Pope warns comfortable living causes ‘gentrification of the heart’

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis warned against “gentrification of the heart” as a consequence of comfortable living, and called on the faithful to “touch the flesh of Christ” by caring for the needy.

The pope’s words came in a homily during Mass in St. Peter’s Square May 12, when he canonized the first Colombian saint, as well as a Mexican nun and some 800 Italians martyred by Ottoman Turks in the 15th century.

Mexico’s St. Maria Guadalupe Garcia Zavala (1878-1963), the pope said, gave up a “comfortable life to follow the call of Jesus, taught people to love poverty, in order the more to love the poor and the sick.”

“How much damage does the comfortable life, well-being, do,” the pope added, looking up from his prepared text. “The gentrification of the heart paralyzes us.”

The Mexican saint, known as Mother Lupita, “knelt on the floor of the hospital before the sick, before the abandoned, to serve them with tenderness and compassion,” and in doing so, “touched the flesh of Christ,” he said.

Pope Francis said the Mexican founder of the Handmaids of St. Margaret Mary and of the Poor sets an example for everyone “not to retreat into oneself, into one’s own problems, into one’s own ideas, into one’s own interests in this little world that has done us so much damage,” but to share...
Bishop speaks to faithful about Pentecost Collection

Dear Friends in Christ,

This Year of Faith has offered us a good opportunity to reflect more deeply on the power and beauty of our Catholic faith. It is also a good opportunity to intensify our commitment to fostering vocations to the priesthood since the Church needs more preachers of the faith, men equipped by God's grace to bring the Gospel to others so that more may experience the joy of following Christ.

Thanks be to God, our diocese has been blessed by a significant increase in the number of seminarians the past three years. We presently have 27 seminarians with others presently applying to enter the seminary for our diocese next year. This increase in vocations is a sign of the spiritual health and vitality of the Church in our diocese.

The cost to the diocese for seminary education has risen from $582,000 in 2009 to $1,096,000 this year. Next year it will be higher again due to the increasing number of seminarians.

Two years ago, I instituted the Annual Pentecost collection to help fund the budget shortfall for seminary education. In 2011, we collected $251,367 in the Pentecost collection and in 2012 $168,487. I am deeply grateful for your amazing generosity. The collections these past two years helped reduce, but did not eliminate, this budget shortfall or deficit.

This weekend, we will again have this special Pentecost collection in all the parishes of our diocese. I ask you to be especially generous through a truly sacrificial gift for this important need. Your contribution in the Pentecost collection is an expression of your faith in the Lord and your appreciation for our priests and future priests.

The Church began on the Feast of Pentecost when the Apostles, filled with the Holy Spirit, went out to the whole world to bring the Gospel to all creation. May the Holy Spirit bless our diocese as we continue this holy mission of evangelization!

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne – South Bend
Pope tells sisters the Church needs them, they need the Church

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis told 800 superiors of women’s orders from around the world that the Catholic Church needs religious women and that religious women need to be in harmony with the faith and teachings of the Church.

“What would the Church be without you?” the pope told the women May 8. “It would be missing maternity, affection, tenderness and a mother’s intuition.”

Religious superiors, Pope Francis said, need to ensure their members are educated in the doctrine of the Church, “in love for the Church and in an ecclesial spirit.”

Quoting Pope Paul VI, he said: “It’s an absurd dichotomy to think one can live with Jesus, but without the Church, to follow Jesus outside the Church, to love Jesus and not the Church.”

The sisters, who came from 76 countries, were in Rome for the plenary assembly of the International Union of Superiors General. The group welcomed the pope with loud applause and with the ululations of the African sisters among them.

U.S. Sister Mary Lou Wirtz, superior of the Daughters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and president of the International Union of Superiors General, said the sisters “are very pleased with the pope, and it gives them hope of maybe some change happening in the Church.”

They appreciate the pope’s emphasis on serving the poor and going out to the margins of society, “because that’s what our service as religious women is about.”

In his talk to the women, Pope Francis said their vow of chastity expands their ability to give themselves to God and to others “with the tenderness, mercy and closeness of Christ.”

However, “please, let it be a fruitful chastity, a chastity that generates sons and daughters in the Church. The consecrated woman is a mother, must be a mother and not a spinster,” he said.

While the sisters were laughing at his use of a very colloquial Italian word for “spinsters” or “old maid,” he added: “Forgive me for speaking this way, but the motherhood of consecrated life, its fertility, is important.”

Pope Francis said that just as Mary could not be understood without recognizing her role as beta of the Church, the Church cannot be understood without recognizing its role as being the mother of all believers. “And you are an icon of Mary and the Church,” he said.

The pope said every vocation — and not just a call to the Priesthood — begins with a call from God and is a call to continually center one’s life and actions on Christ, “adoring the Lord and serving others without holding anything back for oneself.”

But questioning for priests and religious, responding to that vocation means feeling, thinking and acting in communion with the Church, “that generated us through Baptism,” he said. “The proclamation and witness of the Gospel — for every Christian — are never isolated acts. This is important,” the pope said, repeating the phrase and adding that Christians do not do good because of a “personal inspiration, but in union with mission of the Church and in its name.”

For members of religious orders, the whole process of growing in love and dedication to Christ and in service of others is aided by poverty, chastity and obedience, Pope Francis said.

Embracing poverty, he said, means overcoming all temptations of selfishness and instead relying totally on God’s providence. It is expressed in simplicity and learned from living with “the humble, the poor, the sick and all those on the existential margins of life.”

“Theoretical poverty is of no use to us,” he said.

Pope Francis also praised the sisters for their focus on the meaning and exercise of authority within their communities: “We must never forget that true power, at any level, is service, which reached its highest point on the Cross.”

“Think of how much damage to the people of God has been caused by men and women of the Church who are carerists, climbers, who use the people, their brothers and sisters — those they should be serving — as trampolines for their personal interests and ambitions,” he said. “This does great harm to the Church.”

But the pope said that notwithstanding all that, “Mother Laura” Britta, superior of the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in India, said religious women “want to serve the needs of the poor with our pope and bishops. Whatever the pope says, we are ready to do.”

She said she hopes that under Pope Francis the work of women in the Church will be given greater acknowledgment and that on every level of the Church, people will follow Pope Francis’ example so that “authority is shared responsibly, not autocratically.”

Loreto Sister Patricia Murray, superior of the Germany-based Precious Blood Sisters, said that although the papacy is only two months old, she has great hope that, under Pope Francis, the Church will increasingly be “a Church of service, a Church that goes out to people and doesn’t just wait for them to come, a Church where people feel welcome.”

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Loreto Sister Patricia Murray, an Irishwoman who runs the religious orders’ Solidarity with South Sudan project, said there is a sense among the sisters that “we’re becoming the Church again — not just an institution.”

Being Church means we have an obligation to go out and transform that small part of the world that we can.”

“Pope Francis is not just saying things, but he is doing things that are good news,” she said. “We need to be in solidarity with those who are in trouble, but we also need to rejoice with those who are rejoicing.”

God’s love with the needy “through gestures of delicacy and sincere affection and love.”

The pope also praised St. Laura Montoya (1874-1949), the “first saint born in the beautiful land of Colombia,” as a “spiritual mother of the indigenous peoples, in whom she infused hope” and taught about God in a way that “respects their culture and was not opposed to it.”

