich history of black

Members of the Diocesan Black Catholic Advisory Board from left, front, Wendy Summers, Leslie Morgan and Annie Tardy, and back, James Summers, Jenario Morgan, Holy Cross Brother Roy Smith and Deacon Melvin Tardy. The board was formed after their experience at the National Black Catholic Congress in Indianapolis last July, and is working on a pastoral plan for the diocese.
Bishops agree on need for better preaching, more penance

Baltimore (CNS) — During their annual fall full general assembly in Baltimore Nov. 12-15, the U.S. bishops voted down a document on the troubled U.S. economy, passed documents on penance and better preaching, approved a reorganization of their Communications Department and endorsed the sainthood cause of Dorothy Day.

The bishops were to meet in executive session Nov. 14 and 15, which were not open to the public.

On the assembly’s opening day, the bishops discussed the nation’s troubled economy and what their response to it should be, but a day later their proposed document “The Hope of the Gospel in Difficult Times: A Pastoral Message on Work, Poverty and the Economy” did not gain the two-thirds vote required for passage.

When it was introduced Nov. 12, some bishops criticized the document for being too long to be practical and for failing to include a variety of points and historical references.

On the assembly’s second day, the bishops approved their first new document in 30 years on preaching. The document, “The Mystery of Faith: The Sunday Homily,” encourages preachers to connect the Sunday homily with people’s daily lives.

The document was prepared by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Divine Worship, chaired by Archbishop Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis.

When he introduced the document Nov. 12, the archbishop said preaching must be done “more effectively in the context of the New Evangelization. … Our people hunger for better preaching, preaching that would help them rediscover their faith.”

The bishops overwhelmingly approved — in a 236-1 vote — an exhortation encouraging Catholics to take advantage of the sacrament of Reconciliation.

The text was approved by overwhelming majorities of bishops and the bishops’ Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, chaired by Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay, Wis. The exhortation, to be made available in pamphlet form, is intended to ease the fears of Catholics who have not gone to Confession for some time.

It will be made public in time to allow for diocesan preparation for Lent 2013.

On a voice vote, the bishops endorsed the sainthood cause of Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement.

New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, USCCB president, is promoting Day’s cause; her Catholic Worker ministry was based in New York City. The cause was first undertak-
Hispanic faithful ‘Arise’

By Jodi Magallanes

SOUTH BEND — The Arise Together in Christ parish renewal process is reaching Hispanic Catholics who are both spiritually hungry and open to the Holy Spirit, say coordinators in the diocese’s Spanish-speaking parishes.

Earlier this year the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend rolled out Arise, which encourages the faithfulness of all languages and cultures to come together and share their personal experiences in a faith-based architecture. Thousands responded, including large numbers from each parish that ministers to Spanish-speaking individuals.

Enid Roman, diocesan Hispanic ministry coordinator, said that effective training of parish-level coordinators, along with the program’s simple premise, made participants feel comfortable with Arise.

“We were pleased that we got the participation we had hoped for,” Roman said. “You always hope that more will come, that people who have not been involved in the past will continue to come in. But overall we’ve had a very good response. And we have a good group of facilitators leading them, which is where we hope is the new leadership of their parishes.”

Zulma Rodriguez, a parishioner at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Coshen, and Father Fernando Jimenez, associate pastor, said that the support they received made all the difference in Rodriguez’s success as a first-time ministry volunteer.

“That’s the beauty of it. Even if you think you don’t know how to be a minister, everything is right here,” Rodriguez said of her coordinator’s booklet.

“We have fliers that explain everything. We have people to call for help if we have questions.”

Father Jimenez sees that Arise is opening participants up to each other and to the idea of letting God work in their lives. “As Hispanics, you know, in church, people invite you to prayer service, they invite you to their homes, but some people need a push to sincerely allow Him to work in their lives. This has been helping people to do that.”

“You’re going to share your own personal experience. And you know how when someone smiles at you or gives you an encouraging word, how it changes your day?” added Rodriguez. “That’s what happens here, and it makes people feel comfortable. It’s that personal experience that will lead people to evangelization.”

At St. Adalbert Parish in South Bend, Arise — or Levantate: Unámanos en Cristo — as it’s known in Spanish, played right into the work that ministers were already doing.

“We were already gathering together — some for prayer, Christ Renews His Parish, Latino Guadalupans (those with special devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe), marriage preparation and other programs and ministries, but this adds formation. And I love the structure of the book,” Jesusa Rivera, the coordinator of St. Adalbert’s Levantate program, said.

Implementation of Levantate was phenomenally successful at St. Adalbert, starting with the group of 40 so ministers who were brought together in June for conversations and program training.

“It was extremely positive and energizing. This was a desire. They wanted to do this,” Rivera said. “We know that, at the end of the day, we want to be in a relationship with God. But what will that relationship look like? We started talking about that, and that’s the positive we saw in it — that it was taking us to the next level.”

Their excitement, in turn, has been rewarded by how much they wound up liking the Levantate process.

“I was at the oración (prayer) group the other night, and the people were saying, ‘We just want to keep going!’ We say that the 90 minutes are over, but they just stay afterward … it’s just been so positive.”

Before they met for the last session last week, each of the over 40 Levantate groups at the church had between seven and 15 members, which meant that between 300 and 400 parishioners were participating. Most of the groups were Spanish-speaking, although a couple of sessions were conducted English. Rivera is optimistic that even more people will respond to the second phase of the program early next year.

“I think that if we speak about our good experience and engage people prior to then by giving testimony, they will respond.”

One thing that proved both helpful and inspirational was Holy Cross Father Peter Pacini’s involvement, Rivera continued. “He was at every one of our meetings. So it wasn’t just the people that were getting excited about it on their own. They were being led from the top down.”

At the end of each Arise/Levantate lesson are suggestions for how to turn faith into action. Some of the Levantate groups at St. Adalbert decided to carry them out as a unit. One got together to pray for the sick and another collected canned goods and donated them to the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry.
the aim would be to more accurately reflect the original Latin texts.

The bishops approved a reorganization of their Communications Department that would include hiring a director of public affairs who would work to unify messages on the activities and stances of the USCCB — not individual dioceses or bishops — and better carry out Church campaigns related to New Evangelization, according to Cardinal Dolan.

Cardinal Dolan said the USCCB’s communications effort must take advantage of new communications technologies. The cost of hiring a public affairs director and support staff and other services is estimated at $400,000 annually, according to the supporting document.

The plan calls for a reorganization of the Communications Department, which includes a media relations office, customer and client relations, creative services, which is responsible for online and video messages, and Catholic News Service.

The bishops were also urged to broaden their support for their national collections. In a Nov. 13 report, they heard that a decline in diocesan participation in these collections since 2009 has been a loss of $8.7 million to Catholic programs that benefit from the collection.

Bishop Kevin J. Farrell of Dallas, chairman of the Committee on National Collections, described the collections as “an important mechanism for mobilizing collective action in the church universal and a way for all the faithful to participate in solidarity with the rest of the Church.”

