From humble servant to simple pilgrim

BY CAROL GLATZ

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI, who began his papacy describing himself as a “humble servant in the Lord’s vineyard,” described his retirement as a time of being a “simple pilgrim, who begins the last stage of his pilgrimage on this earth.”

The 85-year-old pope arrived in Castel Gandolfo Feb. 28 about two-and-a-half hours before the end of his pontificate.

He planned to spend about two months at the papal villa south of Rome before moving into a former monastery in the Vatican Gardens.

The pope arrived in a helicopter from the Vatican and rode by car through the fields and formal gardens of the papal villa before reaching the residence.

Hours before he arrived, townspeople, pilgrims and visitors began filling the main square outside the papal residence. As they waited for the pope, they prayed the rosary.

As soon as he entered the residence, the pope went upstairs and, standing on the balcony overlooking the main square, he greeted the crowd.

“In farewell to cardinals, Pope Benedict pledges obedience

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Clementine Hall is traditionally the place where cardinals bid farewell to popes at the end of a pontificate, but usually when the pope in question is lying in state before his funeral.

But on Feb. 28, hours before resigning from the papacy, Pope Benedict XVI briefly addressed the College of Cardinals, calling for unity and harmony among the men who will choose his successor and pledging his “unconditional reverence and obedience” to the next pope.

Pope Benedict addressed 144 cardinals, including many of the 115 under the age of 80 who are eligible and expected to vote in the upcoming conclave.

“I will continue to be close to you in prayer, especially in the next days, that you may be fully docile to the action of the Holy Spirit in the election of the new pope,” Pope Benedict told the gathering in the Vatican’s Apostolic Palace. “May the Lord show you what is wanted of you. Among you, among the College of Cardinals, there is also the future pope, to whom today I promise my unconditional reverence and obedience.

The cardinals began meeting March 4 to plan the papal election.

Looking back on his almost eight-year pontificate, Pope Benedict recalled “very beautiful moments of radiant light on the path of the Church, together with moments in which the occasional cloud thickened in the sky.”

The pope invoked God’s help in building unity, “so that the College of Cardinals might be like an orchestra, where diversities, expressive of the universal Church, always run together to a superior and har-
Lenten Way of the Cross

We are midway through our Lenten journey of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a good time to reflect on our spiritual itinerary, how we are observing the Lenten season. If we have not been observing Lent as we should, it is not too late to re-commit ourselves to the way of penance and the path of conversion. As I wrote last week, it is particularly beneficial to receive the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation during this holy season.

As we continue in this Lenten season, it is good to reflect on the Passion of Our Lord. I especially encourage praying the Stations of the Cross. The Cross is the supreme expression of Christ’s love for us. He allowed Himself to be nailed to the cross for our sake.

Every time we look upon the crucifix, we see Christ with His arms stretched out on the cross. This gesture is one in which we recognize Jesus embracing us, with all our sins and failings, inviting us to accept His love and mercy.

Our Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI, once said that “Christian wisdom is the wisdom of the Cross.” The cross teaches us that sin and evil are overcome not by violence and force, but by the power of love and goodness. God triumphs over sin and death on the cross, a victory that brings reconciliation and light to this world. In our own personal lives, through our friendship with Christ, we are filled with the grace that frees us to love and strengthens us to carry the cross with Him.

When we gaze at the crucifix, we see the immensity of God’s love for us. In Lent, it is good to pray before the crucifix, asking the Lord to take away all that separates us from Him. The Lord invites us to enter into His outstretched arms, to entrust our lives to Him. When we do, we experience the joy of knowing that He loves us and the desire to love Him in return and to bring His love to others. It is in following the path of love, the way of the cross, that we find true joy and peace.

The election of a new pope

As the Cardinal electors prepare for the conclave, let us continue to remember them in our prayers. It is probably not a coincidence that Pope Benedict announced his resignation just two days before Ash Wednesday. This allows the Church to pray especially during the season of Lent for this very important intention. His Holiness has begun a new period of his life dedicated to prayer. We pray with him during these days for his successor.

Sometimes in the media, the election of a new Pope is presented as something akin to an American political event. Yet we know that the election of a new Pope is primarily a spiritual event. The Cardinals know that their votes are before God alone and their concern must be only for the good of the Church and the salvation of souls. They promise to observe absolute and perpetual secrecy concerning all matters related to the ballots cast and to the election.

If you have ever been to the Sistine Chapel, where the conclave takes place, you know that it is a place very conducive to an awareness of the presence of God. In voting, each Cardinal brings his completed ballot to the altar and says the following oath: “I call as my witness Christ the Lord who will be my judge, that my vote is given to the one who before God I think should be elected.” In front and above him is the huge painting of The Last Judgment by Michelangelo.

During this time when the Apostolic See is vacant, let us be united in a special way with the Cardinal electors of the next Pope, supporting them with our fervent prayers to the Holy Spirit. Let us ask God to grant us another holy successor of the Apostle Peter. The Knights of Columbus have distributed a Prayer for the Church during this period of the Sede Vacante. I invite you to say this prayer during these important days:

O Lord Jesus Christ, Supreme Pastor of Your Church, we thank you for the ministry of Pope Benedict XVI and the selfless care with which he has led us as Successor of Peter, and Your Vicar on earth.

Good Shepherd, who founded Your Church on the rock of Peter’s faith and have never left your flock unattended, look with love upon us now, and sustain Your Church in faith, hope, and charity.

Grant, Lord Jesus, in Your boundless love for us, a new Pope for Your Church who will please You by his holiness and lead us faithfully to You, who are the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.
Shoes, signs, stamps, serenades, field art: creative tributes to pope

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — They said it with signs, serenades and even a field of grain.

Catholics in Rome and all over the world found myriad ways to pay homage to Pope Benedict XVI before his resignation Feb. 28.

A farmer near the northern Italian city of Verona plowed the image of a giant dove into his pasture. The six-and-a-half acre “portrait” includes the word “Benedictus XVI.” The “land artist” was able to position the dove’s beak near a tree so that it appeared to have an olive branch in its mouth.

Young people in the Archdiocese of Campinas, Brazil, launched a campaign on Facebook asking people to “wear red shoes in homage to Pope Benedict on Feb. 28.”

People were encouraged to take a picture of themselves wearing red slippers, high-tops, sandals or any kind of footwear, as long as it was red, then to post and share the snapshot on the “JMJ Campinas” page on Facebook. Participants were eligible to win a YouCat, a supplement to the catechism created for young people.

Students in Dublin were planning to tweet “Beannacht De Fort! God bless you.” Other messages of thanks to the pontifical Twitter account, @pontifex, after the pope left the Vatican.

Numerous greetings were appearing on Twitter with various hashtags like #ThanksPontifex and #pope#goodbye.

The city of Rome plastered postcards around the city with the pope’s picture and the words: “You will always be with us. Thank you.”

The Italian post office parked a mobile van not far from the Vatican to sell commemorative stamps issued in 2005 celebrating Pope Benedict’s election.