“Mother Laura” founded the Missionary Sisters of Mary immaculate and St. Catherine of Siena, who today “live and bring the Gospel to the most remote and needy places, as a kind of vanguard of the Church,” he said.

“Where did they find the strength to remain faithful?” the pope asked. “Precisely in faith, which allows us to see beyond the limits of our human eyes, beyond the boundaries of earthly life, to contemplate the heavens opened,” as St. Stephen said.

The pope then prayed for “those many Christians who, in these times and in many parts of the world, right now, still suffer violence,” and asked God to “give them the courage and faith to respond to evil with good.”

Before praying the “Regina Coeli” at the end of Mass, Pope Francis called on the Ottawa martyrs to “help the beloved Italian people look with hope to the future,” and invoked the intercessory of the new Mexican and Colombian saints in bringing peace to their troubled homelands.

All the day’s news saints “pose questions to our Christian life,” the pope said, “to overcome indifference and individualism, welcoming everyone without prejudice or constraints, with love, giving the best of ourselves and above all, sharing with them the most valuable thing we have, which is not our works or our organizations” but “Christ and His Gospel.”

Pope Francis also paid tribute to the approximately 800 people in Otranto, southern Italy, who in 1480 were decapitated by invading Ottoman forces for refusing to convert to Islam. “Where did they find the strength to remain faithful?” the pope asked. “Where did they find the strength to remain faithful?”
May 19, 2013

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The 10 Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration celebrating a jubilee this year posed for a photo with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades before a jubilee Mass May 11 in their convent chapel in Mishawaka. With Bishop Rhoades, standing from left are Sisters M. Imelda, M. Rachel, M. Dolores Anne, M. Eileen, M. Raphael, M. Andrew and M. Timothy. Seated, left to right, are Sister M. Alfreda, the oldest St. Francis sister at 101, and Sister Mary Florence.
Annual audit shows number of abuse allegations in U.S. Church dropped in 2012

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The annual audit of diocesan compliance with the U.S. Catholic Church’s Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People found a drop in the number of allegations, number of victims and number of offenders reported in 2012.

The annual audit, released in February, found 513 cases in 2012, compared with 691 in 2011 and 714 in 2010, according to the report released March 6 by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate in Washington.

Most allegations reported last year were from the 1970s and 1980s with many of the alleged offenders already deceased or removed from active ministry.

The Audit, which conducts the audits, said law enforcement found six credible cases among 34 allegations of abuse of minors in 2012. The preliminary number of 15 of the allegations was still under investigation. Law enforcement officials found 12 allegations to be unfounded or unable to be proven, and one was a boundary violation.

Almost all dioceses were found compliant with the audit. Three dioceses were found to be noncompliant with one article of the charter. The Diocese of Lake Charles, La., was cited since its review board had not met in several years. The Diocese of Tulsa, Okla., was censured because auditors could not determine if parishes provided safe environment training to religious education students and volunteer teachers. The Diocese of Baker, Ore., also was cited because students did not receive safe environment training with a new program being developed, but the training has now resumed.

The annual report has two parts. The first is the compliance report of StoneBridge Business Partners — based in Rochester, N.Y. — which conducted on-site audits of 71 dioceses and eparchies and reviewed documentation submitted by 118 others. The Diocese of Lincoln, Neb., and five Eastern rite dioceses, known as archeparchies, refused to be audited, as they had in past years. Under canon law, dioceses and eparchies cannot be required to participate in the audit, but it is strongly recommended.

Al Notzon III, chairman of the National Review Board, which oversees the audits, said in the introduction to the report that it is his understanding “all of the dioceses will be included in next year’s audit.”

“We need to work with each of the eparchies to see how they can be included in the audit so that there will be 100 percent compliance with the audit process,” he added. “For the sake of our young people, their well-being, their safety and their faith, we can do no less.”

The second part of the report is the “2012 Survey of Allegations and Costs,” conducted by CARA. The Lincoln Diocese refused to cooperate with the survey, and the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles did not respond by the cut-off date.

The audit reported that more than 99 percent of clergy members and 96 percent of employees and volunteers have been trained in safe environment programs. It also noted that more than 4.6 million children received safe environment training. Background evaluations were conducted on more than 99 percent of clergy; 98 percent of educators; 96 percent of employees; and 96 percent of volunteers.

The audit cited limitations, including “the unwillingness of most dioceses and eparchies to allow us to conduct parish audits during their on-site audits.” It said that “the auditors must rely solely on the information provided by the diocese or eparchy, instead of observing the programs firsthand.”

It said another limitation is staff turnover in diocesan child abuse prevention programs which causes records to be lost and successors to be placed in key roles without formal orientation.

Notzon echoed these concerns in a letter to Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, stressing the importance of good record-keeping and the significance of involving parishes in the audit process.

His letter and a letter from Deacon Bernie Nojadera, head of the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection, also acknowledged recent setbacks in the Church’s efforts to stop abuse.

Notzon cited current “disturbing news in the media” and Deacon Nojadera said “recent high-profile failings” have undermined the bishops’ efforts.

Recent news includes the May 2 resignation from active ministry of Father Michael Fuigee, a Newark, N.J., archdiocesan priest, after reports surfaced of his being with minors in an apparent violation of a court’s memorandum of understanding forbidding him from having contact with underage individuals.

In February, records were released from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles suggesting that now-retired Los Angeles Cardinal Roger M. Mahony and Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop Thomas J. Curry, who was the archdiocese’s vicar of clergy and chief adviser on sexual abuse cases, worked to protect priests from criminal investigation beginning in the 1980s.

In a statement when the records were made public, the archdiocese noted that Cardinal Mahony “has expressed his sorrow for his failure to fully protect young people entrusted to his care and time and time again” he made mistakes, “especially in the mid-1980s.”

Bishop Curry, it said, has also “publicly apologized for his decisions while serving as vicar for clergy.”

Notzon in his letter noted that Church officials need to recognize “that protecting children from sexual abuse is a race without a finish and more rather than less effort is necessary to keep this sacred responsibility from fading.”

In a preface to the report, Cardinal Dolan stressed the importance of protecting children and young people in the Church and continuing to work “to promote healing and reconciliation for those harmed in the past.”

In gathering data from dioceses, CARA noted there were 397 allegations, most of them from decades past, against 313 priests or deacons, or 390 individuals. About 64 percent of the alleged victims were between 10 and 14 when the abuse began. An estimated 17 percent were between 15 and 17, and 19 percent were under age 10.

Dioceses and eparchies that responded to the survey reported costs related to allegations at $1,129,666,427 in 2012. Expenses included covered settlements, attorney fees, therapy for victims and support for offenders. The total amount expended for dioceses and eparchies was $148,338,437. Dioceses and religious orders also spent $26,583,087 for child protection programs.

Mary, pro-life inspiration

“Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.” So begins the Regina Coeli prayer, which replaces the noontime Angelus during the Easter season. Because the Easter season extends well into May, we are able to use this special prayer to Mary during much of the month traditionally dedicated in her honor. Marian devotion is one of the Vatican’s recommendations for observing the Year of Faith. It can also be a wonderful help in pro-life efforts.