The bishops were initially scheduled to consider a document titled “Contemporary Challenges and Opportunities for the Exercise of the Teaching Ministry of the Diocesan Bishop,” developed by the Committee on Doctrine. The document urged bishops to take advantage of new technologies — social media, blogging and cell phone technology — to respond and explain Church teaching when it is portrayed inaccurately, particularly by theologians.

Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington, committee chairman, decided to withdraw the document in favor of a more comprehensive statement in line with the bishops’ new communication plan and the ongoing work throughout the USCCB related to the New Evangelization. The bishops Nov. 12 agreed in a voice vote to the appointment of a working group — made up of the committee chairmen for doctrine, evangelization and catechesis, and canonical affairs and Church governance — to draft the document.

The bishops voted for a strategic plan that will guide the USCCB’s work for the next four years, a “road map” to shape conference programs and activities to strengthen the faith of Catholics and help them actively live out their faith.

During the first year, the focus will be on faith and activities closely tied to the Year of Faith. In 2014 and 2015, initiatives will strengthen parish life and worship. The final year calls for Catholics to be witnesses to the wider world.

The bishops also approved a 2013 budget of $220.4 million and agreed to add a national collection for the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services. The budget for 2013 represents a 1.3 percent increase from 2012.

The new collection for the military archdiocese would begin in 2013. Under the plan, it would be taken voluntarily in parishes every three years. Bishop Michael J. Bransfield of Wheeling-Charleston, W.Va., USCCB treasurer, said the 2013 budget includes a surplus totaling more than $749,000. He also told the bishops that there was a projected surplus of $250,000 for 2014, meaning there was no need to seek an increase in the annual diocesan assessment for USCCB operations.

In his presidential address to open the assembly, Cardinal Dolan Nov. 12 told the bishops they cannot engage culture, dialogue with others or confront challenges unless they first recognize their own sins and experience the grace of repentance.

The cardinal also said the sacrament of Penance was something the USCCB planned to stress for all Catholics year-round with reflections on re-embracing Friday as a day of Penance, including the possible reinstitution of abstinence on all Fridays.

The bishops’ assembly, which opened nearly a week after Election Day, included discussions about religious liberty, marriage and immigration.

Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, said Nov. 12 the work of defending religious liberty would continue despite “setbacks or challenges.”

San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone, chairman of the Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, said Election Day was “a disappointing day for marriage,” which points to the need to “redouble our efforts.”

In a statement issued Nov. 13, Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, as chair of the migration committee chair, urged President Barack Obama and congressional leaders to work together on a bipartisan immigration reform bill. He also encouraged people to make their voices heard in support of an immigration system “which upholds the rule of law, preserves family unity and protects the human rights and dignity of the person.”

During a news conference just after the statement was released, several bishops underscored their support for immigration reform.

Meeting Highlights
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops 2012 Fall Assembly

- Approved a document on preaching, encouraging preachers to connect the homily with people’s daily lives.
- Rejected a fast-tracked statement intended to offer support and hope to people who are suffering because of the economic downturn.
- Approved an exhortation encouraging Catholics to take advantage of the sacrament of penance.
- Endorsed the sainthood cause of Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement.
- Approved an expanded memorial for Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, a German-born Redemptorist priest who ministered in antebellum-era America.
- Agreed to begin a revision of the Liturgy of the Hours.
- Approved the hiring of a public affairs director.
- Heard a request that they broaden support for national collections, which have had a decline in diocesan participation.
- Adopted a strategic plan for the next four years to shape conference programs and activities.
- Agreed to hold a national collection for the U.S. Archdiocese for Military Services.
- Approved a 2013 budget of $220.4 million.
- Took part in a workshop on using online and social media.

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Contributing to this report were Mark Pattison, Patricia Zapor and Dennis Sadowski in Baltimore and Carol Zimmermann in Washington.
New Evangelization calls all Catholics to share faith, says cardinal

**BY MARK ZIMMERMANN**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Church’s New Evangelization and its call to share the faith is the responsibility of all Catholics, said Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington.

“It’s our moment ... it’s our turn to share in this outpouring of the Holy Spirit, this new Pentecost,” he said.

That sense of a “new Pentecost” unfolding in the Church, he said, was shared by the 250 bishops from around the world who participated in the world Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization convened by Pope Benedict XVI Oct. 7-28.

Cardinal Wuerl was appointed by the pope to serve as the relator of the synod, summarizing and reporting on the bishops’ suggestions and recommendations. In that role he introduced the synod’s work Oct. 8 with a global overview of the challenge of evangelization today, and laid out the values that he said must be the foundation of the Church’s outreach.

After his return to Washington, he gave an overview of the synod Nov. 5. On the first day of the U.S. bishops’ annual fall general assembly in Baltimore, a couple of the U.S. bishops who were synod delegates gave a brief report to the body of bishops.

In a recent talk at the Catholic Information Center in downtown Washington, he gave an overview of the synod.

Just as the first disciples were called by Jesus to be his witnesses, Cardinal Wuerl said, today’s Catholics must be witnesses to the good news and help others encounter Jesus in a world where many have not heard the Gospel or have drifted away or grown lukewarm in their faith.

The challenges that the early Church faced in bringing Christ to an indifferent or even hostile culture mirror those of our times, he said.

“We have to inspire (others) with the witness of our own faith, by our own lives,” the cardinal said.

Pope Benedict’s call to Catholics to take up the work of the New Evangelization is a key priority of his papacy, Cardinal Wuerl noted. “Who’s involved in the New Evangelization? ... The answer is, every one of us.”

Bishops at the synod emphasized the central role of families in sharing the faith, the cardinal said. “It begins in families. The task of telling the story of Jesus, of passing it on begins in every family.”

Young people have a key role in the New Evangelization, Cardinal Wuerl added. Many young Catholics, he said, realize there’s more to life than what the secular world offers.

Cardinal Wuerl said the synod also underscored how people must remain connected to the Church and its teachings as they deepen their own faith, grow in confidence in its truth, and share that truth with others.

Bishops at the synod also emphasized a practical, not a theoretical, approach for Catholics to take up that call.

“We were there to talk about how to renew the face of the earth, to proclaim again that Jesus Christ is Lord, and invite people into that personal encounter” with Christ, he said.

The cardinal said that Pope Benedict in his opening homily for the synod emphasized three elements of the New Evangelization. “The first element is recognizing the need for renewal of our own personal faith,” Cardinal Wuerl said. “You can’t participate in sharing something if it has not been renewed and revived in your own heart.”

Prayer and studying Scripture, the cardinal said, are critically important to that personal renewal of faith. “That’s how we learn of the presence of God in our lives.”

With the renewal of faith comes a confidence in the truth of its message, which is the second element of the New Evangelization, the cardinal said. Recent generations of Catholics had poor catechesis, and many don’t understand what the Church teaches and lack confidence in what they believe, said the cardinal, who has encouraged Catholics to use the Catechism of the Catholic Church as a sure guide for the Church’s authentic teaching.