The Vatican office was offering special collectors’ packs, envelopes, stamps and cancellation marks commemorating the pope’s resignation.

The Vatican newspaper, L’Osservatore Romano, issued a special four-page color insert with its March 1 edition offering a timeline of Benedict’s eight-year pontificate; his April 24, 2005, homily at his installation Mass; his pontificate; his April 24, 2005, timeline of Benedict’s eight-year pontificate; his June 29, 2012, homily on the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul; and his Feb. 11 announcement of his intention to resign.

Vatican Radio was providing back-to-back live coverage with special guests in the studio to reflect on Pope Benedict’s legacy as well as on-the-ground reporting of the pope’s last day at the apostolic palace.

A poster erected by the city of Rome thanking Pope Benedict XVI is seen near the Vatican Feb. 28. The poster says in Italian: “You will remain always with us. Thanks.”

Between popes: Vatican business continues as usual — almost

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Pope Benedict XVI officially left office at 8 p.m. Feb. 28, most of the top Vatican officials lost their jobs, but that does not mean the majority of Vatican employees get a vacation.

Although Catholics inside and outside the Vatican love to complain about its unwieldy bureaucracy, coordinating the universal ministry of the Church involves a steady flow of paperwork, correspondence and meeting planning. All of that continues even when there is no pope.

However, the publication of documents, the nomination of new bishops and the approval of statutes for Catholic universities and religious orders are suspended. Anything that must be issued in the name of the Vatican or in the name of the pope must be approved by Pope Benedict’s successor.

“The general rule is that all ordinary business continues,” the secretary of one Vatican congregation told Catholic News Service during the “interregnum” — the period between popes — in 2005. “Like in most bureaucracies, most of our business is ordinary business.”

Commissions and subcommittees continue to meet, reports continue to be prepared, letters are answered and Vatican officials try to tidy their desks enough to install the new pope and sort through the new papal business exactly where their various projects stand.

Under long-standing Church rules, updated by Blessed John Paul II in 1996, the Vatican secretary of state, the prefects of Vatican congregations and the presidents of pontifical councils lose their jobs that lose his job is the head of the Vatican; offices are run by the congregation and council secretaries during the interregnum.

However, the prefects and presidents don’t pack up their offices before they leave. Sixteen of the 22 prefects and presidents are cardinals who will be participating in the conclave to elect a new pope.

Generally, immediately after the election of a new pope, the prefects and presidents are asked to take up their old jobs again, at least temporarily.

While Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone leaves his position as secretary of state, with the interregnum the new work begins for his position as camerlengo or chamberlain of the Holy Roman Church; during the period when there is no pope, he is charged with administering the temporal goods of the Church.

The other person who does not lose his job is the head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, currently Cardinal Manuel Montero de Castro. The Apostolic Penitentiary is a Vatican court dealing with matters related to the sacrament of Confession and to indulgences. His position is not suspended because he is the person who ensures penitents guilty of serious sin and seeking forgiveness can receive absolution.

Portuguese Cardinal Montiero de Castro’s responsibility includes even while he is in the Sistine Chapel voting for a new pope. His aides may send petitions for absolution to him even while he is voting for a new pope — one of the very few exceptions to the rule that the cardinals be out of contact with the outside world.
SPARC ready to burst into fire for Christ

BY VINCENZO LABBARRA

CHURUBUSCO — Sixteen men sat around four, eight-foot tables arranged in a U-shape in the basement of St. John Bosco Church in Churubusco on a Lenten Wednesday evening. Their idle conversations suddenly were interrupted by the sounds of the folding chairs scraping across the floor as all stood in silence for Bible endorsement.

Three men carried a crucifix, a lighted candle and a Bible to a place of reverence at the open end of the U. Another biweekly meeting was underway of SPARC (Small Parishes Actively Receiving Christ).

After listening or singing along with a recorded song, the SPARC chapter meeting in Churubusco continued with opening prayer, introductions and Scripture reflection. Following a short break for refreshments, the meeting was underway of SPARC (Small Parishes Actively Receiving Christ).

Nearly 1,100 men, primarily from the local diocese, attended a RTF not only hosts the annual men’s conference, but from the local diocese, attended a RTF chapter meeting in Churubusco continued with opening prayer, introductions and Scripture reflection. Following a short break for refreshments, the hour-and-a-half-long meeting resumed with catechesis, announcements and shared prayer.

“We’re trying to open up SPARC to other small parishes,” said Doug Fischer, outreach committee chairman for Rekindle The Fire (RTF) and SPARC. “We call it ‘A Meeting in a Box,’” Fischer said. “This offshoot of the ‘Rekindle The Fire’ movement is an excellent opportunity for Catholic men to gather as brothers in Christ in prayer, study and fellowship.

“We are Catholic men who seek to rekindle the fire of Christ’s love within us, and become better leaders, friends, husbands, fathers and sons; the men God calls us to be, through prayer, fellowship, faith and spiritual service to our family, parish and community.”

In early 2011, the men of St. John Bosco Parish, who were active members of RTF, were approached with this new idea. “When asked to be the first to implement SPARC at St. John Bosco, the men responded with an enthusiastic ‘Yes!’” said Fischer.

The first SPARC meeting convened in April 2011 at the parish. The men of RTF from St. Vincent de Paul brought a mission team to conduct the first few meetings. They were spent in fellowship discussing Scripture and expanding knowledge of the Catholic Church through catechesis. The original format envisioned for these parishes was too small to slow, and because the fire for Christ that has been slowly fading. And because these parishes were too small to slowly fading. And because these parishes were too small to slowly fading. And because these parishes were too small to.

SPARC meetings are geared for larger parishes, while SPARC is for smaller parishes, explained. “We are Catholic men who seek to rekindle the fire of Christ’s love within us, and become better leaders, friends, husbands, fathers and sons; the men God calls us to be, through prayer, fellowship, faith and spiritual service to our family, parish and community.”

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Early childhood programs to assist low income families advance

INDIANAPOLIS — Hoosier lawmakers passed a pilot program initiative to grant 1,000 low income children access to a high-quality pre-kindergarten education. The proposal, HB 1004, which passed the Indiana House of Representatives, 95-6, and is expected to also pass the Senate by the end of April, The Church supports the measure.

The bill, authored by Rep. Bob Behning, R-Indianapolis, Rep. Suzanne Crouch, R-Evansville, and Rep. Shelli VanDenburg, D-Crown Point, initiates a preschool pilot program for 1,000 students in five counties across Indiana. The plan targets low income children who would receive a voucher to attend a state approved, high-quality preschool program. “We have done a lot in moving education and education reform forward. The greatest need where we have not done a lot is the area of early childhood education,” said Behning. “There is no question. Indiana is behind the rest of the nation in providing early childhood education especially to children of poverty.”

Under the bill, eligible students would come from families at 185 percent of the federal poverty guideline, which is $43,567 for a family of four according the federal Health and Human Services Department. According to Behning, the state budget is allocating $7 million for the pilot program. Students selected for the pilot program would receive $6,800 to attend a high-quality pre-school program.

