BRISTOL — They studied and prepared for two years — doing special projects, logging service hours — and all their work culminated in the blessing of the sacrament of Confirmation Saturday, April 13, at St. Mary of the Annunciation Church in Bristol.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades confirmed 37 candidates in all — 35 young people and two adults. As they practiced the night before, parents and students alike looked at this sacrament as a “rite of passage on their spiritual journey.”

Mike and Sara Jackowiak’s son Ryan was one of the candidates. When asked what it meant to them as parents, Mike replied, “It means he’s getting older and taking on the responsibility of full membership in the Church. He now has a better maturity and better idea of what’s expected of him and about what it means to be Catholic.”

The family members have been parishioners at St. Mary’s for approximately six years. Ryan is their second child to be confirmed. Mike was raised Catholic and Sara joined the Church. Sara said having two children go through the Confirmation program reinforced the things she learned in RCIA.

“As a family it’s made us all stronger Catholics,” Sara said.

A couple of the girls being confirmed, Mackenzie Kauffman and Raven Knepp, felt the sacrament would bring them closer to God.

“It’s an important thing to do to be a part of the Church and be more with God,” Mackenzie declared.

Raven said being confirmed meant, “I get to follow my faith more and know that now I’m really a part of the Catholic faith and follow in the Lord’s footsteps to be closer to God.”

One candidate, Johnny Riblet, was excited about
Zeal for the New Evangelization

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

This coming Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In the Gospel, Jesus the Good Shepherd teaches us that He knows His sheep and they follow Him. And our Lord also says that He gives them eternal life and that no one can take them out of His hand. This is our conviction as followers of the Good Shepherd. We trust in the Lord who holds us in His hands, who protects us, and who gives us eternal life. He gives us His grace through Baptism and the other life-giving sacraments.

In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles this Sunday, we read about the dynamic missionary activity of Paul and Barnabas in the early years of the Church. They brought the word of God, the message of eternal life, to the Gentiles. The Gentiles were delighted when they heard the bold preaching of Paul and Barnabas and they glorified the word of the Lord. The Acts of the Apostles tell us that “all who were destined for eternal life came to believe, and the word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region.”

It is good during the season of Easter to reflect on the life of the early Church and the spread of the Gospel in the first decades of Christianity, as we read the Acts of the Apostles.

In this Year of Faith, we are reminded that the Church is, by its very nature, missionary. The missionary dynamism of the early Church, which we read about in the Acts of the Apostles, is an example for us today. We are called to have the zeal of the first Christians in our evangelizing mission.

A truly vibrant Church, whether on the level of the diocese or parish, is one which is not turned in on itself, but one which is devoted to spreading the faith to others and dedicated to bringing others to Christ, the Good Shepherd. We strive to do this in a myriad of ways. I wish to highlight the importance of passing on the faith to our children and young people, especially by our commitment to strong Catholic schools, religious education programs, and youth ministry. It is also vitally important to have strong RCIA programs and adult faith formation. I think particularly of the hundreds of Arise groups in our diocese. These are all components of a truly evangelizing parish.

We all have the responsibility of bringing the Gospel to others, in our families and in our community. We all have a share in the task of spreading the faith by word and example. This is as important now as it was back in Saint Paul’s time. Yes, we live in a different culture, with different challenges and circumstances. Today we face the great challenge of living the faith in an increasingly secularized culture and one which is marked by increasing relativism. The early Church faced different challenges. Though the circumstances are different, the mission of the Church remains the same. The Lord Jesus, the Good Shepherd, continues to call disciples to follow Him. He continues, through His Body, the Church, to offer the gift of eternal life to those who will follow Him.

In our second reading this Sunday, we will hear the wonderful vision of Saint John in the book of Revelation. The victory of the Church is described by John: a great multitude of people dressed in white robes, from every nation, race, people, and language, stand before the throne of God and before the Lamb, worshipping Him day and night. These are the redeemed. They are those who had undergone many trials and who are now safe, having washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. We are called to be part of this great crowd and to bring others to be a part of God’s holy people, to be purified in the blood of the Lamb, to share in eternal life.

Saint John says that the Lamb will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water. How many people in the past nearly 200 years here in our diocese have been led by Christ the Good Shepherd to the springs of life-giving water in the community of faith which is the Church? We must be committed to embrace with new vigor our evangelizing mission, to bear witness to the Good Shepherd by word and example, especially our witness to His love.

May we all one day stand before the throne of God and before the Lamb, worshipping Him in the eternal banquet feast of heaven! At every Mass, we anticipate and have a foretaste of that heavenly banquet when we worship the Lord in the Eucharistic sacrifice and receive from the Lord the great grace of His life-giving Body and Blood.
Immigration rally cries out to Congress to fix range of problems

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — From across the country, by bus, plane and train, tens of thousands of people calling for comprehensive immigration reform covered the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol April 10 in one of more than a dozen simultaneous events taking place around the United States. 

Cries of: “Si, se puede,” Spanish for “yes, we can,” and “we want Citizenship. When do we want it? Now!” rose from the crowd in Washington.

As an hour-long program of speakers, musical performances and prayers played out on a stage that only those closest to it could see, different groups and individuals on the platform and in the stands intermixed and waved signs about the range of issues most important to them.

Signs reading: “We build this nation, too,” “Immigrant farm work is central to women’s equality,” “Education, not deportation,” and “Let he/she who has no immigrant blood cast the first stone” were interspersed with flags — mostly U.S. but also from Mexico, El Salvador, Ireland and other nations. On a blistering hot day that many trees hadn’t yet grown out leaves to provide full shade, the lawn, surrounding park space and the sidewalk around the Reflecting Pool were covered by a sea of white shirt-clad people.

The rally was organized as part of a nationwide campaign to push Congress to pass a comprehensive immigration reform law that addresses a range of problems with the current system.

A Senate bill being crafted by A Senate bill being crafted by

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A Senate bill being crafted by
Chaplain deserves ‘about three or four’ Medals of Honor, say veterans

BY JOSEPH AUSTIN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President Barack Obama April 11 awarded the Medal of Honor to famed Korean War chaplain Father Emil Kapaun, presenting it to the priest’s nephew, Ray Kapaun, nearly 22,604 days after his uncle’s death in a prisoner of war camp.

“He should have got it long time ago,” Joe Ramirez, a war veteran, told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview from Houston. He was baptized by Father Kapaun July 19, 1950, the day after their regiment was sent on a death march to a prisoner of war camp.

“Now one remembers little things about him which were not significant times, but God was calling him to grow up an ordinary child in ordinary circumstances,” Ramirez said.

Kapaun was born on Holy Thursday at 11:30 a.m. April 20, 1916, to two hardworking parents in a little farmhouse in Kansas. He grew up an ordinary child in ordinary times, but God was calling him to something greater.

“Now one remembers little things about him which were not significant then, but which might have let you know what sort of man he would be when the going was difficult,” Father Edward Malone, a Benedictine priest and professor, is quoted as saying in a 1954 biography of the priest written by Father Arthur Tonne.

When he walked into a room, Father Kapaun seemed to light up the room, fellow soldier Mike Dowe said in an April 4 interview in Roslyn, Va.

Dowe retired as an Army colonel in 1970 and today is chief scientist at New Mexico-based Raytheon Ktech. He spoke to CNS while he was in the Washington area on business.

Shortly after the Korean War ended — an armistice was signed July 27, 1953 — Dowe wrote about Father Kapaun in a Saturday Evening Post article in January 1954. “By his very presence, somehow, he could turn a stinking, louse-ridden mud hut, for a little while, into a cathedral,” he wrote.

