MISHAWAKA — The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration hosted a celebration on Sept. 17 to commemorate their 150th anniversary with a special Mass celebrated at the St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka followed by a reception at the Gillespie Conference Center. Over 400 friends and family joined the sisters to celebrate the founding of their order.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades served as the celebrant of the Mass and was joined by over 60 priests. Also in attendance were Bishop Timothy L. Doherty from Lafayette, Bishop Emeritus William L. Higi from Lafayette and Bishop Dale J. Melczek from Gary.

“To see so many bishops, priests and deacons together was so moving,” said Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration Sister Cecelina Clare. Bishop Rhoades spoke to the faithful about the history of the order and their founder.

“It is wonderful to celebrate this 150th anniversary Mass of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration on Mother Maria Theresia’s birthday. It is also the feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis. This fact that had deep significance for Mother Maria Theresia. She referred to her birth on the feast of St. Francis and said, ‘I would like to be a Franciscan Sister, and I will be so.’”

Bishop Rhoades spoke about the sisters’ work in the community and their dedication to their faith. He also spoke about the importance of the Mass and the significance of the 150th anniversary.

Bishop Rhoades concluded his homily by encouraging the faithful to continue to support the work of the sisters and to pray for the sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration.

For Sunday’s occasion, the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses that are normally celebrated were combined into a single Mass that began at 9 a.m. The Mass began with the blessing of holy water, followed by the sprinkling of the congregation and the blessing of the church that included the three new stained-glass windows of Jesus and the children; the Divine Mercy image; and the Holy Family of Nazareth. The special readings were taken from the Mass for the Dedication of an Altar.

“I wish to congratulate all of you on this accomplishment, an accomplishment that demonstrates your strong faith, your love for the Lord and the gift of the Holy Eucharist, and your stewardship,” Bishop Rhoades told the faithful.

“We are nearing the end of the Year of Faith, in which Pope Benedict called the whole Church to rediscover and celebrate the truth, power and
Let us glory only in the cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ!

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. ROHADES

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

The following is the homily delivered by Bishop Rhoades at the 150th Anniversary Mass of the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration on September 12th.

O n this day, September 17th, your holy Church celebrates the feast of the Stigmata of Saint Francis, a day full of meaning and rich in history. As we commemorate this day, let us reflect on the profound significance of the Stigmata of Saint Francis and how it has impacted the lives of the Sisters of Saint Francis and the world at large.

The Stigmata of Saint Francis refers to the marks that appeared on the body of Saint Francis of Assisi, the founder of the Franciscan order, on the day of his death. These marks included five wounds on his hands, feet, and side that resembled those of Christ’s crucifixion. The appearance of these stigmata was a profound act of union with Christ and a demonstration of Francis’s devotion to the Eucharist and the Passion of Christ.

In truth and charity,

Today’s Catholic
Pope, in Sardinia, denounces globalization and unemployment

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Visiting an Italian region especially hard hit by the European economic crisis, Pope Francis blamed high unemployment on globalization driven by greed and said those who give charitable aid to the poor must treat their beneficiaries with dignity.

“We want a just system, a system that lets all advance ahead,” the pope said Sept. 22, in his first address during a full day on the Italian island of Sardinia. “We don’t want this globalization economic system that does us so much harm. At its center there should be man and woman, as God wants, and not money.”

Sardinia has an overall unemployment rate of nearly 20 percent, rising to nearly 50 percent among young adults.

Before speaking to a crowd of about 20,000 near the Cagliari city port, Pope Francis heard a series of speeches in greeting, including one from an unemployed father of three, who spoke of how joblessness “wears you out to the depths of your soul.”

In response, the pope discarded his prepared remarks and told his audience what he said “comes to me in my heart seeing you in this moment.”

Pope Francis recalled the struggles of his immigrant Italian father in 1930s Argentina.

“They lost everything. There was no work,” he said. “I was not born yet, but I heard them speak about this suffering at home. I know this well. But I must tell you: courage.”

The pope said he knew that his preaching alone would mean little to those in difficulty.

“I must do everything I can so that this word ‘courage’ is not a pretty fleeting word, not only the smile of (a) conscious employer,” he said. “I want this courage to come out from inside and push me to do all I can as a pastor, as a man. We must all face this historic challenge with solidarity and intelligence.”

The pope said that the current economic crisis was the “consequence of a global choice, of an economic system that led to this tragedy, an economic system centered on an idol, which is called money.”