Behning said it was also the intent of the state to maximize Title I, and Head Start money, prior to using the state money to pilot the program. HB 1004 also creates an early childhood advisory panel to track data and create accountability. “This is an initiative that business and community leaders have been talking about for years. I’m very supportive of the plan.” Leaders from the business community around Indiana spoke in favor of the legislation. Mark Gerstle, vice president of community relations for Cummins Engine, said Cummins piloted a three-year program in early childhood education and their data showed a “total correlation” between kindergarten readiness and graduation.

“Every child deserves a chance to be successful with a productive life.” Mike O’Connor, state director of government affairs for Eli Lilly and Company, also in favor of the plan said, “We can’t get to where we need to be without statewide early learning initiatives.” O’Connor said there wasn’t a silver bullet in terms of producing a quality workforce, but if there was reaching children in those first developmental years would be the closest thing to it. O’Connor said, “Looking at early childhood development as a business value proposition, investment in early learning nets immediate and long lasting results.”

Glenn Tebbe, Indiana Catholic Conference executive director, said, “The program outlined in HB 1004 will provide needed assistance to families who may experience more obstacles and whose children are often without sufficient opportunities that benefit their social and cognitive development,” said Tebbe. “Public policy should maximize the quality of educational opportunities for all children by ensuring that all parents have access to the financial capability to exercise the right to choose the school they believe is best for their children.”

Web Resources
Indiana Catholic Conference www.indianacc.org
To explore the ICC’s electronic public policy tool and join the ICC legislative network go to the ICC Web page at www.indianacc.org and click “Legislative Action Center.”

“Come Touch the Robe”
Encounters with the Healer, the Servant, and the Lord of Easter
An Easter Cantata presented by
THE ST. CHARLES ADULT CHOIR
Sunday, March 17, 2013 -7:00 to 7:45 p.m.
4916 Trier Road, Fort Wayne 46815
(Free Admission)
Unique in concept, soaring in spirit, and with music, text, and narration by Pepper Chaplin, “Come Touch the Robe” cantata allows us to encounter the Christ of healing, glory, authority, humility and victory, (Funded by the Dolores (Koehl) Hope Memorial)
Cardinal welcomes opportunity to discuss mutual concerns with Obama

WASHINGTON (CNS) — New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan in a letter to President Barack Obama accepted a White House offer to continue discussing the Catholic Church’s concerns about abortion, traditional marriage and federal rules governing implementation of the Affordable Care Act. “We accept your invitation to address these areas together, always with the civility we have both encouraged in public discourse,” the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said in the letter Feb. 22. “We welcome specifically an opportunity to resolve the perplexing issue of the redefining of our religious ministries,” Cardinal Dolan wrote. “Surely we should be able to find some ground where neither of us is asked to compromise conscience.” In response, a White House official said Feb. 28 that Cardinal Dolan’s warm wishes were welcome and that the president “looks forward to continuing our respectful collaboration.” The cardinal also renewed his 정도a for conferences and offered prayers for Obama as he prepared to tackle a long list of goals for his second term that were outlined in his inaugural and State of the Union addresses. Recalling a meeting with Obama at the White House, Cardinal Dolan pointed to the president’s stated desire “to cooperate with us for the good of our beloved country,” particularly in the Church’s educational, charitable and health care services.

Father Kapaun, Korean War hero, to receive Medal of Honor in April

WICHITA, Kan. (CNS) — Father Emil Kapaun, whose actions as a U.S. Army chaplain during the Korean War saved the lives of 800 of 600 prisoners of war and offered prayers for Obama as he prepared to tackle a long list of goals for his second term that were outlined in his inaugural and State of the Union addresses. Recalling a meeting with Obama at the White House, Cardinal Dolan pointed to the president’s stated desire “to cooperate with us for the good of our beloved country,” particularly in the Church’s educational, charitable and health care services.

CARDOINAL BERTONE PRAYS AS HE CARRIES OUT TASKS AT START OF ‘SEDE VACANTE’ PERIOD AT VATICAN

Italian Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, center with red skull cap, prays with assistants as the ceremonies and tasks of the “sede vacante” begin at the Vatican Feb. 28. The red velvet-covered sceptor before him is the symbol of his authority as coadjutor and chamberlain. He is charged with administering the temporal goods of the Church following the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI.

However, he said, the archdiocese’s “administrative operations have run deficits operating defaults of more than $30 million in each of the past four years. Since this trend is unsustainable, we want to set the measures we are taking to ensure prudent stewardship of our resources for years to come,” he explained. The ongoing deficit has required the archdiocese to reduce the costs of its pastoral centers, operations and events. It has reduced its administrative staff by 15 positions. Besides the 60 employees who have been laid off, the archdiocese will not fill 15 vacant positions. Of the 75 positions, 50 were full time, Cardinal George said. Those now out of a jobs will receive severance pay and continued health insurance coverage and can access services of an outplacement firm contracted by the archdiocese to help them find new jobs, he said.

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Bishops place call for fasting

WASHINGTON — A new “Pledge to Fast” webpage has been developed as part of the U.S. bishops’ Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty: www.usccb.org/fast. Those interested in joining can sign up for regular e-mails and can text “FAST” to 99000 for weekly reminders and prayer intentions. The bishops’ call is a wonderful opportunity to live Lent in this Year of Faith with fervent prayer and sacrifice.

In particular, as the Supreme Court begins during Holy Week to consider the two most significant marriage cases in the history of the nation, the prayers and sacrifices for the protection of marriage and for Supreme Court justices are important. A Facebook event page is available at the usccb website.

Ancilla College launches new CNA program

DONALDSON — Ancilla College is gearing up to launch a new nursing assistant training program this April. The new program will prepare students to become Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs).

Registration for the program is open to anyone over the age of 18. “We are offering this program to the public, not just Ancilla College students,” said Ann Fitzgerald, head nursing faculty member Elizabeth Bailey.

Nursing assistants work in a range of healthcare settings supporting other medical staff in patient care, safety and basic healthcare tasks.

The college offers more details at Ancilla’s website at www.ancilla.edu/cna.

Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center’s House Raffle begins March 5

MISHAWAKA — The Foundation of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRMC) has announced that the House Raffle 2013 began on Tuesday, March 5. This year marks the 22nd Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center House Raffle and is designed to open new opportunities in a fast growing, high employment field, said nursing faculty member Elizabeth Bailey.

The new classes start April 3 at Ancilla College. The CNA program can be seen as an entry-level ramp into health-related occupations.

SJRMC is offering a state approved course for CNA training that you can complete in just two months — in 105 hours you can learn a new skill and open new opportunities in a fast growing, high employment field,” said nursing faculty member Elizabeth Bailey.

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MATH-A-THON BENEFITS ST. JUDE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

The third graders at St. Joseph School, Decatur, have been busy gathering sponsors and doing extra math problems to participate in a math-a-thon to benefit St. Jude Children’s Hospital. The students raised $1,330.05 to help the young patients and their families there. Shown are St. Joseph students, from left, in back, Joshua Myers and Jamison Rumple and in front Ella Kintz, Trinity Mishleau, Dana Schirack and Isaiah Wellman.