The third element, the cardinal noted, “is the willingness to share the faith. That’s probably where we’re the shyest. We Catholics tend to be reluctant evangelists. ... We’re so reluctant, even with friends, to talk about the important things. Young people are much more open to talking about the place of the Lord in our lives.”

Especially in the face of today’s challenges — an ever-growing secularization of society, materialism and individualism, to name a few — today’s Catholics are called to pass on the faith, he said, so people today to know and love Jesus who was crucified, rose from the dead and sent the Holy Spirit to guide his Church.

On the opening day of the U.S. bishops’ annual fall general assembly Nov. 12-15 in Baltimore, two archbishops who were U.S. delegates to the synod gave a brief report on the proceedings.

Both Archbishops Gustavo Garcia-Siller of San Antonio and Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles cited the presence of Pope Benedict at many sessions — and for considerable lengths of time — as a highlight.

“The New Evangelization continues to be the task of communicating that experience to the people who have never met Christ (as well as) those who have heard of Jesus Christ but have never experienced him as living water,” Archbishop Garcia-Siller said. He added the New Evangelization calls for “the locus of the parish as a unit of faith, where movements, and all pastoral endeavors, should meet.”

Archbishop Gomez quipped that with the strict five-minute time limit given for synod speakers, “every time I come close to a microphone, I get really nervous.”

**Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington talks with a cardinal before a meeting of the Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization at the Vatican Oct. 9. The Church’s New Evangelization and its call to share the faith is the responsibility of all Catholics, the cardinal said in a talk in Washington after his return from the synod.**
Cross International Catholic Outreach Supports Efforts Of Heroic Mission Team in Africa

It began with a calling from God — a soft whisper in one woman’s heart, urging her to serve the poor in Christ’s name.

That woman is Olinda Mugabe, a Catholic lay missionary, and she has since turned God’s calling into a life-changing ministry for poor children in Mozambique, Africa.

In 1998, Mugabe and a group of her friends launched Reencontro, a Catholic ministry with the mission to save the lives of AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children in Mozambique. Olinda knew there were thousands of orphaned children who needed help — she had witnessed the AIDS pandemic firsthand and had seen how it was racing through the population, striking down parents by the thousands.

The eyes of the forgotten children left behind as orphans of that crisis haunted Olinda and filled her prayers at night.

“When the people who were living with HIV started to die, their children were left without anybody,” Olinda said. “So I was grieving for the children. I knew I would need other people to help me find a way to support these children.”

The outreach had humble beginnings, serving about a hundred children, but it grew quickly as others discovered the importance of the work and learned of the integrity of its founders. One of those early sponsors was Cross Catholic Outreach (formerly known as Cross International Catholic Outreach). Among other things, it helped Reencontro add staff, purchase equipment, and open a new office.

Today, Reencontro supplies aid in various forms to 7,000 orphans and has expanded its services to include medical care and a house-building program that keeps families of orphans together under the care of an older sibling. Cross Catholic Outreach, the Florida-based charity, was created specifically to provide this kind of support. Rather than create its own centers overseas, Cross Catholic Outreach serves the poorest of the poor by finding local Catholic ministries like Reencontro, supporting them with help from its benefactors in the U.S.

Such support has allowed Olinda to answer God’s call to help the “least of these” in Mozambique — the forgotten children orphaned by AIDS.

“I can only carry out my dreams, my mission, because of the people that are supporting this outreach,” Olinda said. “We know the support of American Catholics does not come easy because they have got money problems there also, but thankfully they rise above that. The American people have goodwill to support others that suffer, and they have a true dedication to God. That is a blessing for us. It has allowed us to rescue a lot of children because of their help.”

Cross Catholic Outreach and its supporters see this support of Reencontro quite differently.

“I’ve gotten letters from benefactors to Cross Catholic Outreach, thanking us for letting them know about Olinda and the work of her team,” explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach. “They are amazed by her personal sacrifices and the wonderful work these women are doing in Africa. They consider it a cause worthy of our support, and they say they consider it a privilege to play a role in its success.”

The point is made. There is honor in supporting a heroic effort like Olinda’s mission — and American Catholics are proud to be a part of it.

To make a tax-deductible contribution in support of Cross Catholic Outreach and its projects overseas, use either the postage-paid brochure inserted in this newspaper or send your donation to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00912, PO Box 9558, Wilton, NH 03086-9558.

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As Cross Catholic Outreach (formerly known as Cross International Catholic Outreach) continues its range of relief work to help the poor overseas, its efforts are being recognized by a growing number of Catholic leaders in the U.S.

“We’ve received an impressive number of endorsements from American Bishops and Archbishops — 60 Catholic leaders at last count,” explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO). “They’re impressed by the fact that we’ve done outreachs in more than 40 countries and that we undertake a variety of projects; everything from feeding the hungry and housing the homeless to supplying safe water and supporting educational opportunities for the poorest of the poor.”

Archbishop Robert Carlson of St. Louis sent one of the more recent letters of encouragement, writing: “It is my hope that this ministry will continue to flourish and reach as many people as possible. I will inform the priests of the Archdiocese of St. Louis of the important work that Cross Catholic Outreach does and elicit their prayerful and financial support for the service you provide to the less fortunate around the world.”

In addition to praising the work CCO accomplishes, many of the Bishops and Archbishops are also impressed by the unique collaborative relationship Cross Catholic Outreach has with the Pontifical Council Cor Unum in Rome. This allows the charity to participate in the mercy ministries of the Holy Father himself. In his praise of CCO, Archbishop Dennis Schnurr of Cincinnati underscored this unique connection.

“Cross Catholic Outreach’s close collaboration with the Pontifical Council Cor Unum is a source of encouragement,” the Archbishop said. “The Holy See has unique knowledge of local situations throughout the world through its papal representatives in nearly two hundred countries and through its communications with Bishops and others who care for the poor and needy in every corner of the world.”

CCO president, Jim Cavnar, explained the significance of this connection. “Our collaboration with Cor Unum allows us to fund outreachs in virtually any area of the world and we have used that method in special cases — to help the victims of natural disasters, for example,” he said. “It only represents a small part of our overall ministry, but it can be a very important benefit in those situations.”

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Modern Day Daniel Faces Own “Lion’s Den” Of Hardships — But Perseveres With Help From American Catholics

The biblical story of Daniel centers on one man’s immense trust in God during a horriﬁng ordeal: a night trapped in a den of hungry lions. Daniel trusts God to save him, and the Lord sees his innocence and intercedes. The biblical Daniel endured only one night of danger, but for Daniel Namapala, an eleven-year-old orphan in Mozambique, the “lions” threatening his life surround him every single day.

Instead of teeth and claws, little Daniel’s lions are loneliness, fear and desperation. Like the biblical Daniel, all he can do is trust God.