Yet, he added, there was nothing “ethereal about him, nothing soft or uncertain or holier-than-thou.”

In the interview with CNS, Dowe said the priest used ordinary GI slang to communicate with the troops, and loved to talk about his mother’s good cooking.

Deployed to the Korean War, Father Kapaun spent almost a year ministering to the soldiers on the frontlines. When he was not dodging bullets to drag wounded back to the aid stations, the priest would “drop in a shallow hole besides a nervous rifleman, crack a joke or two, hand him a peach, (and) say a little prayer with him,” Dowe wrote in 1954.

In his recollection of the chaplain, Miller told CNS: “He didn’t stop to ask if I was Baptist or what. He just did his job.”

One day, during the thick of the fighting, Miller was charged with the task of leading a platoon back to the headquarters. About halfway there, they were overwhelmed by a huge swarm of enemy soldiers.

“It was dark ... but I saw a grenade and I couldn’t get away from it,” he said. The grenade exploded and seriously wounded him. Lying on the ground, he looked up just as a North Korean soldier pointed a pistol at his head, ready to execute him, Dowe said.

“Mike, I’m going where I always wanted to go.”

Carried Miller about 30 miles through a deep mud hole, he said. The grenade exploded, and Miller couldn’t get away from the swarm of enemy soldiers.

“The first time I saw (Father Kapaun) is when he came across that road and picked me up,” said Miller.

“Then the first time I saw (Father Kapaun) is when he come across that road and picked me up,” said Miller.

Fellow soldier Raymond Moore, a prisoner of war camp.

“The Chinese hated him because they thought he had too much influence on the young guys,” said Ramirez.

In his article, Dowe wrote: “Above all, he urged them not to fall for the lying doctrines the Reds were trying to pound into our heads.”

The priest would go cabin to cabin, stopping in for a few moments to talk and pray with the wounded and dying prisoners.

“He would slip in the door, (pass) a pipe around, kneel down and (and) then he’d say, ‘Keep your chin up boys, because we’re going to come out of here,’” Miller told CNS.

Father Kapaun helped wash the clothes of the dying, brought water to the thirsty, cleaned and picked maggots out of wounds.

Sometimes he would even sneak into the warehouse to steal food for the starving men, explained Dowe.

With men falling sick all around him, Father Kapaun eventually got a blood clot that led to pneumonia and fever. However, he recovered from the illness just long enough for the North Koreans to whisk him off to their death house, where he passed away.

Dowe remembers the moment when they took him away. “We all said, ‘Hey! He’s getting better ... but the soldiers came in with bayonets. Father said, ‘Hey, don’t fight!”’ and then turning to Dowe, he said, “Mike, I’m going where I always wanted to go.”

U.S. President Barack Obama presents the Medal of Honor to Ray Kapaun, who accepted it on behalf of his uncle, U.S. Army chaplain Father Emil Joseph Kapaun, at the White House in Washington April 11. The priest, who died May 23, 1951, in a North Korean prisoner of war camp, was honored with the nation’s highest military award for bravery.

BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL

SUMMER CAMPS & PROGRAMS

Boys Summer Basketball League
For incoming grades K-8
June 5, 6, 11, 12, 18, 20, 25, and 27
Contact: Matt Kostoff, mkostoff@bishopdwenger.com

Football Skills Development Camp
For incoming grades 6-9
June 3-6
Contact: Chris Svarczkopf, (260) 496-4718

Volleyball Camp
For incoming grades 4-9
June 24-28
*Tentative, check website for updates

Saints Basketball School
For incoming grades K-8
Session I: June 10-14  ■  Session II: July 8-12
*Tentative, check website for updates

Saints Summer Soccer Camp
For incoming boys and girls grades 5-8
June 27-28
Contact: Carlos Cruz, (260) 602-2424

Tennis Camp
For Ages 8-14
June 3-7
Contact: Tim Koehl, (260) 417-4691

Dance Team Camp
For incoming grades K-8
June 7-21
Contact: Melanie Stine, melaniestine@gmail.com

Cheerleading Camp
For incoming grades K-5
July 22-26
Contact: Amy Gonzagowski, (260) 496-4700

Squad Stunt & Cheer Camp
For incoming grades 6-8
July 22-26
Contact: Amy Gonzagowski, (260) 496-4700

Gymnastics Camp
For incoming grades K-8
June 18 & 20 or July 17 & 19
Contact: Rosemarie Nix, bdgymnix@yahoo.com

Summer Conditioning
June 4 - July 26
All BD Athletes Grades 9-12
Contact: Chris Svarczkopf, (260) 496-4718

Summer School
June 10-28
Contact: Cindy Johnson, (260) 496-4703

Driver’s Education
Session I: June 3-14  ■  Session II: June 17-28
Contact: Joanne Scally, (260) 496-4707

Additional information and forms are available under the Athletics link on our website and in the front office of the school. Please check the website regularly for updates or changes.

www.bishopdwenger.com

Don’t trade in your car or truck for next-to-nothing!

Get tax credit for full Sale Price!!!

It’s simple...Call our Thrift Store (260) 456-3561 for more information. Proceeds from car/truck sales assist our neediest neighbors in the six-county area served by the Fort Wayne District Council. Help us help others and help yourself as well!
A bill to regulate chemical abortion, improve informed consent headed to governor’s desk

INDIANAPOLIS — A bill to regulate chemical abortion in Indiana and improve informed consent law for abortion passes the House and Senate, and is headed for the governor’s desk. The Church supports the proposal.

The bill, Senate Bill 371, requires facilities that dispense abortion-inducing drugs to meet the same medical standards as those that provide surgical abortions. The proposal requires a doctor who prescribes the abortion-inducing drugs to examine the woman in person, and schedule follow-up care. It prohibits telemed practices where a doctor will have to rule-out an ectopic pregnancy, including “a very serious side effect including death if RU 486 is used.

According to Negele, an abortion-inducing drug is defined specifically as a drug that is designed and directed with the intent to terminate a pregnancy. Negele said the bill makes changes to the consent form a woman must sign before having an abortion. All abortions, both surgical and chemical, are treated the same with respect to notices and informed consent.

Negele explained that in order for a woman to have a chemical abortion, a doctor will have to assess the gestational age of the baby in order to determine if it’s an appropriate use. Additionally, the doctor will have to rule-out an ectopic pregnancy, including “a very serious side effect including death if RU 486 is used.

The bill specifically states that an abortion-inducing drug may not be administered to a woman after nine weeks and that an abortion must be surgical unless the FDA approves a drug to do so. The bill attaches criminal charges, a Class C felony, to any doctor who dispenses an abortion-inducing drug for an abortion after nine weeks, mandating that abortions conducted after nine weeks would be surgical.

Negele speaking from the House floor said, “This is a very emotionally-charged issue and I want you to know my intent is to seek out a remedy to safeguard our young women who have chosen this path. I know that the most common age to use this type of abortion is between 18 and 25 years old. Because I have a 21-year-old daughter, this really hits home.’

Lawmakers State Rep. Sue Errington, D-Muncie, and State Rep. Linda Lawson, D-Hammond, spoke out in opposition to bill. Errington, a former Planned Parenthood employee, said she did not think the clinics providing chemical abortion needed to meet the same standards as those performing surgical abortions.

Errington, noting the list of requirements, said all that “just to give a pill.” Lawson took her fellow lawmakers to task asking them why they hadn’t done more to help children that are already born, rather than attack clinics that offer abortion. “Why aren’t we talking more about the basic right of a pregnant woman?”