Fieldtrip on Feb. 20, Thanks to a Target Educators’ Fieldtrip Grant and anonymous donations by friends of St. Adalbert School, these students landed at Legoland in Schaumburg, Ill., for a fun-filled day of experiential learning.

The group of students, staff members and parents was filled with awe as they viewed the Chicago Skyline exhibit, the World’s largest lego-inspired goal, the indoor jungle gym and take a spin on the Techincycle Ride. St. Adalbert Principal Andrew Currier could not resist the Lego fun as he built out Legoland crowds to the building architects, industrial and auto designers.

The students look forward to applying their newly acquired design skills to a much-anticipated tower building project back at school. These students have been collecting cardboard boxes (cereal, shoe, tissue) for weeks and will soon be constructing their own towers of St. Adalbert.

Author and EWTN host brings Chesterton to life

SOUTH BEND — G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936), the highly quotable and insightful British Catholic author, poet and journalist who visited South Bend in 1930, returned to the city on Feb. 18-19, in a manner of speaking. Actually, it was Dale Ahlquist, president of the American Chesterton Society, who did the speaking as he addressed students at the University of Notre Dame and St. Joseph Parish.

Ahlquist, author of three books and host of an EWTN series, brought the “Apostle of Common Sense” alive using an array of quotations and observations that he said showed Chesterton’s mix of faith and reason to be just as relevant today as it was in his own time.

Some of the quotations provided recently came from Chesterton’s two visits to America, which are discussed in a chapter of Ahlquist’s latest book, “The Complete Thinker: The Marvelous Mind of G.K. Chesterton.”

But others were drawn from that thinker’s thousands of essays, plus possibly his novels and non-fiction books — a collection including reflections on Jesus Christ that were transformational for Christian writer C.S. Lewis.

Ahlquist pointed out, “Lewis was an atheist until he read ‘The Everlasting Man.’ That was the book that turned his whole life around.” — William Schmitz

BUILDING A FUTURE FOR YOUNG ENGINEERS, ONE LEGO AT A TIME

Notre Dame is the University of Notre Dame’s Graduate Career Services office hosted the Indiana Automotive Consortium Road Show at Stinson-Remick in January. The road show featured representatives from Chrysler, Cummins, Honda, Mursich and Subaru showcasing employment opportunities within the state of Indiana for Notre Dame engineering students. In conjunction with the event, the Cummins Young Engineers Club, which is designed to motivate and inspire pre-college students to excel in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), sponsored a Lego replica build of one of its engines.

During the event, Cummins engineers and Notre Dame engineering majors joined members of South Bend’s St. Matthew’s Middle School Robotics Club in constructing a four-foot-by-three-foot-by-two-foot replica of Cummins’ new high-horsepower diesel engine, called the QSK05.

The replica engine was built with approximately 30,000 Lego bricks and was designed to help students and engineers share stories and experiences involved with becoming an engineer.

Each St. Matthew’s student was paired with Notre Dame engineering students, who were to provide guidance in assembling parts of the engine. Cummins engineers then directed the groups in assembling the engine as a whole.

St. Adalbert students visit Legoland

SOUTH BEND — Second and third graders of St. Adalbert School headed to the Chicago-area for a
History may hold clues in divining impact of resignation, expert says

**BY CAROL GLUTZ**

ROME (CNS) — The halls of history might hold some clues as to what kind of impact Pope Benedict XVI's resignation will have on the Church and how to navigate a smooth transition, said a U.S. scholar.

“All these problems surrounding how to treat Benedict, what to call him, how he will be dealt with in his life after the papacy, how his death will be dealt with, all of these are new” questions, said Joshua Birk, a fellow at the American Academy in Rome and expert in medieval Mediterranean history.

To find some answers or at least some guidance, “we sort of have to go back to these medieval cases (of papal resignation) because we literally have nothing else” to go by, he told Catholic News Service Feb. 15.

There’s not much in the annals of the Church thatate history at Smith College in

“how this transfer is negotiated” or "how to select a pope after a resignation," he said.

Though there is no danger of any harsh medicinal treatment, the Church will have to simply look at "how this transfer is negotiated" or "how to select a pope after a resignation," he said.

"Pope Benedict felt a great affection for St. Celestine," he said.

Benedict declared a Year from August 2009 to August 2010 to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the saint’s birth and he visited the saint’s relics twice during his pontificate. During a trip to L’Aquila in 2009, Pope Benedict placed the long woolen pallium he received when he was elected on the saintly pope’s casket and left it there as a gift.

Birk said Pope Benedict is mostly remembered for "his reluctance to take up this sort of burden of the Apostolic See" and "actually flies when he hears Lord he is going to be made pope," Birk said.

He was plucked at the age of 79 from his secluded life as a Benedictine monk and hermit and thrust into the pontificate after the College of Cardinals broke a two-year-long deadlock and elected him in 1294.

While he never fled, Pope Benedict never kept his reluctance to become pope a secret.

The then-78-year-old pontiff told a group of German pilgrims the day after his installation that he equated the growing consensus among cardinals to elect him pope as "an axe" getting ready to fall on his head. He had been looking forward to a life of peaceful retirement and said he felt "inadequate" for a job of great "dynamism" and strength.

Pope Benedict’s coat of arms features a bear carrying a pack, symbolizing the weight of the episcopate. Pope Benedict has said the image gave him the encouragement to carry out his ministry like a beast of burden, but with confidence and joy.

Conclaves: Vatican Library offers interesting, strange facts

**BY CINDY WOODEN**


• **Election by acclamation** is the main and most serious responsibility of members of the College of Cardinals. In the last several hundred years, Piazzoni said, cardinals have missed a conclave only if they were seriously ill or if they were impeded from traveling to Rome by their governments.

• **The upcoming conclave to elect a successor to Pope Benedict XVI** “will be, technically speaking, the 75th conclave” in the history of the Church, he said. He dates the conclaves — elections conducted while the cardinal-electors were closed off in a room — to Pope Boniface VIII, who was elected in 1295 and inserted the conclave rules into the Code of Canon Law.

• During World War II, Pope Pius XII, like several of his predecessors who were popes in times of war, left a document informing the College of Cardinals that if he were taken prisoner, he was no longer to be considered the pope, so the cardinals were to hold a conclave and elect a new pontiff.

• **Pope Gregory XVI**, elected in 1831, was the last pope to be appointed by “spontaneous acclamation” in the last 200 years, Piazzoni said.

• **Pope Pius X** was the pope who clarified the exact moment when a candidate becomes pope. It is the moment he accepts his election, as long as he previously had been ordained a bishop. If the cardinals choose someone who has never been ordained a bishop, the ordination takes place immediately, then the election as pope becomes valid.

• **When Blessed Gregory X was elected by a cardinals’ meeting in Viterbo, Italy, in 1271, he was not present and he was not even a priest yet.**

• **Pope Nicholas II**, who served from 1059-61, was the pope who ruled that only cardinals were eligible to vote to elect a pope.