When Daniel was 2, his mother died of AIDS. His father left him with his elderly grandmother. He later passed away of the same disease. Daniel has no siblings and no recollection of his parents — not even a single photograph.

Daniel’s elderly grandmother and sole caregiver is very sick and can’t protect him, let alone afford to feed, clothe and educate him. He is often hungry, rarely happy and almost completely reliant on the few dollars he earns in the streets by selling odds and ends he makes.

Millions of orphaned children in developing countries share stories similar to Daniel’s. When their parents die as a result of preventable illnesses caused by unsanitary conditions are also to blame. Whatever the cause, innocent children are left behind, and there’s no place for them to turn.

To help solve this terrible problem, Cross Catholic Outreach partners with local parishes and ministries caring for orphaned children in developing countries. As a result, tens of thousands of children worldwide now lead better lives.

The many ministries Cross Catholic Outreach funds provide food when orphans are hungry; medicine when they are sick; shelter when they are homeless; educational support when they can’t afford to attend school; and loving counseling when they are hurting. For orphans mired in poverty, the impact of this support is profound. Cross Catholic Outreach’s assistance literally means the difference between a “normal” childhood and a life of despair. For those taken into the program, there is a much better chance of a prosperous adulthood too.

“Reencontro” is one of the key Cross Catholic Outreach partners in this type of outreach. Reencontro was launched by Catholic lay women who provide services for up to 7,000 poor orphaned or vulnerable children in Mozambique.

One of their many “success stories” is Marta Macomb. Marta was only 13 when her father died and left her, the oldest child in the family, to head the remaining household. She cooked meals, fetched water and ﬁrewood, washed clothes and ground corn into ﬂour with a mortar and pestle. She and her younger brothers and sisters lived alone in a decrepit shack made of reeds left to them by their parents. At such a young age, she could barely scrape together enough food for her siblings, let alone ﬁnd time or money to attend school.

Reencontro discovered Marta and immediately enrolled the family in Reencontro’s programs. No longer struggling to survive, Marta is now a thriving 18-year-old who, thanks to educational support from Reencontro, speaks ﬂuent English and has plans to study at the university level.

Left to her earlier fate, she might never have survived, and would certainly not have been blessed with such opportunity.

“Children like Marta are examples of what God can do through Catholic lay missionaries — and through the loving Catholics who support them ﬁnancially,” Cavnar said.

Like Reencontro, dozens of Catholic ministries are also dedicated to orphaned and vulnerable children in countries around the globe, including Ethiopia, Ecuador, Haiti, the Philippines and Mozambique. Many of these also depend on Cross Catholic Outreach for ﬁnancial support — and Cross Catholic Outreach remains committed to aiding them in Christ’s name.

“That’s only possible because we continue to have the help and support of American Catholics. It is in their name we make our pledges of support,” Cavnar said. “I’m conﬁdent our American beneﬁciaries will continue to help us give children like Daniel the resources they need to become successful adults like Marta. When God calls Catholics to help in his name, they always seem to answer — even if it is from the other side of the globe!”

For Daniel, receiving this help will ultimately mean obtaining practical things like food, school and medical care — but it will also mean new hope. The volunteers who have become his mothers and who counsel him will show him what it means to have a family for the ﬁrst time.

“Yes, they are my mothers,” Daniel said, “I feel happy when they come to visit me. I pray every day they will never leave me.”

If Cross Catholic Outreach has anything to say about it, Daniel will never face that “lion” of loss again.

Catholic support from the U.S. forever changed Daniel Namapala’s fate for the better.

When Marta was discovered living in a straw shack, she was caring for several younger siblings. Today, she has a home and hope — her life has improved and her future is bright.

When their parents die as a result of preventable diseases, they have no relatives or neighbors to take them in; they live in dilapidated shacks, are forced to drop out of school, and must work odd jobs to earn a few pennies for food.

Sadly, the number of young children who could tell these heart-breaking stories is vast — literally measured in the thousands.

“The plight of orphaned and vulnerable children in developing countries is extreme because, in most situations, they live in poverty so intense they can’t go to school, see a doctor when they’re sick or eat each day,” said Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach (formerly known as Cross International Catholic Outreach), a ministry involved with alleviating poverty among children worldwide.

According to Cavnar, the number of orphaned children around the world has reached a “critical mass,” meaning there are thousands more orphans than potential caregivers.

“An entire generation of parents has been
Notable black Catholics

Father Augustus Tolton

Father Augustus Tolton, also known as Augustus, is pictured in a photo from an undated portrait—a work in progress. Born into slavery in Missouri, he was ordained a priest April 24, 1886. He served as pastor at St. Joseph Church in Quincy, Ill., and later established St. Monica’s Church in Chicago. The canonization cause of Father Tolton was opened in Chicago in March of 2010.

Father Augustus Tolton is the “first identified black priest in the United States,” according to Auxiliary Bishop Joseph N. Perry of Chicago.

Born the son of slaves in Missouri, he studied for the priesthood in Rome because no American seminary would accept a black Catholic. Later, he became the bishop of Quincy (now Springfield) in southern Illinois, he later came to Chicago to start a parish for black Catholics. He was only 43 years old at the time of his death.

“He is a holy model for anyone who wants to serve God,” Bishop Perry said. “His story highlights how the United States of America is a work in progress.” For more on the sainthood cause, visit www.toltoncanonization.org. — Catholic News Service

Henriette Delille

Venerable Henriette Delille


On March 29, 2010, Pope Benedict XVI advanced the sainthood cause of Mother Henriette Delille, a freeborn woman of African descent in 19th-century New Orleans, declaring that she had lived a life of “heroic virtues.”

She can be beatified once a miracle is attributed to her intercession. If her cause advances, she could become the first African-American saint.

In 1842 Mother Henriette founded the Sisters of the Holy Family, a congregation of black sisters that cared for the poor and disadvantaged and taught slaves and free blacks. This was during a time under Louisiana law when doing anything to “disturb” black people—in other words, educate them—could be punished by death or life imprisonment.

Today, the congregation’s more than 200 members operate schools for the poor and homes for the elderly in Louisiana and several other states. They also have a mission in Belize.

Mother Henriette’s sainthood cause was opened in 1988 and the New Orleans archdiocesan investigation was completed in 2005. Her cause was endorsed unanimously by the U.S. bishops in 1997.

Mother Henriette was born in 1812 and died in 1862. Her only recorded writing was penned in the inside cover of 1836 prayer book: “I believe in God. I hope in God. I love God. I want to live and die for God.”

Documentation for her sainthood cause included records from the 1820s that suggested that as a teenager, she may have given birth to two sons, each named Henry Boco.