Mary has many beautiful titles: Patroness of the Americas, Patroness of the New Evangelization and Patroness of the Unborn, to name a few. There are also many inspiring examples from Mary’s life that serve as models for pro-life living. We see her immense faith and total gift of herself at the moment of the Annunciation, when she agrees to be the Mother of God. We see her sensitivity and her spirit of charity when she visits her pregnant older cousin Elizabeth. We see her love and maternal care for new life when she shields her infant son Jesus in the stable at Bethlehem. We see her conviction in pointing to Christ at the wedding at Cana when she says, “Do whatever He tells you” (Jn 2:5). We see her at the foot of the Cross, even there opening her heart to be the mother of all humanity. And we see her quiet strength and support for the Apostles in the Upper Room during the time leading up to Pentecost.

The significance of Mary as a role model for all women was high-lighted by Blessed Pope John Paul II in his 1987 encyclical “Redemptoris Mater” (“Mother of the Redeemer”). He wrote that “women, by looking to Mary, find in her the secret of living their femininity with dignity and of achieving their own true advancement. In the light of Mary, the Church sees in the face of women the reflection of a beauty which mirrors the loftiest sentiments of which the human heart is capable: the self-offering totality of love; the strength that is capable of bearing the greatest sorrows, limitless fidel-ity and tireless devotion to work; the ability to combine penetrating intuition with words of support and encouragement (No. 46).”

Mary’s example is especially important to remember in pro-life efforts. She can be a tremendous source of inspiration and hope for women in today’s society, where there is so much woundedness resulting from the culture of death. Modern culture encourages a self-centered, materialistic and utilitarian view of the person, promising instant satisfaction, but ultimately leading to emptiness. The Christian view of the human person offers a very different way of life that is at once challenging and rewarding. Mary’s example of authentic Christian living speaks especially to a model of womanhood that is life-giving and love-affirming, and therefore very relevant to the pro-life message.

In addition to prayer the rosary and the Angelus (and the Regina Coeli), there are many ways to remember Mary’s example as we reach out to others with the pro-life message. Especially important is the hope we can offer to women everywhere who have been deceived and hurt by the anti-life mentality of our culture. We have a beautiful and authentic model to share, a message of life, love and true freedom. During this Year of Faith and as part of the New Evangelization, let us remember Cardinal Dolan’s encouragement not only during the month of May, but throughout the year — as we share the Gospel of Life.

Kimberly Baker is a staff assistant for the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities in the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information on the bishops’ pro-life activities, please visit www.usccb.org/prolife.

LIFE ISSUES FORUM

By Kimberly Baker

Mary’s example is especially important to remember in pro-life efforts. She can be a tremendous source of inspiration and hope for women in today’s society, where there is so much woundedness resulting from the culture of death. Modern culture encourages a self-centered, materialistic and utilitarian view of the person, promising instant satisfaction, but ultimately leading to emptiness. The Christian view of the human person offers a very different way of life that is at once challenging and rewarding. Mary’s example of authentic Christian living speaks especially to a model of womanhood that is life-giving and love-affirming, and therefore very relevant to the pro-life message.

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More than 3,000 students receive degrees May 18-19

NOTRE DAME — More than 3,000 students received degrees during the University of Notre Dame’s commencement ceremonies, which was held on campus May 18 and 19.

Degrees were conferred on 2,078 undergraduates at Notre Dame’s 168th University Commencement Ceremony on Sunday.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, archbishop of New York and president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, was the principal speaker and the recipient of an honorary degree. Sister of Providence Susanne Gallagher; Sister Mary Therese Harrington, a Sister of the Society of Helpers; and Father James H. McCarthy, founders of the Special Religious Education Development Network, received the University of Notre Dame’s 2013 Lactate Medal, the oldest and most prestigious honor given to American Catholics.

Mallory Meter, a psychology major from Beverly Hills, Mich., delivered the valedictory address.

In addition to Cardinal Dolan, other honorary degree recipients were: Gu Binglin, former president of Tsinghua University in Beijing; Franciscan Sister of Mary Antona Ebo, a lifelong pioneer in civil rights; Marilynne Robinson, an award-winning author of fiction and nonfiction; Morton Schapiro, the 16th president of Northwestern University; and Kenneth Stinson, chairman emeritus of Peter Kiewit Sons’ Inc. and a member of the Notre Dame Board of Trustees.

On Saturday, an additional 396 students received master’s and doctoral degrees at the Graduate School Commencement Ceremony, along with 422 master’s degree students at the Mendoza College of Business Ceremony and 197 students at the Law School Ceremony.

Sacred Heart celebrates 80th anniversary

LAKEVILLE — The Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, on U.S. 33 about one mile north of Lakeville, will be celebrating its 80th anniversary as a parish on Sunday, June 2.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate a Mass at 9 a.m., after which he will also bless the Mount Calvary Cemetery. All former pastors, administrators and parishioners are invited to attend and join in the celebration.

A parish potluck, a short history of the parish with memories from some of the original parishioners, and outdoor and indoor games are planned.

The first Mass was celebrated at the new Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church on Sunday, Dec. 18, 1932, in an abandoned schoolhouse, known as the Pleasant View School with a total of 40 families making up the first parish.

Two acres of land were donated by a parishioner for a new church and in February of 1933, construction began. Formal dedication ceremonies were held in just five months after many hours of work done by both Catholics and non-Catholics, horses and mule teams digging with slip-scrapers and hauling bricks. All ages participated in the construction.

As the parish grew, the need for more classrooms for instructions and parish events was evident. An additional 82 acres were purchased and the existing farmhouse was remodeled into classrooms.

In 1959, three acres of land bordering U.S. 31 was developed for what is now the Catholic Mount Calvary Cemetery, which contains 1,870 gravesites and a stone altar donated by parishioners. Additional landscaping and site development is in the planning stages for the near future.

The present parish hall, used for the annual fish fry and hog roast and other public events, was constructed in 1972. It contains portable classrooms for religious education.

St. Joseph, South Bend, to break ground on building renovation project

SOUTH BEND — St. Jude Catholic Parish, located on the south side of South Bend, is breaking ground for the expansion and renovation of the parish church and school. The Renovation Blessing Ceremony is Sunday, May 19, starting at 4 p.m.

In 2012, with the blessing of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and under the leadership of Father John Delaney, St. Jude embarked on an ambitious goal — to raise $3.9 million through a three-year capital campaign. Titled Our Time To Build, the campaign is designed to enhance and expand St. Jude Church and School as they seek to fulfill God’s vision for the Church. While the building project includes new and renovated facilities — the focus is on becoming better equipped to serve the Church family and south side community.

To date, the campaign has raised or pledged $3.2 million, or 82 percent of the $3.9 million goal. Bishop Rhoades will bestow a blessing on the building project to begin the ceremony. St. Jude pastor, Father John Delaney, along with campaign chairmen Joel Hof and Hank Grot, will also be speaking at the event.

The building project includes:

• New, larger gathering area with new bell tower so more parishioners and guests can feel welcome before and after Mass.
• Elevator so every parishioner can access all levels, and therefore all activities, of the church.
• Remodeling the sanctuary to create a more liturgical worship space.
• Expansion of the school to include two new classrooms, office space for church and school, and reworking existing space for pre-school program and small group learning.