• **To put an end to discord** created when two or more candidates received a similar number of votes, Pope Alexander II in 1169 established the rule that a candidate must receive two-thirds majority to be elected.

• **Pope John Paul II** was the first pope to specify that a conclave must take place in the Sistine Chapel. Previous popes recommended the chapel, but throughout history the conclaves have been held in a variety of churches in Rome and elsewhere.
Inside the Conclave

The world watches with interest as cardinals gather in conclave — literally under lock and key — to elect the next pope. The rarity of the event, the ceremony and secrecy add to the intrigue.

Sistine Chapel

The centuries-old chapel adorned with Michelangelo’s frescoes has been the site of every papal election since 1570. Its marble floor is covered with wood. The windows and doors are shut as the Master of Papal Liturgical Ceremonies exclams, “Extra omnes!” (“Everybody else, out!”) A sweep is performed for electronic devices.

Cardinal Electors

Placing a hand on the Gospels, each one swears to uphold the rules and secrecy of the conclave. Any communication with people outside is forbidden. They may not receive messages or notes. Cardinals under the age of 80 may vote in the conclave. There are 117 eligible cardinals this time.

Ballots and Voting

Votes are hand-written and cast individually into special urns. The top of the ballot reads, “Eigo in Summum Pontificem” (“I elect as the most high pontiff”).

Ballots are counted by three “scrutineers.” The work is checked by three “revisers.” The ballot counters and verifiers are chosen by lot at the start of the conclave.

One round of voting is expected the first day. Each day after, two votes are taken in the morning and two votes in the afternoon until a successful vote. A two-thirds majority is required to elect the new pope.

Stove and Smoke

A chimney is installed on the roof of the Sistine Chapel for the conclave. In the back corner of the chapel, a stove is set to burn ballots and related papers, including notes taken by the electors, each morning and afternoon.

If balloting is not successful, the smoke burns black with the help of an added chemical. If balloting is successful, a chemical is added to produce the celebratory white smoke — the signal that the church has a new pope.

“Habemus Papam”

The elected cardinal is asked if he accepts the election as pope. If he accepts, he chooses the name he will take.

From the central balcony of St. Peter’s Basilica, the senior cardinal deacon proclaims, “Habemus papam!” (“We have a pope!”), and announces his name. The new pontiff appears on the balcony and imparts his first papal blessing.

Age matters:
Popes elected as young as 24, as old as 81

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Pope Benedict XVI, 85, announced his resignation, he said that “both strength of mind and body are necessary” to carry out the papal ministry in the modern world.

He was elected in 2005, just after his 78th birthday. Of the 102 popes whose exact age at election is known, Pope Benedict was one of 17 churchmen elected bishop of Rome while between the ages of 71 and 80.

Ambrogio Piazzoni, vice prefect of the Vatican Library and author of a book on the history of papal elections, distributed a sheet of a book on the history of papal elections, which includes data on the ages of cardinals at election, to reporters Feb. 21, the day after briefing journalists at the Vatican.

On the topic of the age of the pope at election, he said:
• Three popes were under the age of 25. The last was Pope Gregory V, who was 24 when elected in 996.
• Seven were between 25 and 40 years old. The last was Pope Leo X, who was 37 in 1513.
• Eleven were between 41 and 50. The last was Pope Clement VII, who was elected in 1523 at the age of 42.
• 24 popes were in their 50s. The most recent was Blessed John Paul II, who was 58 years old when he began his papal ministry in 1978.
• 37 were between 61 and 70 years old. The last was Pope John Paul I, who was 65 when he began his 33-day papacy in 1978.
• Only three popes were over 80 when elected. The last, chosen by cardinals in 1406, was Pope Gregory XII. He was 81.

FAMOUS LASTS

Piazzoni also provided a list of “lasts”:
• The last pope who was not a cardinal yet when elected was Pope Urban VI in 1378.
• The last who was not even a priest yet was Pope Leo X.
• The last born in Rome was Pope Pius XII, elected in 1939. (He was also the last serving Vatican secretary of state elected.)
• The last African was Pope Gelasius, elected in 492.
• The last native of Dalmatia, an ancient Roman province, was Pope John IV in 640.
• The last Frenchman elected was Pope Gregory XI, elected in 1370.
• The last Greek was Pope Zachary in 741.
• The last Englishman was Pope Adrian IV in 1154.
• The last Italian was Pope John Paul I.
• The last Dutchman was Pope Adrian VI in 1522.

• The last Palestinian was Pope Theodore II in 642.
• The last Pole was Pope John Paul II in 1978.
• The last Portuguese was Pope John XXII in 1276.
• The last Syrian was Pope Gregory III in 1370.
• The last Spaniard was Pope Alexander VI in 1492.
• The last German was Pope Benedict XVI, elected in 2005.

It had been 950 years since a German — Pope Victor II — had been elected.
Preparation key to first Communion for second-grade students

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

“Receiving Holy Communion connects, in the Person of Christ, our love of God and love of neighbor.” — Father Daniel Scheidt

Catholic second-grade teachers throughout the Church are preparing their students to receive their First Communion. At Christ the King in South Bend and Queen of Peace in Mishawaka, teachers are using several methods to explain the Eucharist in tangible ways for students.

Religious education catechist Liz Slatt, who has been an instructor at Christ the King for 27 years, notes that a teacher’s example in the classroom is a good avenue to explain the Eucharist. “The way you treat the children and get along with the kids is important. This helps to show that Jesus is a human person that went to school, helped his parents and then did the work of the Father. Christ is the focus leading up to the Eucharist and Christ is the sacrifice,” Slatt said.

Queen of Peace School vice principal Ann-Marie Kankel, who is also the school’s religion teacher, noted that students are instructed in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. “Through Catechesis of the Good Shepherd we meditate on several parables. The parables help to deepen their understanding of the connection between the Bible and the liturgy and strengthen their desire for the Eucharist,” said Kankel.

One of the parables used for instruction at Queen of Peace is John 15:1-8, where Jesus identifies Himself as the vine and His disciples as the branches. Queen of Peace second-grade teacher Gabriella Byall explained to the children when the sap inside the vine has a blockage, the branches are damaged, the same way sin and vine has a blockage, the branches. Queen of Peace second-grade teacher Gabriella Byall explained to the children.

Gabriella Byall explained to the Peace school second-grade teacher disciples as the branches. Queen of Peace in Mishawaka.

“Using the Scripture from John 15:1-8, second-grade students from Queen of Peace School attach messages on the branch that indicate how they can remain a part of the vine.” — Father Daniel Scheidt

Father Daniel Scheidt, pastor of Queen of Peace Parish, offers his reflections on the contrast of children’s reactions to receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday and their encounter with the Eucharist.

“At Christmas I make Oplatek bread which is similar to communion bread, very thin and white with no taste. We share the bread with each other and make good wishes for the future and forgiveness if anything had happened during the past year,” she explained.

“It is symbolic of unity and the Eucharist. I presented the bread to the children at Christmas and told them the bread was food for the spirit,” she added.