State Sen. Travis Holdman, R-Marion, author of SB 371 said, “We’re just trying to control and regulate abortion-inducing drugs, which are not regulated in the state of Indiana. We’re talking about the life of the mother and the child.”

Glenn Tebbe, ICC executive director, who serves as the official spokesman and public policy watchdog on state and federal issues for the Catholic Church in Indiana, said, “Getting Senate Bill 371 passed is a pretty big victory because it will keep this type of abortion from expanding, and that’s a positive step forward.”

TODAY ‘S CATHOLIC

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul hosted its seventh annual retreat for people with disabilities on April 13 at the St. Vincent de Paul Spiritual Center in Fort Wayne where 30 participants with developmental or physical disabilities ranging in age from 18 to 80 years gathered to do some manual work to enrich their spiritual lives.

Participants arrived mid-morning for refreshments and social time before the opening prayer service that set the tone for the focus of the retreat, “God’s Good Earth.” Volunteers, retreat organizers and participants were introduced during the reflection on the story of creation, which concluded with a prayer asking God to bless the earth and its stewards.

The music was led by Tony Munson and family, participants were served lunch prepared by Rosie Errington, a former Planned Parenthood employee, who also enjoys the singing and leading of the prayer service.

The theme. Amy Yablonsky, a parish steward, shared her connection with animals and how she witnessed a non-venomous snake, a parrot and a hedgehog.

After lunch, prepared by Rosie Munson and family, participants helped with planting flower seeds in potting soil. Participants were encouraged to take the seed pots home and nurture the seeds into mature plants.

Boy Scout Alex Szaady, age 12, says that he “chose to come today because he likes helping out with everyone.” He has experience with people with disabilities because he has a friend at Leo Elementary who is confined to a wheelchair. Ryan Richardson, also 12, and new to Scouting, says he is comfortable helping people with disabilities because his uncle has a disability.

Retreat coordinator Dorothy Schuerman spoke about Pope Francis’ name choice and how he brought attention to the diocese community by embracing a boy with cerebral palsy. Retreat participants also heard about the life of St. Francis and the religious order he founded as well as the women’s community founded by his friend St. Clare. A collection of legends and folklore concerning St. Francis’ connection with animals and creation that sprung up after St. Francis’ death was discussed as well.

Representatives from the Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo provided education and up-close interaction with several animals from the zoo including a dingo, millipedes, a non-venomous snake, a parrot and a hedgehog.

Participants were served meals and assisted by Boy Scouts from St. Vincent de Paul, who also attended the retreat.

Web Resources

For more information on pending legislation the Church is following go to the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) Web page at www.indianacc.org.
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Amid the recent round of criticism, Pope Francis named an international panel of cardinals to advise him on the latest reform of the Vatican bureaucracy.

The College of Cardinals extensively discussed the problems in meetings preceding the conclave that elected Pope Francis last month. According to the April 13 Vatican statement, the suggestion for an advisory panel on reform arose during those meetings.

Only one member of the new panel is a full-time Vatican official: Cardinal Giuseppe Bertello, president of the commission governing Vatican City State. All of the others currently serve as diocesan bishops.

The group’s coordinator is Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, who is also president of Caritas Internationalis, a Vatican-based umbrella organization for national Catholic charities around the globe.

The other members are Cardinal Francisco Javier Errazuriz Ossa, retired archbishop of Santiago, Chile; Cardinal Oswald Gracias, archbishop of Mumbai, India; Cardinal Reinhard Marx of Munich and Freising, Germany; and Cardinal Laurent Monsengwo Pasinya of Kinshasa, Congo.

The group’s members hail from five continents, more than any other group of church leaders. Of the new panel’s 19 members, 10 are from Latin America, 10 are from Europe, two are from Africa, two are from Oceania, and one is from Asia.

Ernesto Romanelli, president of the Roman Curia, described the new commission as “advisory” and said it will not have the same power as a former commission, which was chaired by Cardinal Giuseppe Bertello, president of the commission governing Vatican City State.

The group’s coordinator is Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, who is also president of Caritas Internationalis, a Vatican-based umbrella organization for national Catholic charities around the globe.

Until a permanent decision is reached on its implementation under Vatican law, the group will consist of five members, more than any other group of church leaders. Of the new panel’s 19 members, 10 are from Latin America, 10 are from Europe, two are from Africa, two are from Oceania, and one is from Asia.

The group will be tasked with reviewing the consolidated financial statements of the Holy See and Vatican City State, which is not a federal government, but a state of the Holy See.

The Holy See — whose major organs consist of the Secretariat of State, nine congregations, 12 councils and three tribunals — employed 2,832 employees as of the end of 2011. Its financial statements for the year ending Dec. 31, 2011 showed a deficit equivalent to about $19.4 million at current exchange rates.

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HHS lawsuits aim to ‘secure religious freedom,’ bishop says

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, said he has “deep gratitude” and “solidarity and appreciation” for those who have challenged the contraceptive mandate of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that forces employees to pay for contraceptive services.

The group’s coordinator is Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, who is also president of Caritas Internationalis, a Vatican-based umbrella organization for national Catholic charities around the globe.

Faced with the challenge of remaining solvent while serving as diocesan bishops, they have decided to streamline their responsibilities among various offices, rather than an extensive reform. The new panel will be tasked with reviewing the consolidated financial statements of the Holy See and Vatican City State, which is not a federal government, but a state of the Holy See.

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ProVIDed by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ

A Round the DioCESe

poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ elect new leadership

DONALDSON — Following a process of discernment and prayer, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Chapter delegates, during the Provincial Chapter of Elections held April 5-7, elected a leadership team which will direct them during the next four years. Sister Judith Diltz was elected provincial and Sister Michele Dvorak as first councilor. Sister Loretta Schleper and Sister Carole Langhauer were elected as councilors. Sister Judith Diltz, a native of Mishawaka, took her first vows as a Poor Handmaid on Aug. 6, 1969. Since that time she has ministered in education and served the Poor Handmaid Community. She taught English at various schools in Indiana and Illinois and served as the PHJC vocations director, postulant/affiliate director, and director for development. Currently she is a professor of English and humanities and faculty assessment coordinator at Ancilla College in Donaldson.

Sister Michele Dvorak has ministered in education since 1976. She has been a teacher and principal in Indiana and Illinois and currently is an associate professor at Calumet College of St. Joseph in Whiting. She also held the position of vice president of academic and student affairs. Sister Michele was born in Highland, Ill. and took her first vows on Aug. 15, 1976.

Sister Loretta Schleper has served in different ministries since she took her first vows on Aug. 6, 1965. She has been the assistant director at Villa Maria in Donaldson, an occupational therapist, house coordinator, nurse aide, and staff chaplain. She directed community health improvement program at HealthVisions of Fort Wayne and currently serves as the volunteer coordinator at Sojourner Truth House, a ministry sponsored by the Poor Handmaids in Gary. Sister Loretta was born in Highland, Ill.

Sister Carole Langhauer, born in Breese, Ill., has been in healthcare since taking her first vows on Aug. 11, 1974. She has served as a staff nurse, oncology clinical nurse specialist at various hospitals in Indiana and Illinois and currently serves as the vice president of mission integration at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne. Sister Carole also ministered in Highland, Ill.

The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ community promised unity, support and collaboration to the new team during the next four years. Installation of the leadership team will be held on July 7, in the Ancilla Domini Chapel, at Donaldson.

University of Notre Dame to hold annual Eucharistic Procession

NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame will celebrate its ninth annual Eucharistic Procession on Sunday, April 21. The procession will set out from the Basilica of the Sacred Heart immediately following the 11:45 a.m. Mass and will last for one hour. All are invited to join in this rich Catholic tradition that celebrates Jesus Christ’s real presence in the Holy Eucharist.