Henriette Delille, Servant of Slaves

“A Cry for Justice: Daniel Rudd and His Life in Black Catholicism, Journalism, and Activism, 1854–1933” by the Rev. Gary B. Agee, the author profiles the life of Rudd, a trailblazer who was born in 1886 in Bardstown, Ky., to Catholic parents who were slaves. He was an enterprising local businessman and published the first black Catholic weekly newspaper in Cincinnati, the American Catholic Tribune, celebrated High Mass. Daniel Rudd orchestrated five Black Catholic congresses in his time. One was held in 1894 at St. Peter Claver Church Hall, in Baltimore, Md., and an opening dinner was held at historic Francis Xavier Church on the east side of the city. Benedictine Father Cyprian Davis, noted historian, states that Daniel Rudd is one of the most important figures of the 19th and 20th century since he published the newspaper and promoted the congresses. — NBCC website

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Board continued from page 1

Catholics, a follow-up meeting with the members of local parishes who attended the National Black Catholic Congress I was on fire!” said Wendie Summers of St. Pius X in Granger, and a member of the board. “In my home parish I am well fed spiritually, and although St. Pius X is a welcoming community, I still lack a cultural connection with my faith. I came home from Indianapolis and thought, ‘now what?’ Then my husband, James and I were contacted and asked to be part of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Black Catholic Advisory Board. I understood this was the next step.”

“This is what I feel called to be a part of,” Summers added. “But right now it is a little difficult to see as we have only met once as a group. I think we have agreed this is something we want to move forward with. As of right now, we are still working on a plan.”

“For St. Augustine, a historically Black Catholic Parish, the advent of this advisory board is exciting and encouraging,” said Deacon Mel Tardy of St. Augustine Parish in South Bend. “Blacks are involved in parishes, schools and institutions across the entire diocese, from Fort Wayne to South Bend; not just at St. Augustine’s Parish.”

“I appreciate the sincere concern of Bishop Rhodes and diocese for our issues, especially regarding the evangelization of blacks — a particular concern shared by many of us at St. Augustine,” he added.

According to Mary Glowaski, Secretariat for the Office of Evangelization and Special Ministries in the diocese, the board was formed to help those who serve the diocese to consider the gifts and needs of black brothers and sisters.

“This board is newly formed and still developing. Our hope is to consider how we can develop a local response to the national pastoral plan for the Black CBC,” she said. “Those who attended the first gathering of the advisory board were passionate and excited about the opportunity to begin exploring ways for the diocese to embrace the gifts and traditions of our black community members.”

According to board member Wendy Summers the initial board meeting determined to move forward with developing a pastoral plan for the diocese, being more responsive to the needs of black Catholics, evangelizing those who are currently unchurched or attending churches of other faiths, improving catechesis for black Catholic youth, especially those not attending Catholic schools, deepening spiritual knowledge through Bible study, adult faith formation, day of reflection, and more, and educating not only black Catholics but all Catholics in the diocese on the rich history of black Catholics in this country.

“I have already suggested some ideas to the bishop and Today’s Catholic newspaper of ways for parishes integrating programs, acknowledging the gifts like the music and oral traditions and celebrating black saints and their lives,” said Jenario Morgan, member of Holy Cross Parish in South Bend. “Embracing our identity is unique and offers a special message, but from the African-American perspective it is more communal. Like during the peace of Christ, a more physical embrace is a part of the African-American tradition. And holding hands during the ‘Our Father’ helps promote unity.”

According to board member on the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Black Catholic Advisory Board provides a unique platform to reach Black Catholics across the diocese and has the support of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. Mary Glowaski reports, “Bishop Rhoades has a deep appreciation for the traditions that have and will continue to enrich our faith.”

A Cry for Justice

Daniel Rudd

Daniel Rudd, founder of the National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC) was born Aug. 7, 1854 to Robert and Elizabeth Rudd. Daniel was one of 12 children. His father was a slave on the Rudd estate near Bardstown, Ky., and his mother was a slave of the Hayden family in Bardstown. Both parents were Catholic.

After the Civil War, Daniel Rudd moved to Springfield, Ohio (where his elder brother, Robert Rudd, was living), in order to get a secondary-school education. In 1866 he began a Black newspaper, which was called the Ohio State Tribune. That same year, Rudd changed the focus of his weekly newspaper and gave it a new name, American Catholic Tribune, the only Catholic journal owned and published by a Black Catholic. Today’s Catholic newspaper is presently published by the NBCC as the African American Catholic Tribune. In 1889, Daniel Rudd called together the first national Black Catholic Congress. This meeting was held at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Washington, D.C. Distinguished men of African descent came from all over the United States to participate in this historic event. President Grover Cleveland invited them to the White House for a meeting. Father Augustus Tolton was present and
St. Pius X School holds annual Thanksgiving feast

GRANGER — St. Pius X School celebrated its fifth annual Thanksgiving feast on Monday, Nov. 19, with parent donations of apple juice, Jell-O Jigglers and desserts that completed a school Thanksgiving meal of turkey, dressing and all the fixings. Students were joined by family members and staff during their lunch period for the feast and over 60 volunteers were on hand throughout the day to assist with set-up, greeting, food service and cleanup for the event.

“The Thanksgiving feast at St. Pius School allows parents and other family members to come in and have lunch with their children. It is a wonderful community building event for our families,” said Elaine Holmes, principal. Since the opening of the school in 2008, the Thanksgiving feast has continued to be a tradition for the school, offering a unique opportunity for children to participate in a meal with their teachers and classmates, as well as, their own families. “We host the Thanksgiving feast to celebrate how thankful we are for the St. Pius X School community, faculty, students and parents,” said Stephanie Molnar, assistant principal.

Guests of the feast will have the opportunity to support the St. Vincent de Paul Society’s annual Christmas Program by donating food items to be included in gift baskets that will be distributed to hundreds of families in need of assistance at Christmas.

New donations provide momentum for USF Haiti orphanage project

FORT WAYNE — With $34,000 of an estimated $50,000 cost for the construction of a new orphanage in Haiti collected by University of Saint Francis Formula for Life students, a new gift opportunity has arisen for the public’s involvement.

The organization Food for the Poor will provide one and possibly two shipping containers for donations of construction supplies, surgical supplies and bulk food for direct receipt by Father Andre Sylvestre, the Haitian orphanage director. “This is significant because it can dramatically cut construction costs for us if we get donations of building supplies,” Amy Obringer, Formula for Life faculty adviser, said. “If we wanted to ship a container to Haiti, it would cost us $10,000. Food for the Poor arranges this for only a few hundred dollars. Also, Father Andre will be at the receiving end of the donations. Only he can open the locked trailers.” To donate contact Obringer, at aobringer@sf.edu or (260) 399-7700, ext. 8210, to ensure the donation is appropriate for the Haiti project. Donations will be taken through Jan. 10, 2013.

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, DECATUR, STUDENTS RAISE CANCER AWARENESS WITH PINK-OUT

Jenna Muncey, left, and Christina Loshe donate money for Breast Cancer Awareness to Olivia Hess who rallied the student body of St. Joseph School in Decatur last month to wear pink and contribute monetarily to Relay for Life, a community walk that supports cancer research. The school-wide Pink Out collected $132.

Your Faith & Girl Scouts

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.