Parental involvement is essential in the first Communion preparation. Both parishes participate in a retreat where parents are encouraged to volunteer to help in the workshops. In addition, family time in prayer and discussion are encouraged at home.

Kristen Harges, a parent of second-grader Juliana in Slatt’s class, describes home preparation for her daughter’s first Communion.

“In addition to reading some Bible verses, we talk and pray about how we can live the way Jesus wants us to, and how to be good peacemakers in Jesus’ image,” Harges said.

Slatt recalled that her own family called this experience “Jesus Time.” “I closed the door to the dining room and we lit our candle, said our prayer, and worked on our workbook. No one could come in and bother us,” Slatt recalled.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

BY HEATHER COYNE

SOUTH BEND — Christ the King Catholic School continues to expand the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program, and now serves grades pre-kindergarten through 2. This Montessori-based religious formation program for children was originally developed in Rome, beginning in 1954.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd seeks to prepare a sacred space with “hands-on” materials called an atrium, in which both children and their catechists can hear, ponder and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Christian faith as revealed in Scripture and the liturgy.

Following the cycle of the Church’s liturgical calendar, the children, guided by their catechist, explore themes surrounding Advent, Christ’s Incarnation, the parables of the kingdom of God, the Good Shepherd and the Paschal Mystery found at the heart of Lent, Easter and Pentecost, as well as the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program at Christ the King is currently facilitated by seven volunteer catechists, 12 volunteer catechist assistants, one coordinator and many parishioners and school parents who take on projects of various sizes to provide the materials with which the children work and pray in the atrium.

Christ the King is currently the only area school with a resident formation leader recognized by the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. The formation leader, Joanie Rymisz, is qualified to lead national formation courses and certify adults who desire to work as catechists with children in the atrium.

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Maggie Bramlett and Emma Busk work with a material called the Synthesis of the Mass, which isolates key moments of the liturgy and invites children to put them in order.
Follow the prodigal’s conversion and return to the Father

4th Sunday of Lent
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

This weekend the Church observes Laetare Sunday, the name being derived from Luke’s Gospel, the beautiful, and reassuring parable of the prodigal.

Much of the parable is self-evident, even to us in the 21st century. Certainly quite clear is the uncompromised, constant love of the father, who is a symbol of God. How wonderful messages may be lost until we consider the context. For example, the prodigal was not the older son. As such, he was not his father’s heir. The father owed him little if anything. Then, of course, there was the prodigal’s desertion of his father. Jesus at the time of Jesus praised loyalty to parents, expressed in loving care and attendance.

Next, the prodigal consorts with prostitutes. Such activity revolted pious Jews. It scorned the sanctity of marriage and the family but also meant that the pure stock of God’s people might be defiled by the birth of children to pagan women in such relationships.

Finally, the prodigal stooped so low that he waited on pigs, the lowest of low animals. Nevertheless, the father forgave all and gave a wonderful inheritance to the wayward son.

Reflection
The Church is excited and joyful. Salvation is near. Few Gospel passages are more familiar, or treasured, among Christians than the story of the prodigal. God’s love and mercy literally shine. No one can fail to see them. Yet, accustomed to American laws and customs of heredity and inheritance, we may not realize the full import of the story.

Under Jewish law and custom, primogeniture reigned supreme. (So did preference for male heirs.) The older son was entitled to everything. It was his by right. What he received in no way would be the father’s gift.

Vital importance to the story is the prodigal’s conversion and return to the father. Accepting this repentant son, the father sets aside every convention in his love and excitement.

If any sinner truly repents, God will forgive anything and everything. In this thrilling assurance, the Church calls us to return to God. Lent still has a few weeks. There is time! It awaits!

To teach and to sanctify

Bishop John M. D’Arcy was our bishop for five years when my family lived in Indiana. He was a great help to one of our boys. I attended his funeral in early February. The media saw Bishop D’Arcy as a man who spoke his mind. In the 1980s, he was a lonely voice among the Boston Church hierarchy, decriing the practice of reassigning priests who were credibly accused of sexual abuse. It made him few friends (if only more people had listened).

In 1992, Bishop D’Arcy declined to attend the University of Notre Dame’s commencement (his diocese included South Bend) because the university was giving an award to then-Sen. Daniel Moynihan, who enthusiastically supported abortion rights. He did the same thing for the same reason in 2009, when Notre Dame gave President Barack Obama an honorary degree. In an open letter to the university on that occasion, Bishop D’Arcy speculated that Notre Dame had “chosen prestige over truth.”

This sounds like Jeremiah. But surely, the prophet’s funeral was poorly attended compared to that of Bishop D’Arcy. People waited for hours to kneel at his casket. Balding men in barn coats wiped their eyes with fat fingers. Mothers holding little babies cried; so did high school kids wearing letter jackets.

Afer kneeling for a moment, people walked past the open casket on their way out. What struck me was how nearly everyone reached in to touch him — his hand, the hem of his sleeve. Some touched their rosaries to his. One woman took a cross from around her neck and touched it to his hand. It was not just love; it was reverence.

On the flight out to Indiana, I read George Weigel’s new book, “The Angel Has Finished His Work. He is Beckoning me to Follow.”

March 10, 2013

Catholic Relief Services

Melissa Wheeler

he or she recount the narrative? Which person in the story is most like you, or how are you like him or her? Who is God calling you to be? How has God been generous with you, and how have you stewarded God’s gifts?

Fast

One meaning of prodigal is wasteful. In your fast this week, look for the places in your life where you might waste resources or goods that have been put in your care. What is the state of your recycling bin or compost pile? How much food is thrown away at the end of a meal? Is the water left running in the sink or the lights left on throughout the house? Does money that could go into your Rice Bowl get spent on things you don’t need? This week take an inventory of how well you preserve and care for your resources. Choose a few areas to improve as part of a fast from wastefulness. Ask your family members to help.

To order free materials for CRS Rice Bowl, visit crsricebowl.org or call (800) 222-0025. For more information about Catholic Relief Services contact Melissa Wheeler at mwheeler@bishopdwcenger.com or (260) 496-4700, ext. 323.

Saint of the Week

Frances of Rome
1384-1440
March 9

This laywoman and foundress, born a Roman aristocrat, married Lorenzo Ponzioni when she was 13; they had several children. In 1409, their palazzo was pillaged by Neapolitan soldiers and Lorenzo was exiled for five years, returning home a broken man. He died in 1436. Frances, known for her great charity during epidemics and civil war, organized a ladies society dedicated to self-denial and good works. It became the Oblates of Tor de Specchi, which she directed for her last four years. She is the patron saint of motorists, perhaps because she was guarded for 23 years by an archangel visible only to her. Her last words were: “The angel has finished his work. He is beckoning me to follow.”