In his unprepared remarks, which the pope said should be considered “as if they had been spoken,” he thanked those entrepreneurs who, “in spite of everything, have not ceased to commit themselves, to invest and take risks to guarantee employment.”

The pope emphasized the need for “dignified work,” lamenting that that crisis had led to an increase in “inhuman work, slave labor, work without fitting security or without respect for creation.”

Pope Francis poses with young people during an encounter with youth in Cagliari, Sardinia, Sept. 22.

Pope Francis celebrates Mass at the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Bonaria in Cagliari, Sardinia, Sept. 22.

Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty

Holy Hour across the diocese

By Peter Smith

• Immaculate Conception Church, 500 E. Seventh St., Auburn, has a holy hour Mondays 5:30-6:30 p.m. and every Friday from 11 a.m. to noon. The Adoration Chapel is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. and people are encouraged to spend time in Adoration and pray for the intentions of life, marriage and religious liberty.

• St. Charles Borromeo Church, 4916 Trier Rd, Fort Wayne, has a holy hour all Fridays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the chapel.

• Queen of Peace Church in Mishawaka has an hour and a half (3:30-5 p.m.) every Saturday of Adoration and Exposition prior to the Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. They dedicate this time in honor of private prayer for the Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.

• St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur, hosts Eucharistic Exposition on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:30-6 p.m. and on Thursday from 9-10 a.m. and 4:30-8 p.m. The parish asks participants to pray for the protection of marriage, religious freedom and unborn children.

• Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 Saint Joe Rd., Fort Wayne, hosts a holy hour for religious liberty beginning with a rosary at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday.

Pope Francis kisses a sick man inside the Basilica of Our Lady of Bonaria in Cagliari, Sardinia, Sept. 22.

TRUTH

Continued from page 2

Jesus was bearing in his body the marks of Jesus. He belonged to Jesus. Saint Francis and Mother Maria Theresia belonged to Jesus. So do we.

Jesus teaches us that “whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for this sake will save it.” Sisters of Saint Francis, your life as women religious is to be a witness to this truth. Like your holy foundress, Theresia Bonzel, may we glory in this Congregation! With Saint Paul, Saint Francis, and soon-to-be Blessed Maria Theresia Bonzel, may we glory only in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ!
South Bend celebrates blessing of new Life Center, home to pro-life ministries

BY TOM UEBBING

SOUTH BEND — The Life Center, a beautiful new expression of the culture of life in South Bend, was blessed Sept. 22 by Father Thomas Shoemaker, pastor of St. Therese, Little Flower Parish.

The Life Center, owned and operated by the Apostolate of Divine Mercy in Service of Human Life, is the new home of a number of pro-life ministries. The building, located at 2018 Ironwood Circle, stands next to the Women’s Pavilion, South Bend’s abortion business. About 130 people including a Knights of Columbus Color Guard gathered as Father Shoemaker blessed with holy water the Life Center and the nearby “prayer peninsula,” a concrete slab on the other side of the abortion facility where pro-life sidewalk counselors called TLC Advocates station themselves during abortion hours.

About 30 pro-abortion demonstrators stood with their signs in the Women’s Pavilion parking lot.

Father Shoemaker led participants in praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. As everyone filed into the Life Center for a building tour and ministry fair, the pro-abortion demonstrators shouted, “Pro-choice … South Bend,” which abortion demonstrators shouted, “Pro-choice … South Bend,” which pro-lifers quietly ignored.

In past years only about two or three babies per year have been saved from death by the interminable efforts of sidewalk counselors. However, since Nov. 1, 2012, with an overall increase in prayer intercessors and sidewalk counselors there have been 22 babies reported as saved.

The Apostolate of Divine Mercy is a fledging private association in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades approved it just one year ago with the purpose to promote the “Gospel of Life.”

The apostolate’s founder and director, Shawn Sullivan, shared that he had scouted the area adjacent to the abortion business looking for a building to purchase to convert into the Life Center. He had approached Forsey Construction, located next to the abortion business, only to learn they had just sold the building to another construction firm.

Miraculously, the bank involved in the transaction called Sullivan and said that if he could acquire $250,000 in 40 days — by Nov. 1 (All Saints Day) — he could buy the building. And against all probability that is what happened.

The most prominent feature of the Life Center is the strikingly beautiful Divine Mercy Eucharistic Adoration Chapel. Bishop Rhoades will consecrate the chapel at 11 a.m. on Oct. 8.