Campus Ministries at Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s College and Holy Cross College in addition to the Vocations Office of the Congregation of Holy Cross will construct four altars that will be placed at focal points on campus. Each Benedictine will be celebrated. Altars will be located in front of the statues of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Our Lady of the University in the main circle, Father Sorin and on the steps of the Main Building. Programs will be provided to the faithful taking part in the procession to indicate hymns and acclamations.

Following the procession, a free outdoor picnic will be hosted by Notre Dame’s Knights of Columbus. In the event of inclement weather, the procession will be held inside the basilica.

Once a yearly event at Notre Dame, the observance of celebrating the Eucharistic Procession fell out of practice on the campus more than 30 years ago. Inspired by Pope John Paul II’s declaration of the “Year of the Eucharist” (October 2004–October 2005), Notre Dame students, clubs and Campus Ministry staff reorganized the Eucharistic Procession in April 2005. For more details, visit campus-ministry.nd.edu, or contact Kate Morgan at kmorgan4@nd.edu or at (574) 631-5241.

Victory Noll Center to host Women’s Tea

HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center will present an opportunity for women and girls of all ages to experience a “spring break” with a Women’s Tea, hosted by the Women at the Well on Sunday, April 21. The program will take place from 1-4 p.m. at Victory Noll Center, located at 1900 W. Park Dr. There is no cost for the event, but there is a $10-15 suggested donation.

This is a chance to interact with other women in a time of sharing and renewal.

Register for the program by April 14 by calling (260) 356-0628, ext. 174, or by email at victorynollcenter@olvm.org.

USF offering new bachelor degree in science and entrepreneurship

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will offer a new degree, the Bachelor of Science in Science and Entrepreneurship, beginning this fall.

The degree will provide graduates with a broad scientific background and business acumen that prepares them to translate new scientific discoveries to business. It will allow graduates to create new science-related businesses, manage a laboratory for an established industry or enter a Master of Business Administration or Professional Science Master program.

While high school students planning a career in science or business will benefit from the new degree offering, high school graduates interested in business creation, workers who need to reposition themselves in the job market and employees who wish to enhance their skills will also broaden career opportunities through the degree.

“Entrepreneurship is one of the key focuses of Vision 2020,” said John Sampson of Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership, an economic development team and current partner for businesses interested in locating to the 10-county region of northeast Indiana that includes Allen County. Vision 2020 is a regional initiative focused on aligning the region’s economic development efforts around key areas, with a collective vision, mission and slate of priorities to achieve by the year 2020. “USF offers 15 specialized science degrees in the School of Arts and Sciences, with enrollment in science programs averaging over 5 percent annual growth and 97 percent of graduates employed in their fields or pursuing graduate degrees,” said Dr. Matt Smith, dean of the school.

USF has a flexible credit transfer policy. A variety of science courses completed at other institutions may transfer into the Bachelor of Science in Science and Entrepreneurship. The 120 credit-hour requirement allows for faster completion at less cost.

For more information, contact Dr. Jean Elick in the Department of Chemistry at jelick@sf.edu or (260) 399-7700, ext. 8221, or visit sf.edu/sf/apply.

Sons of Saint Philip Neri to host May crowning

FORT WAYNE— The Sons of Saint Philip Neri will host a May procession and crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary on May 4 beginning with 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary Catholic Church, 1101 S. Lafayette St. At 10 a.m., a one-mile procession, with recitation of the rosary, will take participants to the front of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and back to St. Mary Church for the crowning. The event will include songs and reflections.

Children who have recently or will soon make their First Communion are invited to dress in their First Communion attire and be a part of the procession and the crowning.

For more information call (260) 438-4546, email sonsophilip@gmail.com or visit www.sonsofphilip.com.

National Day of Prayer observed in Mishawaka

MISHAWAKA — The 219th annual observance of the National Day of Prayer will be held in Mishawaka on Thursday, May 2, from noon until 1 p.m. at the Battell Center, 901 S. Main St., Mishawaka, at the corner of Broadway and Main streets. With the theme, “In His Name the Nation Will Put Christ first.” The event will be led by dignitaries of the city, ministers, priests, service, military and business leaders of the community. Mishawaka Mayor David Wood will open the prayer.

Thomas Uebbing, parishioner of St. Matthew Cathedral and local organizer of the nationwide Stand Up for Religious Freedom Rally in South Bend, will pray for “Christian Liberty and the Right of the Unborn.” The Stand up for Religious Freedom Rally was a joint effort of the Pro-Life Action League of Chicago (Eric Scheider) and Citizens for a Pro-Life Cause (Dr. Monica Miller) of the Detroit area.

Ample parking is available at the Battell Center, adjacent streets, or at the First Baptist Church lot between Main and Sarah streets. Shuttle service will be provided before and after the event from the church lot. People of all faiths are invited to attend at no fee; however, donations are welcomed. For more information call (574) 250-2484.
signed up for a second year, thinking about majoring in graphic design during her junior year, but felt God wasn’t calling her to stay there. “I didn’t feel that was where I was meant to be,” she added.

Davis began to have a better understanding of religious life through the experience of her brother, Daniel, leaving for the seminary at age 17. She was a sophomore in high school.

“My parents probably influenced me the most, but just having someone who's answering a call to a religious life encouraged my vocation more,” she related. “I could see what my prayer life would be like since both priests and religious pray the Divine Office daily.”

Davis has spent a great deal of time in prayer, especially in Eucharistic Adoration, trying to quiet her mind, talk to God and listen. “It’s a relationship thing,” she emphasized.

After one year of preparatory work at Bishop Luers, Davis enrolled in general education at IPFW through the fourth grade, but completed her elementary education at St. Therese School as her sister did. She wrote, “I want to be a nun!”

Davis did try to research other religious orders, but said it can be “real mind boggling” because there are hundreds of orders on the Internet. She did seriously look into the Dominican sisters, located in Michigan, even though staying in the Midwest was not a consideration. But being most familiar with the Sisters of St. Francis, she chose their order.

“ Their Provincialate is almost like a retreat from the world outside,” Davis said. “It’s perfect for the first three years of intense spiritual formation. It takes eight years to become a sister and that whole time you are discerning. The first year, the postulant phase, you can leave whenever you want and you’re not yet considered a part of the community,” Davis explained. “After the year, if you become a novice for two years. At that point you receive the black veil and take temporary vows for two more years.”

There’s another set of temporary vows after three or four additional years, she related, before final vows are taken.

Davis said just the application process takes about a year and there is quite a bit of scrutiny involved, including a 100-question questionnaire, a family history, autobiography and a visit with a psychologist to make sure each enrollee is entering for the right reasons. A vocation director helps walk each aspiring applicant through the process.

“You also must meet with the Mother Provincial and confession, taking into consideration what your talents are and what you would like to do. The main charisms of the order are teaching and nursing.”

Until she begins her candidacy, Davis will continue working part-time as a dental assistant technician at Sandpoint Living Interiors. She’s enjoyed the job for the past three years with its flexible schedule which allows her to be “out and about.”

The spirit of vocations explodes over St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Parish community rallies to support ‘Sons of Seton’ seminarians

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — When she was in second grade at St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder, Kim Davis said the teachers asked students to answer the above question. She wrote, “I want to be a sister!”

That early inspiration is about to be fulfilled as Davis prepares to enter the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Milwaukee this September.