READING
Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12 Ps 34:2-7
2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Monday: Is 61:7-21 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b-14:45-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-12, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 5:1-16
Thursday: Ex 32:14-16 Ps 106:19-23 In Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Ws 6:2a, 12-22 Ps 34:17-21, 23 Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20 Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12 Jn 7:40-53

INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

John Garvey

This man welcomes sinners and eats with them

Catholic Relief Services

Melissa Wheeler

JOHN GARVEY

GARVEY, PAGE 12

RELIEF SERVICES

WHEELER

CNS Saints

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The legacy of Benedict XVI

At his election in 2005, some thought of him as a papal place-keeper: a man who would keep the Chair of Peter warm for a few years until a younger papal candidate emerged. In many other ways, and most recently by his remarkably self-effacing decision to abdicate, Joseph Ratzinger proved himself a man of surprises. What did he accomplish, and what was left undone, over a pontificate of almost eight years?

He secured the authoritative interpretation of Vatican II that had been begun (with his collaboration) by his predecessor, Blessed John Paul II. Vatican II, the council in which the Church came to understand that a communion of disciples in mission, was not a moment to deconstruct Catholicism, but a moment to reinvigorate the faith. It was, “ever ancient, ever new,” precisely so that it could be more vigorously proposed.

He helped close the door on the Counter-Reformation Church in which he had grown up in his beloved Bavarian countryside, and thrust open the door to the Church for some time. The Church, he understood that, for postmodern man who would keep the Chair of Peter warm for a few years, the secular media praised his work, in which he had grown up in his beloved Bavarian countryside, and thrust open the door to the Church for some time. The Church has higher standards.

He probed an astute analyst of contemporary democracy’s discontinuities, as he also correctly identified the key 21st-century issues between Islam and “the rest.” Can Islam find within itself the religious resources to warrant both religious toleration and the separation of religious and political authority in the state?

He was a master catechist and teacher, and, like John Henry Newman (whom he canonized) and Ronald Knox, his sermons will be read as models of the homiletic art, and appreciated for their keen biblical and theological insights, for centuries.

As for the incomplete and the not-done:

Benedict XVI was determined to turn the Church of what he called, on the Good Friday before his election as pope, the “filth” that marred the image of the Bride of Christ and impeded her evangelization. He was successful, to a degree, but the work of reconstruction, in the wake of the sexual abuse scandal, remains to be completed. This is most urgently needed in Ireland, where the resistance of an intransigent hierarchical establishment is a severe impediment to the re-evangelization of that once-Catholic country. And the next pope must, in my judgment, be more severe than his two predecessors in dealing with bishops whom the evidence demonstrates were complicit in abuse cover-up — even if such an approach was considered appropriate at the time by both the counseling profession and the legal authorities. The Church has higher standards.

The secular media praised his prophetic criticism of the Church in Boston, but they were equally strident in deriding his “Jeremiads” toward the university in his diocese. Their coverage says more about media preferences than it does about Bishop D’Arcy’s character.

A few years before he retired as bishop, Bishop D’Arcy spoke on his vocation at the Notre Dame Law School. He pointed out, as Weigel does in his new book, the impact of Vatican II on the role of the bishop within the Church. “We see an attempt to move the bishop from being a CEO and administrator to a pastor and evangelist,” he said. Bishop D’Arcy gave us all a wonderful example of that positive transformation.

John Garvey is the president of The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.
BISHOP DWENGER HOLDS ANNUAL SOFTBALL CLINIC

Bishop Dwenger Lady Saints Softball Team in Fort Wayne will be teaching the fundamentals of softball during the fifth annual softball clinic. Girls in grades 4-8 are invited to participate in the pitchers and catchers session on March 21 from 6:15-7:30 p.m. and hitting and fielding on March 23 from 8:30-11 a.m. Visit www.bishopdwenger.com for a registration form. For more information contact Coach Moyer at (260) 496-4700.

SPORTS

ICCL and CYO teams play for diocesan championships

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The annual Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) vs. Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) showdown between the two ends of the diocese took place on Saturday afternoon, March 2, at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel in Fort Wayne as the best teams from South Bend matched up against the top Fort Wayne squads.

The ICCL’s regular season winner, St. Pius X, Granger, who earned a guaranteed spot in the tournament, had scheduling conflicts, so St. Joseph, whose standout seventh-grader, Josh DeSt. Jean, also was unable to make the trip, ended up facing both the CYO’s Blue League champs and Gold League runner-ups. The other representative from South Bend was St. Matthew, who won their year-end tourney by knocking out St. Pius to earn a trip to Fort Wayne to play the league and CYO champs — St. Vincent de Paul.

First up, a talented group from St. Joseph, South Bend, beat Jim Knapek’s Hessen Cassel team, 40-34. The Squires jumped out to a 13-9 lead in the first quarter and took a six-point lead into the locker room, but St. Joseph’s full court press and big third quarter from Trey Shabazz down low took over. Unable to regain their early momentum, the Squires missed a string of free throws and some late three’s bringing a close to their stellar season. In the victory, Shabazz ended up with 19 and Abram Beard was high scorer with 13 for Hessen Cassel.

St. Joseph Coach Brian Ratigan was pleased his team was able to play twice, “While we are making the trip, it is a great opportunity. These boys would play all day if they could.” However, Ratigan’s team did not fare as well in the day’s final matchup, coming up short, 25-57, against the CYO league’s tallest line up, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth (SJE), who starts a Bishop Luers-bound group of 6-foot, 5-foot-11-inches, 5-foot-11-inches, 5-foot-10-inches and another 5-foot-10-inches.

Ratigan admitted, “They were much bigger and consistently beat us up the floor. When they did slow down and run a half court offense, we could not stop their inside game. Overall, our guys still had a great time and we appreciate the efforts made on the Fort Wayne side to make this annual event a fun experience.”

Andrew Burgess had seven points in the loss for St. Joseph.

Coach Brian Cook’s Panthers finished with an impressive 21-9 record for the season with Carter Gillie, the team’s leading rebounder and top swatter, getting high scoring honors of 17 in the contest. Inside force and top free throw shooter, Brendan Gleeson and offensive powerhouse, Jimmy Sturm, added 11 each. Point guard, Blane Cook, orchestrated the offense once again for SJE, adding 11 more assists to his 100-plus season with John Korjeneck helping out with the duties. Once again, Cook could not have been more pleased with his whole team, including the phenomenal supporting role his bench played.

In the all-star day of hoops, the middle game saw Fort Wayne powerhouse, St. Vincent, downing the Blazers from St. Matthew. Up 24-10 at the half, the Panthers and top dogs, Conlan Martin and Jalen Paul, whose aggressive play and “challenge everything-style” proved effective one last time.

For St. Matthew, Justin DeClark led in points with 13. Robbie Sinn, Nathan Marino, Casey Szymanski and Joseph Cline rounded out the scoring. The Blazers were 8-12 from the free throw line, shot 11-31 from the field and had 30 rebounds in the contest. Thanking the CYO hosts, Coach Rob Sink summarized, “It was a fun trip for our team to come down.”

The University of Saint Francis Lady Cougars in Fort Wayne won the 10th conference basketball tournament championship at top-ranked Indiana Wesleyan, where they hadn’t lost a home game in 36 games. USF was down 7 points with just over seven minutes to play, and outscored the Wildcats, 19-6, in the time to pull out a win and improve to 30-3.