The Life Center is the home of not only the Apostolate of Divine Mercy, but also Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency, 40 Days for Life, South Bend, Post Abortion Healing Ministries, TLC Advocates, Natural Family Planning, Theology of the Body Intensity Training (TORB) and Life Support, a ministry that provides emergency material and spiritual aid to women who choose life. Silent No More and FACTS-FIRST will also have a presence.

Dr. Alan Keyes, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, and presidential candidate, gave a stirring keynote talk that covered a wide range of topics including America’s founding on Christian principles, the sovereignty of “We the People,” the expulsion of God from national life, God’s command to be fruitful and multiply, the population explosion myth and the wealth financiers of population implosion. Keyes stressed that while there is an obligation to fight evil, the focus should be on being the hands and feet of the body of Christ, building up the culture of life.

“Just do it!” he said.

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Symposium focuses on religious freedom, Affordable Care Act

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — “Religious Freedom under Obamacare” was the topic of a Sept. 19-20 symposium at the University of Notre Dame featuring experts in theology, law, business, politics and the media, as well as a bishop who is an expert in bioethics.

The topic was particularly timely, for earlier that week, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, had sent a letter to all U.S. bishops reaffirming the bishops’ “grave concerns” over elements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, known as Obamacare. Cardinal Dolan related for what bishops continue to pursue efforts in the Congress and in the courts to challenge rules that require employers to provide employee insurance for immoral services.

He wrote: “We are confident that our rights under the Constitution and other laws protecting religious freedom will eventually be vindicated.”

At the Notre Dame symposium, Bishop Robert Morlino of Madison, Wis., said the Bishops Conference learned they had just sold the building to another construction firm.

Also speaking at the symposium was Msgr. Michael Heintz, a theologian professor at Notre Dame and the rector of St. Matthew Cathedral. He said he spoke as both a theologian and a pastor, noting there are sometimes “vexing questions” at the intersection of moral theology and pastoral theology.

He said that too often the term “pastoral” is interpreted as meaning “moral principles are somehow relaxed or loosened, or rationalized away in particular, concrete and difficult cases.”

“What pastoral really means, he continued, is “the care of souls, the soulcraft of nurturing and guiding folks who, in good faith, desire to do what is right,” even in very difficult circumstances.

“Pastoral care involves helping individuals to form their conscience in accord with the truth, and then assisting them, as they navigate through the choppy and dark waters of messy and sometimes unforeseen circumstances, to act in accord with that rightly formed conscience,” Msgr. Heintz said.

Some of the Obamacare rules, he
continued, put Catholics in “a very
difficult spot” because they require
Catholics to comply with elements
that violate their moral conscience.
It has always been the case that
Christian believers do not fit into
society because of their beliefs, and
they may be considered an annoy-
ing presence in society. However,
Christians are to become “a living
sign” of Christ’s kingdom in the
midst of a utilitarian society in
which “a desired end can quite eas-
ily and happily justify almost any
means,” Msgr. Heinzl said.

Note: If the symposium was host-
based, the University of Notre Dame Law Professors
Richard Garnett and Carter Snead
explained how the U.S. Constitution
and the Religious Freedom
Restoration Act protect the rights of
citizens to exercise their religious
beliefs not just within the walls
of a church, but also by living out
religious values in the public square.
Those rights have generally been
honored in law until the imple-
dmentation of Obamacare.

Also speaking were Finance
Professor Martijn Cremers, Political
Science Professor Michael Zuckert,
and journalist William McGurn,
a Notre Dame alumni who had
been a speech writer for President
George W. Bush and is an editorial
page editor for the New York Post.

The symposium was hosted
by Notre Dame Law Professor
Phillip Munoz, who also is direc-
tor of the Tocqueville Program
on Religion and Public Life and the
David Potenziani Program in
Constitutional Studies. Those two
programs were co-sponsors of the
symposium, along with the Napa
Center in Fort Wayne. Pictured from left are Kevin
O’Connor, faithful pilot and Color Guard commander;
Dave Kozlowski, faithful purser; Matthew Snyder, faith-
ful navigator; and Bishop Rhoades. A fourth degree Knight
himself, Bishop Rhoades, told the men, “I appreciate
you supporting the seminarian fund. It’s greatly needed.
… Thanks for all you do.” Assembly 2035 is made up of
members from St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Vincent de
Paul parishes in Elkhart, St. Mary in Bristol and St. John
the Evangelist in Goshen.