Born in Fort Wayne, Davis grew “up in the country” near Otsego. She attended St. Aloysius through the fourth grade, but completed her elementary education at St. Therese School as her family became more involved in the Fort Wayne parish.

Parents Phil and Sue Davis are raising four children. “I’m the oldest, Daniele, currently studying to be a former parochial vicar, were ‘heavily involved in the parish. He begins to consider the call. He is the third young men approached him last year, Father Shafer reports, three young men approached him to discuss discernment. All three were ‘heavily involved in the parish through work or volunteering,” he says.

The “Sons of Seton,” as the three friends have become affectionately dubbed, thanks to a brain-storming session at a local pizza parlor, Jay Horning, Daniel Neizer and Howard Jankowski, each come from different walks of life with his own diverse vocation story. But they have found one important thing in common — the call to a life of service as a priest.

Jay Horning encountered a deep yearning for faith while in college at the University of Notre Dame, a former parochial vicar, were “actively working with the young people of the parish.” And though the parish community rallied with financial support that purchased the seminarians’ cassocks, the “most important and greatest contribution is the outpouring of love and prayer support for them,” says Father Shafer.
Serra clubs foster vocations to priesthood, religious life

BY VINCE LABARBERA

Four Catholic friends from Seattle, Washington, had an idea in 1934. They decided to meet regularly over a meal to discuss how Christian values could be lived out in their professional lives. More friends joined them and within several months they decided on an additional focus: encouraging vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

They chose as their patron, Padre Junipero Serra, an 18th century Spanish Franciscan missionary instrumental in settling California missions there. He was beatified in 1988 by Pope John Paul II.

By 1935, the small Seattle group grew into Serra International. Then, as now, the two great needs of the Church were for informed Catholic lay leaders who understand and live their own Christian vocations to service, and for dedicated priests and religious.

In 1951, Serra International became aggregated to the Sacred Council for Catholic Education and the Pontifical Work for Priestly Vocations. The Holy See, in fact, affirms Serra’s role as a worldwide lay organization committed to voca- tion ministry.

Serra International voted to welcome women as well as men to membership in 1986. Twelve national councils currently exist, including the USA Council formed in 1994, which included Canada. In 2000, Canada formed its own council.

Serrans have become a tradition of commitment, dedicated spiritual growth, continuing Catholic adult education, warm fellowship and the encouragement of religious vocations. There are more than 800 Serra clubs in 37 countries with a total membership of nearly 20,000 men, women and permanent deacons. Each club is a member of both a national council and Serra International. The latter has an office in Chicago and links Serra clubs in 37 countries with a total membership of nearly 20,000 men, women and permanent deacons.

A national council’s director of operations is the executive director. In the USA Council, there are 12 directors of operations, with Ray Vales, Region 7 director of the USA Council, his wife, Susan, is president-elect of the local club, which has about 25 members.

“We meet twice a month at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka. Members attend the noon Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Chapel on the first Friday of every month, followed by a luncheon and speaker,” he related.

“The club also meets on the third Wednesday each month, getting a meal in the cafeteria at 5:30 p.m. followed by a meeting at six,” added Stephen Elek, Jr., president.

The present goal of the club is to raise funds for seminarian education and to foster, support and pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life,” Vales continued. Serra membership also helps further Catholicism of its members by encouraging growth in their faith and fulfilling their Christian vocation to serve. Each fall, members attend a retreat usually given by Father Paul McCarthy, club chaplain, to strengthen their faith.

Serrans not only pray for vocations daily but also “adopt” and pray for local bishops, priests, deacons and seminarians, sending personal greetings and ordination anniversary cards. The club sponsors a Christmas dinner every other year — alternating with the Fort Wayne chapter — for seminarians and their families.

“Our club started participating in the Serran College Connection for Catholics program in 2011 at Marian and Saint Joseph high schools,” Elek related. In 2012, the program was expanded to include 40 area parishes. More participation will be fostered this year, he continued, by having club members become liaisons between the schools and parishes. “By having more Catholics retain their faith during college, we hope to be able to promote … more candidates for the religious life,” said Elek.

“Another key event is the Chalice Program,” Vales added. “Six chalices are provided to six Catholic schools for display in classrooms to promote vocations. The chalices are moved to different schools each semester.”

The club also recognizes the dedication and service of altar servers in the parishes, annually presenting eighth graders with a certificate of appreciation.

For membership, contact Mary Ann Pajot at (574) 315-8661.

The Serra Club of Fort Wayne became the 82nd such club in the U.S. in 1952. Currently, the 48 members meet at St. Joseph Medical Center the first Friday of each month (except July and August) for Mass in the chapel at 11:30 a.m.

God is calling
Are you listening?

Finding the time to slow down, listen for, and consider God’s call can be difficult but what could be more important? The Congregation of Holy Cross has multiple retreat programs for high school, college, and post graduate men designed to guide you along the way as you seek to hear and answer God’s call. Contact our office to find out more. 574.631.6385 or email at vocation@holycrossusa.org.
men who were great friends yet all on different journeys of faith, came together to enter the seminary without knowing that the other was doing the same thing. Surely, it was the work of the Holy Spirit…”

Sue Uelk, director of parish administration, reports that the parish community rallied to support the young men as soon as the vocations were announced. “It was a parish-wide event,” she says. Uelk designed a logo for the seminarians and had T-shirts printed for them as well. A prayer was created and printed on cards along with photos of the young men in their clerical collars for parishioners to use as a prayer guide. A pillar candle burns continuously for the Sons of Seton, and the parish has a wall dedicated to these seminarians where their pictures hang with the logo and a “request for prayers” plaque as a reminder of the gift of vocations.

“(T)he three seminarians agree that St. Elizabeth community is their family. Junkowksi says of this amazing outpouring, “Just knowing that there are devout people praying for us that way gives me strength in my studies and formation at seminary.”

Horning agrees, adding, “They give me the fuel, desire, affirmations and reminder of why I am seeking this vocation.”

For those considering a vocation the three agree that though there are many vocations, exploring the religious life is an exciting adventure. If God is nudging, don’t be afraid to talk to a trusted priest or sister about it, they say. Neizer concludes, “Always be open to the possibility, but more importantly, always strive to be holy.”

Seminarians Jay Horning and Howard Jankowski are studying pre-theology at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., and Dan Neizer is studying at Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio.

SETON
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

We Pray for Our Sons of Seton

Dear Lord,

We thank you for blessing St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish with the gift of vocations to Your holy Priesthood. Continue to open the hearts of each parish family so that we may live the faith we profess; welcome You in word and sacrament; and become the source of new and holy vocations.

We pray that our seminarians will know the love and support of their parish family each and every day. Shower them with Your abundant grace and bless them as they follow the course You have set for them.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, our patroness and guide, we ask your protection and guidance on our Sons of Seton: Royce, Jay, Howard and Dan. May they follow your model, making the first rule of their daily life and work doing God’s will, with no other desire but for its most full and complete accomplishment, as you did in your life.

Amen.

SERRA
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

lowed by a luncheon and speaker in the lower level. The co-chaplains are Fathers Jason Freiburger and Tony Steinmacker.

The second meeting of the month is to pray for religious vocations at the Little Flower Holy Hour at 7 p.m. every first Tuesday at St. Mary’s Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel on Cathedral Square. In 1955, Serra began serving for the 12:05 p.m. Mass at the chapel, a practice continuing to the present day.