All are welcome and invited to attend the Renovation Blessing Ceremony. St. Jude Catholic Church is located at 107041 Johnson Rd., one-half mile south of the U.S. 20 bypass and one block east of U.S. 31 South.

Academic Super Bowl teams recognized

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has announced that Bishop Luers’ Academic Super Bowl Teams (Science, English and Social Studies) placed in the top three at the Indiana Academic Super Bowl State Competition held at Purdue University on May 4.

The English and social studies teams were state runners-up and Science placed third in Class 2.

The Indiana Association of School Principals announced May 8 their top 10 teams in each Indiana Academic Super Bowl enrollment class, based on the cumulative scores of all six rounds at the area competition. Bishop Luers High School and Leo High School are the only two schools recognized in the northeast Indiana from Fort Wayne.

Correction

Mama Sophia was one of the prayer leaders at the Saint Joseph Catholic Outreach for Life charity dinner on April 9 at the Kroger Center in South Bend. She offered a prayer at the event. The caption in the May 5 issue of Today’s Catholic mistakenly read she “speaks at the dinner” and did not include her name as prayer leader.

St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School celebrates special mass with Bishop Rhoades

A St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School all-school Mass was celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in honor of the feast day of St. Joseph the Worker and in celebration of the 25th priestly ordination anniversary of St. Joseph pastor Father Tim Wrozek on May 1 at St. Joseph Parish. Father Wrozek was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John M. D’Arcy in May of 1988.

Following Mass, Principal Lois Widner presented Father Wrozek with a hanging flowerpot and a travel gift certificate which was a gift from the entire school community.
Catherine Kasper Place promotes Fresh Food Initiative

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — There is a rather well-kept secret of grand proportions on the southeast side of Fort Wayne that may be an answer to prayers. A plot of land is being prepared for seed and plant growth along Slataper Street near Wayne Trace that will be a large urban garden supported by Catherine Kasper Place’s Fresh Food Initiative. Its harvest will in time benefit many in the local community, including Burmese and other refugees and immigrants.

The Fresh Food Initiative is a viable urban farming program administered by the not-for-profit Catherine Kasper Place, a ministry that was launched by the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation in May of 2010 to “address the needs of the newly arriving refugees and immigrants who are struggling with wellness,” reports its website www.Catherinemakerplace.org. The large influx of Burmese refugees to the Fort Wayne area in 2007-08 required services that included job development, language instruction and interpretation and health and nutrition assistance.

According to the website, “Through the Fresh Food Initiative, clients of Catherine Kasper Place have access to free raised beds and farmland, seeds, tools and technical assistance in gardening and marketing produce throughout the community.”

Holly Chaille, director of Catherine Kasper Place, says the produce harvested at the site will provide fresh, healthy food to not only the Catherine Kasper Place’s clients who will tend the gardens but also area soup kitchens, other ministry outreach programs, such as Miss Virginia’s Mission House, and the community at large.

The land where the urban garden is located is leased from González Martin who has been instrumental in bringing other programs to the community. The garden is broken into three sections that include subscriber beds, in which requested produce is raised for a fee, donation beds from which produce will be donated to local soup kitchens and other ministries and the client beds where the refugees grow produce for personal consumption and for market sales.

The Fresh Food Initiative was created, says Chaille, to help refugees not only grow food, but sell it for income. “The Burmese,” she adds, “are agrarian by nature — farmers. This is a practical way to integrate them into the community and give them strong ties to their culture and tradition.”

The Burmese women who reside across the street from the gardens in the McCormick Place Apartments walk to the urban farm every morning to work the land and plant the seeds and plants for their own harvest. Traditional foods such as taro, roselle, thai peppers, okra, watercress and gourds are the first choice of these strategic farmers, who have taught the Catherine Kasper employees a thing or two.

“They garden differently,” notes Chaille. “At first we tried to show them how to garden, but the clients knew more. They’ve taught us so much about gardening.”

The Burmese build trellises out of tree limbs and organize their row gardens strategically. “So,” concludes Chaille, “we try to make this functional, but we use the methods the clients use to work the farm.”

In addition to the opportunity to grow and market fresh food from the urban garden, the Fresh Food Initiative provides refugees with the opportunity to develop personal goals and skills that can help them become self-sufficient in agricultural careers. Chaille says the initiative includes a farm management program that provides 140 hours of paid training to refugees where in the classroom they study crop management, farm safety, business planning, marketing and much more.

Then there is the “grow it forward” factor where Chaille says, “These guys go out and help other (ministry) organizations farm. That way the clients of different organizations get to know each other.

Burmese women tend the row garden that is one of a three part urban garden located on the southeast side of Fort Wayne. The garden is supported by the Catherine Kasper Place’s Fresh Food Initiative and provides land, seeds, tools and guidance to the refugees to grow produce for personal consumption and market sales.

Chan Aung, project coordinator for Catherine Kasper Place Fresh Food Initiative digs in the urban garden at right, while farm manager, Jeff Kachmar, standing, discusses planting with Catherine Kasper Place Director Holly Chaille. The initiative offers farmland to refugees to raise produce to consume and sell at market.

Catherine Kasper Place Director Holly Chaille, left, discusses the Fresh Food Initiative urban garden with Jeff Kachmar, center, farm manager, as Chan Aung, project coordinator for the initiative and Har Sein work in the background. The trellises were built by the Burmese women who tend the row gardens.

It brings together the marginalized groups through gardening.

The farm management training provides 50 hours of conversational English to assist clients with community interaction and communication. And those in the program teach the other refugees at the gardens the curriculum they learn in the classroom such as farm rules and hand washing.

The initiative, which has been supported for the past three years by grant money from the Poor Handmaids St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, has assisted the Burmese at Autumn Woods Apartments with container gardens and seed stands, however, that is no longer viable. Chaille is grateful to have the lease of the Slataper Street land to continue the work of the initiative.

As for harvest time she says, “We have underpromised so we can overprovide.” The Catherine Kasper Place clients will have the opportunity to sell their harvest at a weekly market at the site to provide the community with fresh healthy food.

Chaille believes this program holds much promise for the refugees and the community at large and hopes that as the funding grant ends this year, community sponsors will step up to support it. She also hopes churches or other partners will donate property for future garden plots as well and says, “We have maxed out this land and are always looking for property. We need access to water, fencing and storage facilities. ... If groups of people take ownership in it, it will thrive.”

To learn more visit cathrineskasperplace.org.
every Catholic young man should consider the Priesthood as a possible vocation.

“All young people, and all Catholics not already committed to a vocational way of life, should ask the Lord in prayer to reveal His plan for their life,” Barry said. “In His own time He will reveal to us the deepest desire of our hearts and will give us the graces we need to follow Him to a truly fulfilling happiness in following His will.”

Barry said it has become clear to him, especially in the past several years in the seminary, that the Lord is calling him to be a priest.

His parish work at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart in the summers also helped fortify his decision.

“The best thing about being in a parish over the summer was praying with the people,” Barry said. “There is something powerful in the simple action of joining together in the prayer of the Eucharist.”

“The time I spent in parishes over the summer serving at Mass, drawing close to the Lord in His sacrifice and therein discovering a greater love for the people, was crucial for my discernment,” he added.