For more information, please contact:
Teena Weathersby-Hampton
Director of Mission Delivery
800.283.4812 ext 132

Christmas at the University of Saint Francis

For more than 30 years, we have invited the public to Christmas at USF, a celebration of family, faith and tradition. Join us this season. Many events are free (including parking), with most occurring the first weekend in December. Show dates and times vary so visit sf.edu/christmas for details.

- Christmas in the Castle (Brookside tours)
- Living Nativity
- Christmas Concert
- Lighting of the Lake
- Planetarium Shows
- Fair Trade Shopping Bazaar
- Art Exhibits

Light the lake with your own luminary to remember a departed loved one, honor a special person or wish your student good luck with finals. Purchase a luminary for $10 at sf.edu/luminaries/form.pdf.

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From there He will come to judge the living and the dead

Karl Barth, a well-known Protestant theologian, once said this, “Someday, a company of men will process out to a church yard and lower a coffin and everyone will go home; but one will not come back, and that will be me.” It sober us to realize that one day we will die. This is a reality that of culture attempts to ignore, to put off, even to escape. We try everything in our power to stay young. It is drilled into us that we must eat right, exercise right, do everything in our power to stave off death, and while taking care of our bodies properly is a duty, we cannot live as if we did not die, for death will come to us, indeed, to all of us. It is also certain that after death we will all be judged. As the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us, “Just as it is appointed that human beings die once, and after this the judgment” (Heb 9:27). However, this judgment is not some kind of random event in which the judge metes out reward or punishment based on whim or preference. It is by the grace that Jesus won on the cross that we come to salvation, but God does not force salvation on us. We must respond to the grace that He offers us, and the judgment after death is a judgment concerning our “yes” or “no” to God, our “yes” or “no” to following in His way. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church beautifully puts it, “Then will the conduct of each one and the secrets of hearts be brought to light. Then will the culpable unbelief that counted the offer of God’s grace as nothing be condemned. Our attitude about our neighbor will disclose acceptance or refusal of grace and divine love. On the last day Jesus will say: ‘Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’” (CCC No. 678) Jesus is the one who will judge each of us. He is the universal judge, and He has won this right by His cross. Again,

Christ the King will never leave us

Feast of Christ the King
Jn 18:33b-37

“...This weekend, in great joy and thanksgiving, the Church closes its year. As it looks back through the days and months of 2012, it gives thanks for salvation achieved in Christ the Lord. He is king, and justice and peace on us, indeed, to all of us. He is king, and justice and peace back through the days and months of 2012, it gives thanks for salvation achieved in Christ the Lord. He is king, and justice and peace on us, indeed, to all of us.

Reflection

Even in this country, people have an image of kingship, although it may not be clear. It is not about their power, but rather it is about inspiring patriotism and high ideals, or at least that is what the modern European monarchies are about. Jesus is our king. Perfect, holy, good and generous, the Lord alone provides direction. He is Lord. He is the sole provider of everlasting life. He gives peace of heart and strength of purpose. He provides direction. He is Lord.

Last June, Britain celebrated Queen Elizabeth II’s 60th year on the throne. She grew into adulthood during the Second World War when her parents, the late King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, were examples of the highest national and human values. They inspired the people, and this inspiration uplifted British hearts. In the war’s darkest days, rumors circulated that the king and queen, or certainly their daughters, would flee to the safety of Canada. Once, a man shouted at the present queen’s mother, “Are you going to Canada?”

Her mother turned, and in her legendary poise and quickness of thought, said, “My daughters will not go without me. I will not go without the king. And the king? The king will never, ever leave you!” The Royal Family has often shone in this way, sparing the will of the people to endure anything. Christ the king will never, ever leave us.

READINGS

Sunday:
- Deuteronomy 7:1-14 Ps 93:1-2, 5
- Rv 15:1-Jn 18:33b-37

Monday:
- Rv 14:3-13, 4b-5 Ps 24:1-6
- Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday:
- Rv 14:19-Ps 96:10-13
- Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday:
- Rv 15:1-PS 98:1-3, 7-9
- Lk 21:12-19

Thursday:
- Rv 18:1-21,23-19:1-3, 9b
- Ps 100:1b-Sk 2:10-28

Friday:
- Rom 10:9-18 Ps 192:5
- Mt 16:48-Lk 21:34-36

Saturday:
- Rv 22:1-7 Ps 95:1-7
- Lk 23:34-36

Thinking clearly about consciousness and abortion

Imagine a deadly scenario like this: a successful businessman is rendered unconscious by medical professionals to help him heal after a serious car accident, using powerful pharmaceutical agents to cause a medically induced coma. A few days later, a business competitor, wanting him dead, enters the hospital and kills the comatose patient. During his trial, when questioned about the murder, the competitor tries to argue with an exaggerated, detailed explanation, that, “the medically-induced coma rendered him quite incapable of feeling any pain, and therefore no brain involved in sensory processing and pain perception were clearly decoupled from consciousness.” He is telling those who are conscious, at least on the grounds that they might feel pain, should not be seen as problematic nor should it be restricted as a personal choice.

Anyone would appreciate the absurdity of such an argument, much as they ought to recognize the unreasonable rationality of a similar conclusion reached by neuroscientist Dr. Daniel Bor in a recent piece in The Dallas Morning News:

“The evidence is clear that a fetus can respond to sights, sounds and smells, and it can even react to these by producing facial expressions. The evidence is equally clear, however, that these responses are generated by the most primitive parts of the brain which are unconnected to consciousness, therefore those actions don’t in any way imply that the fetus is aware. Furthermore, the fetus is deliberately sedated by a series of chemicals produced by the placenta, so even if it had the capacity for consciousness, there is almost no chance it could ever be conscious in the way we are. Consequently, it can’t consciously feel pain. ... There are therefore no scientific reasons for restricting abortion on the grounds that fetuses will experience pain, at least until very late in pregnancy. This evidence has heavily influenced my views here, and consequently I am very much pro-choice.”

As a neuroscientist and an ethicist myself, it’s clear how Dr. Bor’s conclusions deviate from his premises. He seeks forcibly to crown consciousness as king, turning it into the highest good, elevating it above itself. Consequently, he misses the deeper truth that human consciousness (and particularly self-consciousness) is a feature of different kinds of beings, namely human beings, who are valuable in and of themselves. Our humanity precedes our consciousness, and affords the necessary basis for it, with our value and intractability flowing not from what we might be capable of doing (manifesting consciousness or otherwise) but from who we intrinsically are (human beings and members of the human family).

Regardless of whether we might or might not be able to manifest consciousness at a particular moment (as when we are asleep, under anesthesia, in a coma, or growing at early timepoints in utero), our humanity is still present and deserving of unconditional respect. Those who lack consciousness or awareness are still human, and should be cherished and protected as much as anyone else with limitations or disabilities. Some might reply that a sleeping or comatose person’s consciousness is merely dormant. If they wake up, they will have mates, children, etc. For a very early human embryo, on the other hand, no consciousness exists yet, since the brain has not developed sufficiently. Until that development occurs, the argument continues, there is “nobody home,” and therefore nothing important can be stripped away by abortion.