Like the Serra Club of South Bend, members foster and affirm vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and through this ministry, strengthen their common Catholic faith. Each member “adopts” and prays daily for a seminarian who will be ordained in the coming year and sends encouraging greeting cards to clergy. According to Dan Kelker, president, the club is initiating a traveling Chalice Program to promote and pray for vocations, and is working with the Neumann Connection to connect new college students with their respective campus-ministry office. Other activities include ushering for ordinations to the permanent diaconate and priesthood, an August picnic for all diocesan priests and seminarians at Noll House, Lake Wawasee, an appreciation dinner in October for all local religious sisters, vocation magnets given in January to fifth graders in Allen County Catholic schools in conjunction with Vocation Week, and Christian Leadership awards presented in May to two students chosen by both Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger high schools.

For membership, contact Dan Kelker at (260) 705-0848.

Serra International fosters vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

In the footsteps of Christ

“To modern men and women, often dissatisfied with a shallow and ephemeral existence, and in search of authentic happiness and love, Christ offers His own example and issues the invitation to follow Him. He asks that those who hear His voice to give their lives for others. This sacrifice is a source of self-fulfillment and joy…”

― John Paul II, Message for Lent, 2003

God may be calling you to be a priest. Call us and we’ll talk.

VOCATION OFFICE
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
1328 West Dragoon Trail • Mishawaka 46544
(574) 234-0687
Monsignor Bernard Galic, Vocation Director
e-mail: bjgalic@earthlink.net
Father Matt Coonan, Associate Director
e-mail: father.m.coonan@gmail.com

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Is the Gospel challenging you to bring the good news?
We are challenged by the Gospel of Jesus to bring the passion of God’s love, healing and peace to all creation.
www.claretianvocations.org

On the morning of May 26, 2012, Deacons Ben Muhlenkamp and Jacob Meyer joined other clergy and made their way to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, where they were ordained in the priesthood of Jesus Christ.
An animal lover’s lessons in grief

There’s been a rash of deaths among my family members and coworkers — deaths of our beloved pets, though, rather than loved ones. “Pets?” you say. Yes, pets — though obviously not the same as losing a loved one. Still, loss and grief come in many forms, pet loss not being the least of them. To this, any animal lover will testify.

The first was a three-legged cat named Tripod. He was the elder feline of a cherished community of feline friends. This was showing signs of his approaching demise. His owner chose, after much discernment, to allow him to die a natural death at home, rather than have him euthanized at the vet’s office.

For those who are not animal lovers, this decision may seem trivial. But I believe at its foundation it’s validity lies squarely in the center of many of the life issues our culture faces today. I respect the courage it must have taken my coworker to choose natural death and the grief that ensued.

Several friends mused that perhaps a natural death was cruel and unusual punishment for a faithful and trusting pet, but when my own 20-year-old tabby began his own descent, I found myself faced with the same dilemma and empathized with my coworker’s thinking.

My buddy Max, who came to us as a stray kitten and took to my autistic daughter like a be to honey, was a dignified yet trusting soul who unfortunately hated visits to the vet. So as his time drew near I struggled with traumatizing him further with a car ride there during his final hour. As mobility became an issue for my sweet Max, my girls and I made sure he was as comfortable as possible nestled on his favorite red blanket. He had been a fixture in our home for so long and no ordinary cat (if I do say so myself), so when he meowed weakly to be near us, rather than go off quietly as many animals do in their final hours, we drew him close wherever we were. I was touched deeply by the display of tenderness and care.

An animal lover’s lessons in grief

The word of Jesus and salvation continue

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

4th Sunday of Easter
Jn 10:27-30

The Acts of the Apostles supplies the first reading. It gives a glimpse into the modus vivendi of St. Paul as he moved across Asia Minor in his proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus. Paul evidently first went to synagogues. It is not surprising. After all, he was of Jewish descent and background, and he was well educated in the Jewish culture and religion of the time.

Quite likely, he would have been more comfortable, but also more likely to be heard, in such surroundings as synagogues. It also is clear that he was not always met by universal acceptance, although it would not be accurate to say that he attracted no converts from among the Jews whom he met. He drew many of them into the ranks of Christians. He also attracted Gentiles.

However, these details are only secondary to the story. The point of this reading is that the word of God, pronounced by Jesus, continued to be spoken, and received, long after the Ascension.

Moreover, it was proclaimed by an Apostle, and by Barnabas, a disciple of an Apostle.

Salvation went on. Through the Apostles, Jesus still spoke. The Book of Revelation furnishes the next reading. It is very symbolic in its terms, but its meaning is clear. Among those saved by Jesus are people from every nation, of every descent and background, and he keeps them in faith despite persecution. Their sins have been washed away from Lord, precisely by the sacrificial blood shed by the Lord on Calvary.

The Good Shepherd leads them. He rescues them from the heat of the day and the dryness of earthly life.

St. John’s Gospel provides the last reading. This Gospel reading, read immediately after the passage from Acts, also presents Jesus as the Good Shepherd. For an audience overwhelmingly agrarian, as was the audience to which Jesus preached, imagery built on sheep herding and shepherds was very familiar and well understood.

This reading states that the sheep know the shepherd. In turn, the shepherd knows them. It implies a relationship of closeness and of trust. Moving beyond the symbolism, the readings say that this shepherd gives eternal life. Possessing this life, the sheep will never perish.

Furthermore, no one can snatch them away from the shepherd. The reason is that they belong to the shepherd because of the will of the Father. Then, in a great testament of oneness with the Father, Jesus proclaims:

**Reflected**

This weekend, the Church calls us to celebrate the Resurrection once again. It begins the fourth week of proclaiming the excited news that it first pronounced at Easter. He lives! With the readings this weekend, and with those of the preceding weeks of Easter, the Church essentially makes two points.

The first point is that Jesus lives, literally, and that in the substance of Resurrection is evidence that Jesus is God, the Son of God the eternal Father. As risen, Jesus is totally unique among humans. As God, Jesus is the barker of life, truth, peace and joy. There is no substitute for the Lord.

The second point, made this weekend and in past weeks, is that of the word of Jesus, and the salvation given by Jesus, continue. They did not cease with the Ascension. Jesus lives in the preaching and the good works of the Apostles, and of their followers and successors.

Through Paul, and then through Barnabas, Jesus touched the Church with the power of the Holy Spirit. Whether a person desired or was forced to leave the Church, he continued to be the shepherd of the faithful.

The Good Shepherd leads them. He rescues them from the heat of the day and the dryness of earthly life.

Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 Jn 12:44-50

KAY COZAD

For my sweet Max, my girls and I made sure he was as comfortable as possible nestled on his favorite red blanket. He had been a fixture in our home for so long and no ordinary cat (if I do say so myself), so when he meowed weakly to be near us, rather than go off quietly as many animals do in their final hours, we drew him close wherever we were. I was touched deeply by the display of tenderness and care.

Faith of our fathers: Deep roots and online ancestry

KAY COZAD

Last night, while many of my peers tuned into the finale of ABC’s ‘The Bachelor,’ a three-hour event dubbed “historic” by the show’s ratings-minded host, I delved into some real history. I joined more than 2 million people and subscribed to the genealogy website Ancestry.com.

So, I don’t fit the target demographic of a bachelor, or a bird watcher, but somewhere in my 20s, the curiosity sprang up. If the charge of early adulthood is to develop a better understanding of who you are and where you come from, then exploring my heritage seems a logical pursuit.

I began with the ancestor who has amazed largest: the great-grandpa who emigrated from Florence, Italy, to St. Paul, Minn., in 1906, a 17-year-old who didn’t speak English and broke his mother’s heart.

I entered all the information I had, working off research gathered by my dad’s cousin. In less than a second, 47 matches for my great-grandpa appeared: census data, his death certificate, a passport application and his WWI draft card.