“The shared prayer of the Mass in a parish brought home to me the deep desire I had to spend my life serving the people of this diocese.”

Barry said, “The wisdom and example of leadership and prayer in the priests with whom I stayed was also very beneficial and I am grateful for the time they took to mentor me as a seminarian. Seeing their great joy in being a priest of Jesus Christ was a true gift and an encouragement to me.”

“What I have learned about the Priesthood both in the classroom and in pastoral experiences, and my own prayer about this vocation has all contributed to my vocational discernment,” Barry said, “but it isn’t something that I came to know on my own. My spiritual director in the seminary helped me to understand through my years of formation how God is at work in my own heart and life, and the formation team at the seminary has offered their confirmation of my vocation. Ultimately, I have found the greatest peace here in following the Lord’s call, which has come to me through His Church.”

On the call to priestly vocations, Barry said he notices there are more young men coming forward to enter seminary and discern their possible call to the priesthood.

“I attribute this to a greater awareness to the Lord in their lives,” Barry said. “This kind of increase in vocations comes from better catechesis, prayer as Jesus recommends in Matthew 9:38, fostering vocational discernment among Catholic youth, and from the witness of holy, faithful, joyful priests.”

“As seminarians,” he added, “we recognize the need for greater evangelization and discipleship, which will draw us closer to the heart of Jesus Christ, the source of all true vocation.”

He encourages the faithful to “pray for vocations, that the Lord will find a way into the hearts of our young people today, and that they will respond courageously to Christ’s call to witness to the faith out of love in whatever way He calls them to do so.”

Of the upcoming diaconate ordination and year serving as a deacon in the Church, Barry said, “I am humbled by the responsibility to be entrusted to me and excited to continue following the Lord, drawing others to Him. It will be a great joy as a deacon to assist at the altar of His sacrifice.”

“Vince and I are honored and blessed to have been trusted by God to raise up a potential priest to serve the Church we love,” said Becky Barry, Zak’s mother. “Every child is created with special gifts, to be used for their own salvation and that of others. It has long seemed that Zak’s unique vocation was that of a priest.”

“It is with great joy, and also some fear and trembling, that we see this coming to fruition as we anticipate his ordination to the diaconate,” she added. “Zak is very delighted, peaceful and enthusiastic in accepting this path God has offered him. We are thrilled, because we want our children to be eternally happy.”

God’s Blessings upon Zachary Barry, Bishop Dwenger Alum ’06, as you enter the Order of the Diaconate through the Sacrament of Holy Orders!

Once a Saint, Always a Saint!

With prayerful best wishes to Zachary Barry as he enters his diaconate year.
Bishop Emeritus William Higi of Lafayette stands with the 2013 Confirmation class of St. Bernard Parish in Wabash on April 30. In front, from left are Noah Johnson, Isaiah Hipkskind, Alex Shining and Cal Stone. Middle, from left, are Kaitlyn Dowdal, Collin Meggison, Isaac Gotschalk, Bishop Emeritus William Higi, Chloe Hipkskind and Catherine Tracy. In back, from left, are Jose Delgado, Chris Adams, Caleb Kroh, Sammy Hipkskind, Chris Orpurt and Natalie Zenil.

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has 12 Eagle Scouts at the Fort Wayne high school, including the following:

• Adam Baker is the son of Karen and Craig Baker. He is a junior and a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. Baker replaced a flagpole at St. Joseph Church on Brooklyn Avenue. He also did some landscaping work there.

• Nicholas Burrell is a senior. He is the son of Robert and Linda Burrell and a member of St. John the Baptist Church in Fort Wayne. Burrell designed and built two walkways and three benches for ACRES Landtrust.

• John Michael Chandler is a senior. He is a member at St. Aloysius in Yoder and the son of Steven and Annette Chandler. Chandler did some landscaping in front of his church. This included spicing up grounds around the statues and signs.

• Physics teacher Jason Draper is the son of David and Lucy Draper. Draper attends Washington Center United Methodist Church. As a Scout he painted the community building for Washington Township, Whitley County, and repaired the historical marker sign.

• Dominic Frecker is the son of Brian and Jodie Frecker. He is a junior and attends St. Aloysius Church. Frecker painted a map of the United States on his church’s playground. He also installed a see-saw.

• Christopher Heiny, a sophomore, is the son of Charles and Ann Heiny. He is a member of St. John the Baptist Church in Fort Wayne. Heiny staked up newly planted trees in the Woodhurst addition.

• Mark Hellinger, a junior, is the son of Karen and Mark Hellinger. He belongs to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. Hellinger built a grotto at St. Elizabeth. It cost $4000 and involved about 290 combined hours. It is adjacent to the football field.

• Junior Mathieu Helmick is the son of Aimee and Eric Helmick. He is a member of Precious Blood Parish in New Haven. Helmick built friendship benches and remodeled a garden at Imagine MASTer Academy.

• Sean Katen is the son of Thomas and Robin Katen. He attends St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Decatur. Katen is a senior. His project involved a drainage ditch in Geneva. He is perpendicular to a busy road and adjacent to a suburb. He built a bridge across the ditch for the elderly to drive their golf carts across and into downtown Geneva. The bridge also connects a system of trails in the Limberlost.

• Sean McManus is the son of Dr. Michael and Mary McManus. His is a senior and a member of St. John the Baptist Church in Fort Wayne. McManus cleaned and repainted the Mass servers’ room at the church.

• Matthew Sroufe attends St. Henry Church. He is a senior and the son of Mary and Randy Sroufe. He restored a Civil War Veteran Memorial by removing all of the topsoil from around it, putting down weed barrier, making a brick border, filling it in with river rocks and putting a chain around it.

• Mason Wigent, a senior, is the son of Dave and Kelli Wigent. He is a member at St. John the Baptist Church in New Haven. Wigent redesigned a playground which included set up of an out-door volleyball court with removable posts and a kickball field.

BISHOP HIGI ASSISTS WITH CONFIRMATIONS IN DIOCESE

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The lost art of witnessing another’s pain

I t’s never easy to sit with a person who is overcome by the pain of loss. Witnessing another’s sorrow can provoke a heightened sense of our own level of discomfort, causing us to try to “fix it” or perhaps even turn away if we’re not in tune with our own issues. Neither is a comforting proposition for those who mourn.

I remember over a decade ago when a good friend of mine lost her husband suddenly to heart failure. Because her family lived out of state, several of her friends rushed to sit with her in the hospital while she waited for news of her husband’s condition. Following the traumatic news that her husband had died, those same friends sat with her in a quiet room as she prayed over her husband’s body. Sitting with her in shock and sorrow took courage and compassion. It took stepping out of their own comfort zone to honor their friend’s immediate needs. And that’s not easy in our culture today, evidenced by what followed for this woman in the ensuing days.

In those days following her husband’s death as she dealt with funeral arrangements, legalities and the sheer exhaustion of sudden loss, more friends came and went from her home, some praying with her quietly, helping her to help when instructed, others brashly attempting to orchestrate her life “back to normal.”

As I sat praying with the others I watched my friend quite literally running through her home trying to navigate the dark and confusing wilderness of grief she was experiencing by every authentic Christian.