But it would be false to conclude that “nobody is home.” As Dr. Bor himself said, “Given the capacity to grow up, she will develop a brain, as well as memories, awareness and consciousness. Such carefully choreographed and remarkable embryonic development will occur precisely in virtue of the kind of being she already is, namely, a very small human being. All of us, in fact, are embryos who have grown up. The human embryo is special because of her humanity, not because of her consciousness, which will invariably arise as long as she is afforded even the smallest chance at life. We actively deny her the right to manifest her future personality, her individuality, her consciousness and her genius by selecting her for termination.

Hence, we should appreciate an argument like Dr. Bor’s for what it really is, namely, an attempt to carve out a subclass of human beings (those deemed weaker than the rest of us due to their diminished personal consciousness) so that they can be singled out for death by abortion. This move constitutes an unjust and form of discrimination against a voiceless class of humans, cloaked in a specious intellectual construct that misconstrues both the essential character of being human, and the essential moral obligations we have towards each other.

FATHER TADEUSZ PACHOLCZYK, Ph.D. is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.
The crisis of second Obama administration

President Obama’s re-election and the prospect of a second Obama administration, freed from the constraints imposed by the necessity of running for re-election, have created a crisis for the Catholic Church in the United States. In the thought-world and vocabulary of the Bible, “crisis” has two meanings: the conventional sense (a grave threat) and a deeper sense (a great moment of opportunity). Both are applicable to the Church in America these next four years.

The immediate threat, of course, is the HHS (Health and Human Services) mandate requiring Catholic institutions and Catholic employers to include coverage of contraceptives, sterilizations and abortifacient drugs in the health insurance offered to their employees. The legal challenges mounted against this obvious violation of the first freedom, religious freedom, may well be vindicated. But with Obamacare now seemingly set in concrete, the Church will face a host of such implementing “mandates” and it will be imperative to contest those that are morally unacceptable, time and time again. Authentically Catholic health care in America is now in mortal danger, and it is going to take a concerted effort to save it for future generations.

A further threat comes from the gay insurgency, which will press the administration to find some way to federalize the marriage issue and to compel acceptance of the chimera of “gay marriage.” Thus it seems important to accelerate a serious debate within American Catholicism on whether the Church ought not pre-emptively withdraw from the civil marriage business, its clergies declining to act as agents of government in witnessing marriages for purposes of state law.

If the Church were to take this dramatic step now, it would be acting prophetically; it would be challenging the state (and the culture) by underscoring that what the state means by “marriage” and what Catholics mean by “marriage” are radically different, and that what the state means by “marriage” is wrong. If, however, the Church is forced to take this step after “gay marriage” is the law of the land, Catholics will be pilloried as bad losers who’ve picked up their marbles and fled the game — and any witness-value to the Church’s withdrawal from the civil marriage business will be lost. Many thoughtful young priests are discussing this dramatic option among themselves; it’s time for the rest of the Church to join the conversation.

Yet another threat to the integrity of the Church comes from the re-election of a vice president of the United States who has declared “transgender discrimination” to be “the civil rights issue of our time;” who has openly celebrated the abortion license; who has grossly misrepresented the Church’s teaching on the life issues, and who is, in myriad ways, an ecclesial embarrassment. So are Catholic members of the House and Senate who not only vote against truths known by moral reason, but then have the gall to justify their irresponsibility by a faux commitment to “pluralism” or, worse, by recourse to what they are pleased to call “social justice Catholicism.”

Thus pastors and bishops must continue to explain why the life issues are “social justice issues,” and indeed priority “social justice issues.” And some effective way must be found in all parishes, publicly, that men and women like Vice President Joe Biden and Representative Nancy Pelosi are living an auto-defined Catholicism so incoherently that their communion with the Catholic Church is severely damaged. Absent such clarity, ill-prepared Catholic voters will continue to misunderstand both the nature of discipleship and the responsibilities of citizenship. As for the opportunity embarrassed in this crisis, it is nothing less than to be the Church of the New Evangelization, full-throttle. Shallow, tribal, institutional-maintenance Catholicism is utterly incapable of meeting the challenges that will now come at the Catholic Church from the most aggressively secular administration in American history. Only a robustly, unapologetically evangelical Catholicism, winsomely proposing and nobly living the truths about the human condition the Church teaches, will see us through the next four years. Radically converted Christian disciples, not one-hour-a-week Catholics swashed by an ever more toxic culture, are what this hour of crisis, in both senses of the term, demands.

George Weigel is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.
All Diocese Team

Today's Catholic joins the Serra Club in sponsoring the All-Diocese Team, highlighting athletes from Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. These student-athletes are recognized in character, sportsmanship, leadership, athletics and Catholic values. The athletes are selected by their coaches. The All Diocese Teams will be featured for fall, winter and spring sports.

BISHOP LUERS

Volleyball

Nancy McNamara
12
Defensive Specialist
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne

Tamara Griggs
12
Setter
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne

McNamara
12
Defensive Specialist
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne

Girls' cross-country

Karen Echrich
10
St. Jude

Girls' soccer

Kellee O'Shaughnessy
10
St. Vincent de Paul

Boys' soccer

Kelly Dwire
12
Offensive Midfielder
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Boys' tennis

Lyme Miller
12
St. Jude

Megan Hanke
12
Golf - Captain
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Girls' golf

Nellie Lee
11
St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Football

Patsy Berghoff
12
Defender
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Football

Jaylon Smith
12
Outside Linebacker
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Football

Karen Echrich
10
St. Jude

Football

Addie Reimbold
11
Center Midfielder
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Football

Kathryn Jenkins
12
St. Charles Borromeo

Football

Matt Williamson
12
Safety/Receiver
St. Peter, Fort Wayne

Football

Madeline Pollifrone
12
St. Vincent de Paul

Football

Dan Beckman
12
Defensive Tackle
St. Peter, Fort Wayne

Football

Julie Mueller
12
St. Vincent de Paul

Football

Marc Cotter
12
Defensive Nose Guard
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Football

Chrysanthia Horst
9
St. Peter, Fort Wayne

Football

Heather Hanke
12
Golf - Captain
St. John the Baptist, New Haven

Football

Madeline Horst
11
Golf - Captain
St. Peter, Fort Wayne

Football

Alex Williams
9
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Girls' soccer

Isaiah Klotz
10
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Girls' soccer

Ben Collis
12
St. Jude

Girls' soccer

Patsy Berghoff
12
Defender
St. Charles Borromeo

Volleyball

Gabrielle Rahrig
12
Middle Blocker
St. Vincent de Paul

Volleyball

Jennifer O’Daniel
11
Setter Opposite
St. Vincent de Paul

Girls' cross-country

Claire Manning
9
St. Vincent de Paul

Boys' tennis

Luke Mikar
12
No. 1 doubles
12-5 record
St. Vincent de Paul

Boys' tennis

Matt Woodrum
12
No. 2 doubles
10-4 record
St. Vincent de Paul

Boys' soccer

John Wellman
12
Goalie
St. Charles Borromeo

Boys' soccer

Nate Huth
12
Defender
St. Mary, Fort Wayne

Boys' soccer

Isaiah Klotz
10
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Boys' soccer

Patsy Berghoff
12
Defender
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Boys' soccer

Madeline Pollifrone
12
St. Vincent de Paul

Boys' soccer

Ben Collis
12
St. Jude

Boys’ cross-country

Luke Miller
12
St. Jude

Boys’ cross-country

Mark Berghoff
12
St. Charles Borromeo

TODAY’S CATHOLIC
November 25, 2012
Crusaders, Panthers lay claim to A and B teams ICCL championships

BY JOE KOZINSKI

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY — The Inter-City Catholic League crowned two additional football champions on the last weekend of the October as the A and B team (fifth and sixth grade) squads finished on a note of development and accomplishment.

The Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders held off the St. Anthony (St. Joseph/St. Pius) Panthers and kept their season at a perfect 6-0 out scoring their opponents by a total of 179-6. The contest was decided by a score of 20-6 as Gran Stefanek rushed for touchdowns of 86, 60 and 35 yards in the Crusaders win.

The Panthers were complimented with a touch down by JP Lewis, the only score given up this season by Holy Cross.

The Panthers of St. Anthony in the B team division shutout the Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders, 13-0, to lay claim to the junior title.

Brady Gumpf and Mitchel Floran did the damage as each raced for scores in the season ending triumph.

The hoops will be scorching in the upcoming weeks as regular season play tips off for boys’ basketball.

A complete list of game schedules can be found at www.icclsports.org.

Annual baseball game supports JESSE kids

Pictured is Blake Lane, a second-year player from Columbus, playing catch with local JESSE kids.

DONALDSON — The Ancilla College men’s baseball team hosted their annual game with students from Joint Educational Services in Special Education (JESSE) Nov. 9.

The JESSE Kids from area schools, including Plymouth, Knox, Rochester, gathered together with the Ancilla Baseball Team for the day and played baseball.

Coach Joe Yonto said, “I want to thank all those who helped, from the support for the kids on the field from those watching and cheering, the admissions office for the donation of water bottles which the kids love, the Ancilla athletic department and the Jesse staff.”
What’s Happening?

WHAT’S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today’s Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or email: fhogan@diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.

Bishop Luers performs Annie
Fort Wayne — In honor of the 30th anniversary of the Broadway opening of “Annie,” Bishop Luers Drama Department will perform “Annie” Friday, Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1, at 2 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 2, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $7 and can be reserved by calling (260) 456-1261 x 3114 or (260) 414-8026.

Mission planned before Advent
Bristol — St. Mary of the Annunciation, 411 W. Vistula, will have a mission the week of Nov. 25-28 at 7 p.m. The theme “Open the Door to Christ,” will include talks by Bishop John M. D’Arcy, bishop emeritus. The themes are Sunday – “Faith”; Monday – “Prayer”; Tuesday – “Reconciliation”; Wednesday – “Eucharist.” Refreshments will be served every night except Tuesday.

Teen retreat planned for first Saturday
Fort Wayne — The Franciscan Brothers Minor and the World Apostolate of Fatima will have a teen retreat on Saturday, Dec. 1. “Fatima’s Call to Youth: A Marian Retreat for Teens” will begin with 7:30 a.m. Mass and First Saturday devotions and ends at 6 p.m. at Our Lady of the Angels Oratory, St. Andrew’s Church, 2610 New Haven Ave. The day will include food, activities and talks by Franciscan Father David Mary Enzo. There is no cost to attend, and no RSVP is necessary.

Granger
Joseph Simeri, 87, St. Pius X

Rest in Peace
Marian R. Wendowski, 84, St. Matthew Cathedral
Rita J. Pinkowski, 90, Little Flower
William Charles Brinkley, 60, Corpus Christi
Elizabeth L. Doyle, 80, Our Lady of Hungary

Wabash
Catherine Marie Baker, 64, St. Bernard

TV Mass Schedule for December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Feast Day</th>
<th>Fort Wayne 10:30 a.m.</th>
<th>South Bend 10:30 a.m.</th>
<th>WFTV, Ch. 55</th>
<th>WNWO-TV, Ch. 16</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>Second Sunday of Advent</td>
<td>Mgr. Bernard Galk, St. Aloysius Ypsilant</td>
<td>Mgr. Michael Heintz, St. Matthew Cathedral/South Bend</td>
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<td>Dec. 16</td>
<td>Third Sunday of Advent</td>
<td>Rev. Ed Empringham, Parkview Medical Ctr., Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Rev. Glenn Kohmen, St. Vincent de Paul Elkhart</td>
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<td>Dec. 30</td>
<td>Feast of the Holy Family</td>
<td>Rev. Andrew Budzinski, St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Rev. Matthew Ciano, St. Vincent de Paul Elkhart</td>
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Mass now streaming live online at diocesefwsb.org. Archived Masses also online.

Thank You for making a difference in their last days.

At DO McComb & Sons Funeral Homes, we appreciate and share your dedication to compassionate service. We thank Hospice for what they do everyday.

November is National Hospice month.

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is living our faith every day to the full,” he said.

After Mass, Bishop Rhoades returned to the auditorium to answer questions that were texted to him. The first text said “please tell your friends Notre Dame is going to beat USC.” Wearing a Notre Dame sports cap, Bishop Rhoades said he was confident of that.

Students’ texts asked about death, how to resist sin, the difference between the Catholic Church and the community church, the bishop’s memorable moments, music, movies, and “what is the meaning of life.” The bishop summed it up in one word — “Christ.”

The texting session was meaningful to Samuel Schroedl, another Warsaw High School sophomore and Sacred Heart parishioner. “It’s kind of cool how people like the bishop use texting to bring people back to the faith.”

Mark Hart, the “Bible Geek” who is the executive vice president for Life Teen, offered the keynote talk before lunch and breakout sessions of the afternoon followed by XLT Eucharistic Adoration.

Hart entertained the Faithfest participants with a story about an airplane trip he once took that ended in an emergency landing. He told God he would go to Confession if he made it. When the plane landed in a small remote airport in New Mexico, a priest was sitting there. Hart poured out his hurt and sins to the priest.

It’s easy to go through the motions of Mass. Very seldom do people ask “why.” Why would God give us the Eucharist, Confession, the saints, His Word, Hart asked.

Hart said he didn’t ask the “why” question.

“At the end of the day, if you’re not asking ‘why,’ then you are missing something,” Hart said.

“A lot of you have people in your lives — your family, your friends — who don’t know Christ, and who would never go to something like this (Faithfest),” Hart said. “It takes courage.”

The diocesan Office of Youth Ministry coordinated the Faithfest, which is open to all high school students.