Suddenly I was studying his pointed cursive and reading his self-assessments: a brown-haired, gray-eyed sculptor with no missing limbs and a dependent wife and child. I could almost see his finger-prints.

After three hours and one call to Mom, I had gathered six generations to my family tree. The work wasn’t loaded with flashy discoveries, but I found a rhythm. And I felt connected, rooted. These were my people. I liked speaking of my ancestors. On the Italian side, a host of lyrical monikers: Pacifico, Gaspero, Angelo. On the Irish side, sturdy single syllables: Frank, James, George.

The farthest back I traced was my great, great, great grandma Teresa Romagnoli, born in 1841, when Gregory XVI was pope. Teresa married a fellow Florentine, noted sculptor with no missing limbs and a dependent wife and child. I could almost see his finger-prints.

...SOMETHING TWENTY

Christina Capecchi

While many of my peers tuned into the finale of ABC’s ‘The Bachelor,’ a three-hour event dubbed ‘historic’ by the show’s ratings-minded host, I delved into some real history.

An animal lover’s lessons in grief

The word of Jesus and salvation continue

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Sunday: Acts 12:14-23; Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5, 11/7: 1-3; 14b-17 in 1027-30
Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 43-3; 4:1-10 on 101-10
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1-7; 102-20
Wednesday: Acts 12:24-30a; Ps 59:1-3, 6b, 8b; 6:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:1-5; Ps 11-14; 167-17/165:1-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 26-21; 147-14
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; 147-14

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at www.ReadChristina.com.
Cleaning up the engine room

The conclave of 2005 was about continuity — extending the legacy of John Paul II by electing his closest theological advisor as his successor — the conclave of 2013 was about governance.

The College of Cardinals came to Rome convinced that the incapacies of the Roman Curia over the previous eight years had become a serious obstacle to the Church’s evangelical mission; their experience in the General Congregations prior to the conclave hardened that view. So the cardinals elected a proven reformer whose age assuming the papacy meant that he wouldn’t have to play a long game, but could move swiftly to repair what needs repairing in what Blessed John Henry Newman allegedly referred to as the “engine room” of the Barque of Peter.

What needs repairing, down there below decks?

It’s not only a question of structure and personnel, in my view, but of institutional culture. The cast of mind in the Roman Curia must be changed, so that the entire Curia thinks of itself as its many good people now do: as servants of the New Evangelization, not as the 21st century version of a papal court. That means that those curialists who think of themselves as courtiers must either be converted to a different self-understanding or get converted.

As for structure, the first order of business is getting the proliferation of “pontifical councils” under control, merging some, eliminating others, and reducing many of these entities to the house think-tanks they were originally intended to be, rather than the document-producing bureaucratic machines they’ve become. There will be exceptions: the Pontifical Council for the Laity would still run World Youth Days and be the Roman contact-point for renewal movements and new Catholic communities; Cor Unum would continue to oversee the Vatican’s international development work. But departments like the pontifical councils for the Family, for Justice and Peace, and for Culture would become research centers in their fields, not mini-cabinet departments — and in that new configuration, there is no reason why so many of these entities to the inappropriate changes in Church law they couldn’t be run by lay people.

As for personnel, there is integrity. When members of the Roman Curia do not live the lives expected of deeply converted and mature Christian disciples, they must be replaced: not as a matter of retribution in the wake of financial or sexual misbehavior but as a matter of safeguarding the mission. The Church’s ability to preach the Gospel is severely compromised when churchmen lead dishonest lives. Integrity is one key to mission-effectiveness in the evangelical Catholicism of the 21st century.

Hope

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

my girls offered this aged cat and am grateful for this beautiful life lesson Max offered us in return. My girls and I watched as he struggled with the last threads of life he held in him that last day and I will admit it was painful to witness. But I believe that in his dying as in his expansive and sometimes comic life, Max reaffirmed in his own way my family’s deep-seated belief in the preciousness of life that we are privileged to enjoy with God, nature, animals and our fellow human beings.

We grieved together as Max lay dying, speaking of his loyalty and prowess. And after he took his final breath we cried together for a long time, holding each other with shared compassion — yet another gift nurtured by this loving pet.

Because I believe strongly in the power of ceremony and its place in the healing process — even with pets — the girls and I diligently created a grave marker bearing a picture of our beloved feline along with his name mapped out in colored glass. We had a beautiful memorial ceremony in which we each shared funny and tender stories of how Max had enriched our lives, as well as a few tears. It felt good to remember the place he held in our family and all he was to us.

That place Max held is empty now, but his memory lives on in our shared stories and our hearts. Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and news editor of Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is the author of “Prayer Book of Widows,” Our Sunday Visitor, 2004, and can be reached at kcozad@todayscatholicnews.org.

Answer Key can be found on page 15
St. Vincent soccer team opens season with a win

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The St. Vincent girls’ eighth-grade soccer team opened their 2013 season with a 5-0 win over the seventh graders from St. Charles. The Panthers list 12 on their roster and Anna A’Hearn (middle) leading the way.

A huge strength is Chad A’Hearn has coached a majority of the team with captains Emily Tippmann (goalie/forward) and Anna A’Hearn (middle) leading the way. The girls know where they need to be for each other and know how each other play,” explained A’Hearn.

He adds, “We are pretty balanced and are strong at the center of the field.”

This year’s goals include winning a Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) championship and getting the group ready to play at the high school level.

The Panthers expect strong competition from their seventh-grade counter parts and the eighth graders from St. Charles.

In the win, two goals were scored by Erin Fausnaugh, while A’Hearn, Tippmann and Abby Oswald each added one a piece.

To see your CYO scores and highlights, contact Michelle Castleman at (260) 623-2180 or mncastleman@aol.com.
Seminar fund benefits from ‘Come to the Table’ cookbook sales

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The Spirit was moving among friends at a lakeside cookout in summer of 2011, when the women discussed the delicious summer fare they all feasted on that day. As they began swapping recipes, inspiration struck and the idea to create a cookbook for their home parish of St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne was born. Two of the women, Ann Gray and Terri Coonan, courageously stepped up and took the challenge. And to bring real meaning to the project, Coonan, mother of two diocesan priests, Fathers Terry and Matt Coonan, suggested the proceeds benefit the seminarians of the diocese.

So after garnering permission from St. Vincent pastor Msgr. John Kuzmich the project was underway, gathering recipes contributed from parishioners, seminarians and their parents and even Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who included a treasured family recipe.

Along with the 625 enticing recipes the “Come to the Table” cookbook includes a section of prayers for vocations and priests and its pages are sprinkled with meaningful quotes from beloved saints as well.

The faithful culinary duo offered advance sales advertising the cookbook at $15 each throughout the summer. As they began swapping summer fare they all feasted on the women discussed the delicious cookbook, parish, with 500 responses by April that day. As they began swapping recipes, inspiration struck and the idea to create a cookbook for their home parish of St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne was born.

Bishop Rhoades met with Gray and husband Nick, a board member of the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana, on March 25 to receive a check in the amount of $7,749.27 to benefit the seminarian education fund, all from the proceeds of the sale of the cookbook.

The bishop noted he was pleased to have gifted his sister with a copy of the cookbook and in gratitude for the contribution said, “I am deeply grateful to Ann Gray and Terri Coonan and all who helped with the cookbook for the benefit of the Blessed John Paul II seminar-ian education fund. This fund is so vitally important for the future of the Church in our diocese as we have a great need for such material support for our seminarians’ education.’’