Her own experience of loss is similar as I’m sure it is for many others as well. Some well-meaning supporters, uncomfortable with or perhaps ignorant of the natural ebb and flow of grief’s pain and sorrow, profess to know best what we should do and feel. I recall so many telling me stories of their own loss and how it compared to my husband’s death 22 years ago. As well intended as their advice and their own stories of losses, it seemed to only add to her confusion.

Her own experience of loss is similar as I’m sure it is for many others as well. Some well-meaning supporters, uncomfortable with or perhaps ignorant of the natural ebb and flow of grief’s pain and sorrow, profess to know best what we should do and feel. I recall so many telling me stories of their own loss and how it compared to my husband’s death 22 years ago. As well intended as their advice and their own stories of losses, it seemed to only add to her confusion.

In their bond with Christ, they shared in the mission of Christ, to bring God’s mercy and wisdom to the world. It is an individual role but also collective, the collective dimension seen in the ministry and witness of the Church.

Rather, as Acts reveals, essential to the Church is its determination to be near the Apostles, under the leadership of Peter. For this reason, the Church still looks to the chosen successors of the Apostles for guidance and direction.

This feast commemorates an event long ago, yet it teaches us a very contemporary lesson. In 2013, as 20 centuries ago, it is the Apostolic Church, the community created by God that brings divine mercy to weary and wandering humans. As was the case in Jerusalem so long ago, it loves all, serves all and reassures all. Quite visibly, it still gathers around the Apostles, with Peter at the center.

Christian commitment necessitates is personal and individual. It also is collective.

In their bond with Christ, they share in the mission of Christ, to bring God’s mercy and wisdom to the world. It is an individual role but also collective, the collective dimension seen in the ministry and witness of the Church. As was the case in Jerusalem so long ago, it loves all, serves all and reassures all. Quite visibly, it still gathers around the Apostles, with Peter at the center.

Christian commitment necessitates is personal and individual. It also is collective.

The bond with Jesus experienced by every authentic Christian is so strong, and unique, that all Christians themselves are bound together. They form the Church.
Remembering Max Kampelman

S

ome 23 years ago, Ambassador Max Kampelman — former nuclear arms reduction negotiator with the Soviet Union and Counselor to the Department of State— decided that I needed a bit of diplomatic experience and invited me to be a public member of the U.S. delegation he would lead to the Copenhagen meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, in the summer of 1990.

It was an interesting gathering, being the first round of the “Helsinki Accords” since the Berlin Wall had come down. The head of the Romanian delegation had a noticeable and somewhat ominous bulge beneath the armpit of his jacket. The head of delegations of another country, which had best remain unnamed, wore a three-piece suit that seemed to have been dry-cleaned in clam chowder. The intellectual leading lights of the just-completed Revolution of 1989 — the Czechs and the Poles — were fully up-to-speed in their democratic Order.

Prior to his death at 92 this past Jan. 25, Max Kampelman could look back on a lifetime of high adventure and great achievement. He was a World War II conscientious objector who nevertheless contributed to the nation’s war effort by volunteering for a starvation experiment at the University of Minnesota that dropped him to 100 pounds but taught medical lessons that saved the lives of former POWs and death camp survivors. He took advanced degrees in both law and political science and became a “consiglieri” to Hubert Humphrey, whom he might well have served as White House counsel had the 1968 election gone differently.

He was a major figure in forcing human rights issues onto the U.S. foreign policy agenda, made an invaluable contribution to the moral delegation of the Soviet Union as ambassador for Presidents Carter and Reagan to

HOPE

I believe the avoidance of pain at all cost that seems prevalent in today’s culture has created a great need for the reinstitution of the lost the art of sitting with another in his or her pain, acknowledging it and allowing it to transform their lives.

The art of witnessing another’s pain involves a spirit of compassion and acceptance that supersedes one’s own discomfort and need to assert a leading agenda. Unsolicited advice or running conversation can make for a tense and exhausting time. Being present with the mourner in the silence of despair is sometimes just what is needed. Allow them to tell you what they need or feel.

Now, years later, my widowed friend says of those first terrifying days, “I don’t remember much about those first days beyond feeling confused at times because so many people were trying to help with stories of their own loss and advice on how to handle things. Sometimes I didn’t know what I needed and I just wanted it all to stop.”

But she holds dear those folks who sat with her in her sorrow and witnessed her pain in their silence. “I do remember that my prayer warriors were there on the sidelines lifting me in prayer, and ready to help if I asked. That made all the difference for me to know they were just there.”

Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and news editor of Today’s Catholic newspaper and is the author of the “Prayer Book for Widows,” Our Sunday Visitor, 2004, and can be reached at kc10z@todayscatholicnews.org.

The Madrid Review Conference on the Helsinki Accords in the early 1980s, and then worked himself into a heart attack negotiating a nuclear arms reduction pact with the USSR. In his last years, Max joined forces with other foreign policy heavyweights like Henry Kissinger, George Shultz and Sam Nunn in urging that the elimination of nuclear weapons become a national policy goal.

Throughout his public life, Max, who was not an especially pious man, worked out of the Jewish moral heritage he cherished: there was good in men and women, and it should be encouraged; there was evil in people and in the world, and it must be fought; true political authority had to serve the cause of justice.

When Max helped engineer my 1983-84 fellowship at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and thus my re-location to Washington, D.C., neither one of us thought he was incubating a papal biographer. But as his life had taken surprising turns, so did mine, without his help. The point, he would insist, is to live vocationally.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for May 19, 2013

John 20:19-23

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Pentecost Sunday, Cycle, A, B and C. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SHOWED THEM

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

The CrossWord

May 19 and 26, 2013

46 Flurry
47 Pre-Easter
48 Negative (prefix)
49 Rapid eye movement
50 “Blessed ___ thou”
51 Get together
52 Vane direction

ACROSS

1 Food and drug administration (abbr.)
4 Aoints’ book
8 Choose
11 Charged particle
12 Commutations
20 Forbidden fruit bearer
44 God’s Chosen One
53 Ride a horse
80 16 Thought
17 Natives of Crete
19 Sons
20 Bard’s “before”
21 Easter dawn
22 Church vaults
25 First ___ of the week
47 Ages part, Long ___
48 Shun
30 Some
31 Persia
32 Early imam
33 United States of America
34 What’s fashionable
35 Cheer up
36 Gorilla
37 Having wings
38 Cremains holder
39 Consumer
40 DNA component
41 Colt’s m pact
42 Adam’s home
43 Site of Vatican
44 Root vegetable

1 “I believe in ___ God”
2 “I was ___ the Father”
3 “I’m ___ ,” a Mother
4 “I am ___,” a Saint
5 “I am ___,” a Saint
6 “I am ___,” a Saint
7 “I am ___ ,” a Saint
8 “I am ___ ,” a Saint
9 “I am ___ ,” a Saint
10 “Jesus ___ to me”

Based on these Scripture Readings: Acts 2:1-11; Romans 8:8-17, John 14:15-16, 23-26 AND Psev 8:22-31; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

Answer Key can be found on page 15
**Sports**

**Eagles claim 2013 CYO girls’ varsity soccer championship**

**BY MICHELE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — Blessed Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) soccer championship this season. The undefeated Eagles’ regular season capping off a perfect 6-0 season. Park on Tuesday evening, May 7, over St. Charles 8 at Kreager Park on Tuesday, May 7.