Brooke Ridley, Bishop Luers graduate, was named Crossroads League Freshman of the Year.

MARION — Talk about a perfect storm. Or should we say swarm.

Down, 42-35, at No. 1-ranked Indiana Wesleyan University at just over seven minutes to play, the University of Saint Francis Lady Cougars in Fort Wayne won the 10th season for USF Head Coach Gary Andrews.

It is the Lady Cougars’ 10th appearance in the annual event a fun experience.”

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The Lady Cougars swarm back to knock off No. 1 Indiana Wesleyan

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Brooke Ridley, Bishop Luers graduate, was named Crossroads League Freshman of the Year.
Higginbotham produces ‘Songs for a Lenten Journey’

MISHAWAKA — The Year of Faith, established this year by Pope Benedict XVI, is a “sum-}
**What’s Happening?**

**South Bend** — A St. Patrick benefit the Holy Family Athletic and $2.50 for children 5-12. The tickets are $8 for adults.

**Linden Ave.** will have a spaghetti dinner social. Donation of $10 for the event includes Sunday Mass and Irish music and dancing. A traditional dinner of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, bread and beverage. Child’s meal includes hot dog, chips and drink. Free admission to the event, meal tickets at the door are $10 adults, $5 children 4-11, children under 4. $25 family.

**Fort Wayne** — Queen of Angels fish fry is planned. Tickets are $5 in advance. Contact Louise at (574) 468-5618 ext. 3020 for information.

**New Haven**

Allison Rose Browand, 83, St. Joseph Chapel of-the-Woods, Ind.

Mary C. Waldvogel, 94, Our Lady of Hungary

Lillian V. Jaroszewski, 83, St. Joseph Chapel

**Mishawaka**

Lloyd G. Bickel, 74, St. Joseph

**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: fhapus@diosesefwsb.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.

**Dinner, dance and auction**

Hoagland — St. Rose Parish and St. Joseph School will have a dinner, dance and auction Saturday, March 9, at Quixote Hills Reception Hall, 14013 Emanuel Rd. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Cash bar. Tickets are $12 in advance or $15 at the door. For information contact St. Joseph School at (260) 623-3447.

**Dinner and pancake breakfast planned**

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570, 2020 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, March 14, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $2.50 for children 5-12. The Knights will also have a pancake breakfast Sunday, March 17, from 8-11 a.m. in the Holy Family Parish Center Adults $6, children ages 5 to 12 $3. Proceeds benefit the Holy Family Athletic Association.

**Corned beef and cabbage on menu**

South Bend — A St. Patrick Corned beef and cabbage dinner will be Saturday, March 16, from noon to 4 p.m. in the St. Patrick Center, 300 S. St. Live Irish music and dancing. A traditional dinner of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, carrots, bread and beverage. Child’s meal includes hot dog, chips and drink. Free admission to the event, meal tickets at the door are $10 adults, $5 children 4-11, children under 4 free. $25 family.

**Lenten mini-retreat for young adults**

Mishawaka — A retreat for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single and married will be March 16, from 9 a.m. at St. Patrick Church. Holy Cross Father Paul F. Doyle will preside. Following Mass, a guided tour will take place showing the relics, murals and newspaper clippings of the school on display.

**Card party and salad bar**

New Carlisle — St. Stanislaus Koska Parish will have a 50th annual card party and salad bar Sunday, March 10, at 11:30 a.m. A 1963 theme is planned. Tickets are $5 in advance. Contact Louise at (574) 654-3364 or Nancy at (574) 289-2986.

**Bishop Luers athletic and performing arts departments host Casino Night**

Fort Wayne — A casino night will be held Friday, March 15, at Bishop Luers with blackjack, roulette, Texas hold’em and March Madness games on a big screen.

**St. Patrick School seeks alumnae**

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**Today’s Catholic**

March 10, 2013

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**Lenten mini-retreat for young adults**

Mishawaka — A retreat for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single and married will be Sunday, March 17, from 1-7 p.m. at St. Francis Convent, 1515 W. Dugoon Trail. Sacrifice in the Christian Life will be presented by Jesuit Father Brian Dunkle. The event includes Sunday Mass and dinner social. Donation of $10 for the retreat. Dinner cost is $5 (or bring your own). Register online at: www.diocesefwsb.org/retreats. Sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

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**New Haven**

Allison Rose Browand, 83, St. John the Baptist

**Mary’s Horn**

Queen of Angels fish fry is planned. Tickets are $5 in advance. Contact Louise at (574) 468-5618 ext. 3020 for information.

**Queen of Angels fish fry**

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish, 1500 W. State Blvd., will have a fish fry Friday, March 15, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Family style fast seating. Carryout available.

**Jonah fish fry**

South Bend — Corpus Christi Parish will have a Jonah Fish Fry from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, March 15, in the school gym, 2817 Corpus Christi Dr. Adults and carry outs $9, children 6-12 $4 and children under six free. Tickets available at the door.

**Jonah fish fry**

Mishawaka — Mishawaka Catholic Home and School Association will have a Jonah Fish Fry at the St. Bavo Campus Friday, March 22, from 4-8 p.m. Advance tickets are $8 for adults, $4 for students, $7 for seniors, $5 for K-8 and preschoolers are free.
monious concord.”

Pope Benedict also recalled the previous day’s general audience in St. Peter’s Square, attended by an estimated 150,000 people, saying that the gathering demonstrated that the “Church is a living body, animated by the Holy Spirit, and truly lives by the strength of God.”

Referring to the work of the late German theologian Father Romano Guardini, the pope said, “Let the Church keep alive the mystery of the incarnation since its members ‘offer to God their own flesh and, in their very poverty and humility, become capable of generating Christ today in the world.’

The cardinals responded with a standing ovation.

Prior to the pope’s remarks, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, dean of the College of Cardinals, addressed a short tribute to the departing pontiff, whose resigation took effect at 8 p.m. the same day.

“With great trepidation the cardinal fathers present in Rome rally around you today to show once again their profound affection and express to you their deep gratitude for your witness of self-denying apostolic service, for the good of the Church of Christ and all humanity,” the cardinal said.

Cardinal Sodano concluded his remarks with a German expression, “Vergelt’s Gott”: “May God reward you!”

Following the brief ceremony, Pope Benedict received individual greetings from the assembled cardinals and from officials of the Roman Curia, the Church’s central administration at the Vatican. Most kissed the pope’s ring, with some also genuflecting before they exchanged a few words with the pope; a few were brought up in wheelchairs.

Some cardinals handed the pope what appeared to be personal notes or small presents; Vienna’s Cardinal Christoph Schönborn, one of Pope Benedict’s former students, gave him a book.

Prior to the pope’s remarks, Cardinal Christoph Schönborn, one of Pope Benedict’s former students, gave him a book.

Pope Benedict XVI addresses the College of Cardinals at the Vatican Feb. 28, the final day of his papacy. In attendance were 144 cardinals, including many of the 115 younger than 80 who are eligible and expected to vote in the upcoming conclave.

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Contributing to this story was Cindy Wooden at the Vatican.