With 28 seminarians, of which 40 percent are graduates of Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, studying for the priesthood and more applications being processed this year, Bishop Rhoades noted “the Holy Spirit is alive in the diocese” where the number of vocations continues to grow.

According to Harry Verhiley, director of the diocesan Office of Stewardship and Development, the annual cost of a seminarian’s education is roughly $45,000. And among the several sources of revenue that support the education, including the Annual Bishop’s Appeal and the Pentecost Collection for Education of Seminarians, is the Blessed John Paul II Fund for Seminarian Education, which is a permanent fund invested in the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana (CCF) to provide income for the education of diocesan seminarians. It is into this fund that the proceeds of the “Come to the Table” cookbook will go.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades accepts a donation of $7,749 to benefit the Blessed John Paul II Fund for Seminarian Education from Ann Gray and her husband Nick on March 25. The donation came from proceeds from the sale of over 1,000 "Come to the Table" cookbooks, a copy of which Nick holds.

For more information or to donate to the Blessed John Paul II Fund for Seminarian Education contact the office of Stewardship and Development at (260) 399-1405 in Fort Wayne, or (574) 258-6571 in South Bend.

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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 1119, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fholgan@diocesefwb.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.

FUND RAISERS
Fish, chicken and tenderloin dinner
Huntington — St. Mary Parish, 903 N. Jefferson, will have a fish, chicken and tenderloin supper on Friday, April 26, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. There will be a raffle, 50/50 drawing and a bake sale. Carry-outs are available. Tickets are $8.50 for adults and $4 each or six for $5. Send to 1104 Columbus Council 451, 601 N. Jefferson, will have a fish, chicken and tenderloin supper on Friday, April 26, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. There will be a raffle, 50/50 drawing and a bake sale. Carry-outs are available. Tickets are $8.50 for adults and $4 each or six for $5. Send to 1104 N. Anthony Blvd. or by calling (260) 482-8299.

NaPo clinic offered
Fort Wayne — The Creighton Model System of fertility will be presented Saturday, May 11, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in the Mother Teresa Room. RSVPs required. Call Theresa at (260) 494-6444 or email at chartdai-ly365@frontier.com.

Mass and dinner for friends
South Bend — Friends of St. Adalbert School will have a Mass and potluck dinner Saturday, April 20, at 5 p.m. at St. Adalbert Church and Heritage Hall. The bilingual Mass will feature school children and alumni. Bring a dish to share for the potluck dinner.

For information contact Linda Cornett at (260) 637-6329 or SaintAdalbertAlumni@gmail.com. RSVP is helpful but not required.

Meet and greet planned
Fort Wayne — A Catholic Business Meet and Greet sponsored by Today’s Catholic will be Friday, April 19, from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, 915 S. Clinton St. The Holy Family business committee will offer insights and ideas for cost-efficient E-Marketing solutions, designed to grow your business and branding efforts. $5 at the door, includes dessert and bottled water. Free parking available in parking garage. Contact Tess Steffen (260) 399-1457 for information.

Spring rummage sale
New Haven — St. Louis Assumption Parish rummage sale will be Saturday, April 27, at 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Louis Assumption Parish, 3209 N. Anthony Blvd. or by calling (260) 482-8299.

Rummage sale
Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel will have a spring rummage sale April 18-20. Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to noon. Proceeds benefit the Parish Fund.

South Bend
Mary B. Berta, 96, Our Lady of Hungary
Geraldine Quinn, 89, Holy Cross
Louise A. Daurer, 90, St. Anthony de Padua
Ernest S. Hernandez, 63, St. Adalbert
Doris Lea Bergeron, 84, Holy Family
Veeshen McCune, 52, Holy Family
Jerry J. Rimespach, 74, Christ the King
Majorie C. Carr, 92, St. Anthony de Padua
Wabash
Eddie Orputt, 80, St. Bernard
Warpac
Barnes E. Erow, 86, Sacred Heart

THE CROSSWORD
April 21 and 28, 2013

WORSHIP + SERVICE + EDUCATION - IN THE HEART OF SOUTH BEND

Position Openings

Saint Joseph Parish, a vibrant, Catholic, faith community of nearly 900 families and a large K-8 grade school in South Bend, is hiring for multiple positions, including a Director of Christian Formation and full- and part-time Preschool Teachers and Instructional Aides.

The Director of Christian Formation oversees the process that includes both Christian initiation and ongoing formation for the Christian life in the parish. Qualified applicants will be conversant in Church teaching and have a pastoral theological understanding. A bachelor’s degree in theology or a related field is preferred; an advanced degree in ministry is highly preferred. Full- and part-time applicants will be considered.

Saint Joseph Preschool, located in a new facility, will serve 3- and 4-year old children, both full-day and half-day, utilizing the HighScope curriculum. Qualified applicants for the preschool positions will be practicing Catholics with a passion for working with young children. Candidates should be industrious, enthusiastic, creative educators who are prepared to develop and administer the highest caliber of programs for the children we serve. Training in HighScope curriculum is preferred.

Qualified candidates should send a cover letter and résumé with references to:
Saint Joseph Parish
226 N. Hill Street
South Bend, IN 46617
Visit www.stjoeparish.com for more information and for complete position descriptions.
being confirmed and about meeting the bishop. His sponsor, Dan Oakley, has known Johnny all his life and said, “This is a big milestone for him — being blessed by the Holy Spirit. Things are more challenging for him so this is a big step for him to be able to participate with his class.”

Johnny’s father, Jay Riblet, explained Johnny has cerebral palsy with global brain injury and he really enjoys going to religious education classes. Riblet said Johnny’s been involved in his faith since he was a small child. When he made his first Communion he said, “You probably won’t find someone who enjoys Sunday school as much as Johnny. Being able to participate with his class is a big deal.”

Teaching the students was Tony Finch, who taught seventh grade and is also a sponsor, and Deb Lytell, who has been a religious education teacher for 29 years, the last five in eighth grade preparing the students for Confirmation. Eleven students were recognized with a Holy Spirit pendant for completing every assignment and project on time and attending everything asked of them.

Lytell said, “They are all a great group of kids. We had a few others that were real close to turning everything in.” She said she felt the kids did understand the importance of the sacrament they were about to receive.

Their pastor Father Bob Van Kempen agreed. “Receiving the sacrament at this age really helps the young people to grow in their faith and be strengthened as Catholics as they do everything they need to do to prepare.”

Father Van Kempen said the students are asked to do service projects, keep prayer journals and do religious education at home. He advised that aside from having a Bible, every Catholic home should have a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. He said the catechism has four parts that explain the creed, how Catholics celebrate the faith, and how they live by faith and prayer life.

“It’s not enough to know and celebrate our faith. We also have to live it. The Holy Spirit helps us to do that,” Bishop Rhoades said.

He told the candidates if someone asks them a question about Catholicism they can’t answer, they should go home and look it up in the catechism. And he said one of the important gifts of the Spirit is fortitude, which gives courage.

“We need courageous Catholics today, standing up for the sanctity of life and marriage,” he said.

And he told them that in today’s society that’s not easy. “But the great thing is now you’re going to have the help of the Holy Spirit to fight pressure.”

Bishop Rhoades told them God didn’t give the Ten Commandments to make lives difficult. He wanted His people to have joy and the bishop said following Christ and being Catholic should bring inner joy.

“As you receive the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit I pray that you truly strive to live by the Spirit everyday as well as the extra grace received in the Eucharist. When you stay active in the faith, share and defend the faith, you will know the wonderful fruits of the Spirit,” Bishop Rhoades said.

After Mass, everyone was invited to share in a celebratory brunch in Annunciation Hall and have photos taken with Bishop Rhoades.