In a hard-fought matchup, SJFW/HC had everything it took to claim the 2013 girls’ varsity Catholic Youth League (CYO) soccer championship this season. In a blind draw tournament, the Lady Eagles from St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SJFW/HC) had everything it took to claim the 2013 girls’ varsity Catholic Youth League (CYO) soccer championship this season.

In a hard-fought matchup, SJFW/HC posted a 2-0 victory over St. Charles 8 at Kreager Park on Tuesday evening, May 7, capping off a perfect 6-0 season. The undefeated Eagles’ regular season was cut in half due to the rain and wet field conditions, but it did not dampen the sweet ending.

“It was a lot of fun,” beamed Coach Strack.

“We were strong all the way up and down the field.” he said of his team.

The core of the group also won the CYO as fifth graders, but were beat a year ago in the semi finals with just 10 girls. This year, the roster was made up of 22 girls with a balanced mix of skilled club players, girls with speed and role players. Led by captains Emilie Strack, Ellie Snyder and Cassie Birkmeier, the team only gave up two goals the entire season.

In the blind draw tournament, the Eagles emerged out of a tough bracket having to beat St. Vincent 7 in the opening round, 4-1, and St. Vincent 8 in the semifinals, 3-0, before facing the Cardinals.

In the intense matchup, the score remained goose eggs at the half. With about 15 minutes left in regulation, Birkmeier came up with the first goal then added another to seal the win and secure a championship.

In junior varsity action, the St. Charles 6 team beat St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth 1-0 for the title.

**St. Charles soccer team claims CYO varsity championship title**

**BY MICHELE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — The St. Charles Borromeo boys’ won the 2013 varsity championship by a 2-1 score over a tough St. John, New Haven team at Kreager Park on Tuesday, May 7.

On the road to the championship, the Cardinals beat St. Jude in their opener 6-0, then downs the seventh-grade group from St. Charles in the semifinals before meeting the Raiders.

At their first team meeting back in March, Coach Scott Robinson asked his experienced Cardinals what their goals for the season were. It was at that time that his eighth graders realized it would be their last sports season wearing the St. Charles uniform.

With that in mind, the 20 young men voted unanimously to go undefeated and win the CYO.

Robinson added, “From then on they worked extremely hard in all of their preseason practices getting ready to play their first game. After spring break, league play began and the team played great. They were able to make it through the season undefeated and ready for the tourney.”

After winning their first two games of the tournament and just before the championship game, Robinson reminded his team, “This is it. This is the game you worked so hard to reach. You are ready to go.” And so they did.

The Cardinals found themselves trailing for the first time all season at the half against a great New Haven team, but never got discouraged and kept playing as hard as they could. The score remained 0-1 until very late in the game when Jack Pentenburg was able to finally score the equalizing goal.

Just when Robinson was starting to think about his overtime strategy, Austin Ly was able to get a shot off and it sailed into the back of the net to put St. Charles ahead for good some-

**CYO marks third week of track-and-field**

**BY MICHELE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) track-and-field action continued for a third week with meets at both Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger track.

At Bishop Dwenger, St. Jude came out on top in both contests with the girls narrowly edging out St. Charles 7-5.9. The Cardinals also got second place in the boys’ meet while the team from St. John the Baptist, New Haven, finished third in both races.

Winners for the St. Jude boys’ were Chino Eke (200, long jump), Paul Bender (400, relay), Nick Kaczprowicz (800, 1600, relay), C. Airc Campbell (relay, discus) and Mace Odle (relay).

For St. Charles, the short relay of Royer Howe, Patrick Finley, Edward Morris and Sam Taylor won in 56.3 seconds. Howe also won the shot put and hurdles, while Taylor claimed the high jump and 100 for the Cardinals.

For the Lady Eagles, Abby Breitag took both distance races. Olivia Ray won the shot put, and Stephanie Newell the discus.

St. Jude also finished ahead of the rest in both relays.

Heather Nellum was a triple winner for St. Charles. Alice Talonico won two events and Rachel Scott claimed the hurdles.

At Bishop Luers with the other half of the schools, St. Vincent won both the boys’ and girls’ competitions.

For St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, was second, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth third and St. Aloysius was fourth.

Eddie Dahm, Mitch Effinger, Jimmy Sheery, Christopher Dewald, Michael Manning, Sarah Stureman, Marissa Eberle, Alyssa Dmespy and the 4x200 relay teams all got blue ribbons for St. Vincent.

St. John, Fort Wayne, was led by Chris Ferrell once again winning the short relay, 100, 200 and long jump for the boys. The girls’ short relay was also victorious and Anna Eppli sprinted to first place in the 100-meter dash with a time of 13.7 seconds.

For St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth, Joe Dieter was a double winner. Ella Machall and Evie Baltermayer also finished in first place in their events.
Church is growing worldwide, especially in Asia, Africa, Vatican says

BY CAROL GLEITZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The number of Catholics in the world and the number of bishops, priests, religious men and women has increased worldwide in 2011, while the number of women in religious orders continued to decline, according to Vatican statistics.

The number of permanent deacons is showing “strong expansion” globally, but especially in Europe and the Americas, it said.

At the end of 2011, the worldwide Catholic population reached 1.21 billion, an increase of 18 million or 1.5 percent, slightly outpacing the global population growth rate, which was estimated at 1.23 percent, said a statement published May 13 by the Vatican press office.

Catholics as a percentage of the global population remained “essentially unchanged” at around 17.5 percent, it said.

The statement reported a handful of the statistics contained in the Statistical Yearbook of the Church, which reported worldwide Church figures as of Dec. 31, 2011.

Officials of the Vatican Secretariat of State and its Central Office of Church Statistics presented the first copy of the yearbook to Pope Francis during an audience May 13; they also gave him the first copy of the 2013 “Annuario Pontificio,” a volume containing information about every Vatican office, as well as every diocese and religious order in the world.

According to the statistical yearbook, the increase in the number of Catholics in Africa (4.3 percent) and Asia (2 percent) greatly outpaced their regions’ population growth, which was 2.5 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively.

The growth of the Catholic community in Europe and the Americas was even with regional population growth, which was about 0.3 percent for both, the yearbook said.

At the end of 2011, most of the world’s Catholics (48.8 percent) were living in the Americas, followed by Europe with 23.5 percent, Africa with 16 percent, 10.9 percent in Asia and 0.8 percent in Oceania.

The Vatican said the number of bishops in the world increased from 5,104 to 5,132.

The total number of priests — diocesan and religious — increased worldwide, except in Asia where the numbers stayed mostly the same, and Europe, where the number of priests has gone down more than 9 percent over the past decade.

The number of permanent deacons reported — about 41,000 was an increase of more than 1,400 over the previous year and a 40 percent increase over the past decade. The vast majority — 97.4 percent — of the world’s permanent deacons live in the Americas or in Europe.

The number of men joining a religious order showed substantial growth over the past decade in both Asia (up 44.9 percent since 2001) and Africa (up 18.5 percent since 2001), in contrast their numbers fell in Oceania by 21.9 percent over the past 10 years, in Europe by 18 percent and in the Americas by 3.6 percent over the past decade.

The number of religious orders has shown “a sharp downward trend” with a 10 percent decrease in the numbers of women religious worldwide since 2001, it said. The increases in Africa and Asia weren’t enough to offset the reductions seen in Europe, the Americas and Oceania, it said.

Catholic women’s orders went from having a total of more than 792,000 members in 2001 to just over 713,000 women at the end of 2011.

The number of candidates for the priesthood — both diocesan seminarians and members of religious orders — showed continued growth worldwide, rising from 118,990 at the end of 2010 to 120,616 at the end of 2011.

In the past 10 years, it said, the number of men preparing for the priesthood rose more than 30.9 percent in Africa and 29.4 percent in Asia. Numbers decreased in other regions of the world, particularly Europe, which saw a 21.7 percent drop in priest endorsement candidates between 2001 and 2011.

Philadelphia abortionist convicted of murder, manslaughter

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — A Philadelphia jury May 13 found Dr. Kermit Gosnell guilty of murder in the deaths of three babies born alive during abortions and acquitted him of a fourth similar charge. He also was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the death by a drug overdose of a patient who had an abortion.

Gosnell, 72, was accused of snipping the spines of babies born alive during illegal late-term abortions.

Pennsylvania law prohibits abortions after 24 weeks of gestation.

A few weeks earlier in the six-week trial, after the prosecution had rested its case, Judge Jeffrey Minehart of the Common Pleas Court, dismissed three other murder charges against Gosnell, saying they lacked evidence.

The same jury was to convene May 21 to consider Gosnell’s sentencing. Prosecutors were seeking the death penalty.

Gosnell was arrested in 2011 and charged with seven counts of first-degree murder and one count of murder in the case of a woman from Virginia who died during an abortion.

Several patients and former employees testified about substandard conditions at the clinic, described by some as “a house of horrors,” including third-degree murder, racketeering and performing illegal, late-term abortions.

Prosecutors said one of the babies Gosnell killed was at nearly 30 weeks of gestation and was so big that Gosnell joked it could “walk to the bus,” reported The Associated Press.

The involuntary manslaughter charge came in the death of Karnamaya Mongar, 41, of Woodbridge, Va., who was given repeated doses of powerful drugs to induce labor and sedate her.

The jury also found Gosnell guilty of kidnapping, racketeering and more than 200 violations of Pennsylvania laws, for performing abortions past 24 weeks or failing to counsel women seeking abortions 24 hours before providing the procedure.

He still faces federal drug charges over abuse of prescriptions for OxyContin and for letting staff members make out prescriptions to patients who paid cash.

The case against Gosnell took shape after a team of health inspectors and investigators looking into drug trade raided Gosnell’s clinic, known as the Women’s Medical Society, in February 2010.

A grand jury report that followed reported on fifth throughout, including blood on the floor, cat feces on the stairs and surgical rooms that resembled a “bad gas station restroom.” The investigators gathered the remains of 45 fetuses stored in bags, milk jugs, juice cartons and cat food containers.

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WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

Day of Reflection
Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, May 29, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “The Gift of the Spirit.” Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is $20 and includes lunch. Register by May 24 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Pancake breakfast planned
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus will have a pancake, egg and sausage breakfast on Sunday, May 19, from 8 a.m. to noon at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Hallman on U.S. 27 S. Proceeds will benefit the Women’s Care Center in Fort Wayne. Free will donations accepted.

St. Anthony de Padua rummage sale
South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua Parish, located at the corner of Ironwood and Jefferson, will hold a rummage sale on Sunday, May 18, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the gymnasium. Concessions will be available. All items not sold will be donated to local charities.

Indoor rummage sale
South Bend — St. Augustine Parish, 1501 W. Washington St., will have a rummage sale Saturday, May 18, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Father Dan Durkin to celebrate jubilee
Fort Wayne — St. Henry Parish, 2929 E. Paulding Rd., will celebrate the 40th jubilee of Father Dan Durkin on Sunday, June 2, at a 10:30 a.m. Mass followed by a reception at the St. Henry Parish Center. Please R.S.V.P. by May 27 to (260) 447-4100 or e-mail rvandurdkin@frontier.com.

Flea market planned
Churubusco — The Rosary Society of St. John Bosco Parish, 216 N. Main St., will host a flea market in the church parking lot on Saturday, May 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. In case of rain it will be held in the church basement.

Knights plan Sunday breakfast at Most Precious Blood
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 11043 will have a breakfast on Sunday, May 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Christ Child Society seeks new members
South Bend — A new member coffee will be held Wednesday, May 15, at 9:30 a.m. at the Christ Child Clothing Center, 308 S. Scott St. For more information contact Kristy Botich (574) 291-7523 or wbotich@sbglobal.net.

WHAT’S HAPPENING?

Fort Wayne
Betty Jean Gfll, 91, St. Joseph
Mary Ann Herman, 82, St. Jude
Jerry D. Roberts, 70, St. Henry
Lois J. Desmond, 83, Most Precious Blood
Rosemary L. O’Reilly, 91, St. Peter

Granger
Val Paul Trinkley, 53, St. Plus X

Notre Dame
Joseph A. Doyley, 92, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Plymouth
G. Ernest Rightley, 92, St. Michael

South Bend
Irene Sobieralski, 74, Holy Family
JoAnn Wensits, 90, St. Matthew Cathedral
Virginia T. Keefer, 88, Sacred Heart
J. Louis Meygeye Jr., 68, Corpus Christi
Jerome J. Badur, 76, St. John the Baptist

REST IN PEACE

The Secretariat for Communications is in need of a salesperson for the South Bend area. This person will be responsible for maintaining and growing the relationships between the diocesan publications (Today’s Catholic News, Today’s Catholic Life, Diocesan Directory) and advertisers. Cold calling, in-person relationship development, and excellent time management skills are required. The ability to develop a territory without direct daily supervision is a must. This is a part-time position that would require between 20-25 hours per week. A practicing Catholic with 2-3 years of B2B sales experience is required, and a college degree is preferred.

Please send resume and cover letter to: smcbride@diocesefwsb.org

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For more information, contact Rhonda Scher at the Catholic Schools Office: 260-422-4611 X 3335
Applications on the web at: www.diocesefwsb.org/cso
Applications will be reviewed beginning May 22, 2013

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SOUTH BEND

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Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades dedicates new Hannah’s House

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades poses with the pro-life group from St. Anthony De Padua School in South Bend. The students were on hand for the dedication of Killilea home, a second location of Hannah’s House.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades officially dedicated the second Hannah’s House on Friday, May 10, in Mishawaka. The new Killilea Home, as it is known, will serve five women. Calling the mission of Hannah’s House “a true witness of love, practicing Christ’s commitment to act in love and kindness,” Bishop Rhoades thanked the numerous volunteers and contributors that make the mission of Hannah’s House possible. Over 50 people attended the dedication including former residents, volunteers and Mishawaka Mayor Dave Wood.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blesses Killilea Home, the second Hannah’s House location in Mishawaka with Board President Linda Hammond and Executive Director Bill Killilea. The dedication took place on Friday, May 10. The home is named after the Killileas who were founding members of Hannah’s House 20 years ago.

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