Representatives of the Knights of Columbus Msgr. James
P. Conroy Assembly 2035 of Elkhart County presented
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades with a donation of $5,522.27 for
the Blessed John Paul II Endowment Fund for Seminarian
Education on Sept. 25 at the Archbishop Noll Catholic
Center in Fort Wayne. Pictured from left are Kevin
O’Connor, faithful pilot and Color Guard commander;
Dave Kozlowski, faithful purser; Matthew Snyder, faithful
navigator; and Bishop Rhoades. A fourth degree Knight
himself, Bishop Rhoades, told the men, “I appreciate
you supporting the seminarian fund. It’s greatly needed.
… Thanks for all you do.” Assembly 2035 is made up of
members from St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Vincent de
Paul parishes in Elkhart, St. Mary in Bristol and St. John
the Evangelist in Goshen.

Pope Francis has set April 27 as the date for the canonization of Blessed
John XXIII and Blessed John Paul II. The two pontiffs will become saints
on Divine Mercy Sunday.

BY CINDY WOODEN
VATICAN CITY (CNS) —
Declaring that Blessed John
XXIII and John Paul II have wide-
spread reputations for holiness and
that years of studying their lives
and actions have proven their exceptional
virtue, Pope Francis announced he
would declare his two predecessors
saints at a single ceremony April 27.

The pope made the announce-
ment Sept. 30 at the end of an “ordi-
nary public consistory,” a gathering
of cardinals and promoters of the
sainthood Causes of the two late
popes. The consistory took place
in the context of a prayer service in
Latin and included the reading of
brief biographies of the two saint-
hood candidates.

Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’
Causes, read the biographies and highlighted the “service to peace
and the impact both popes had “inside and outside the Christian
community” at times of great cultural, political and religious trans-
formation.

The testimonies of their lives, “completely dedicated to proclaim-
ing the Gospel, shine in the Church
and reverberate in the history of
the world as examples of hope
and light,” the cardinal said.

Blessed John Paul, known as a
global trotter who made 104 trips out-
side Italy, served as pope from 1978
to 2005 and was beatified by Pope
Benedict XVI on Divine Mercy
Sunday, May 1, 2011. Blessed John
XXIII, known particularly for con-
voking the Second Vatican Council,
was pope from 1958 to 1963. Blessed

Asked by reporters if retired
Pope Benedict would participate in
the canonization ceremony, Jesuit
Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican
spokesman, told reporters it was
possible, but given the retired pope’s
preference for staying out of the
public eye, he could not say for sure.

The choice of April 27, which
will be Divine Mercy Sunday in
2014, was not a complete surprise.
Speaking to reporters traveling with
him from Brazil to Rome July 28,
Pope Francis said he had been con-
sidering Dec. 8, but the possibility of
icy roads could make it difficult for
Polish pilgrims who would travel by
bus to Rome for the ceremony.

The other option, he said, was
Divine Mercy Sunday, a celebration
instituted worldwide by Pope John
Paul. Since the beginning of his
pontificate in March, Pope Francis
has emphasized God’s mercy and
readiness to forgive those who rec-
ognize their need for pardon. He told
reporters on the flight from Brazil
that Pope John Paul’s promotion of
Divine Mercy Sunday showed his
intuition that a new “age of mercy”
was needed in the Church and the
world.

Asked on the plane to describe
the two late popes, Pope Francis
said Blessed John was “a bit of the
‘country priest,’ a priest who loves
each of the faithful and knows how
to care for them; he did this as a
bishop and as a nuncio.”

He was holy, patient, had a good
sense of humor and, especially by
calling the Second Vatican Council,
was a man of courage, Pope Francis
said. “He was a man who let himself
be guided by the Lord.”

As for Blessed John Paul, Pope
Francis told the reporters on the
plane, “I think of him as ‘the great
missionary of the Church,’” because
he was “a man who proclaimed the
Gospel everywhere.”

Pope Francis signed a decree
recognizing the miracle needed for
Blessed John Paul’s canonization
July 5; the same day, the Vatican
announced that the pope had agreed
with members of the Congregation
for Saints’ Causes that the canoniz-
ation of Blessed John should go for-
ward even without a second miracle
attributed to his intercession.

Except in the case of martyrdom,
Vatican rules require one miracle
for a candidate’s beatification and a
second for his or her canonization as
confirmations that the candidate real-
ly is in heaven with God. However,
the pope may set aside the rule.
St. Joseph, St. Catherine join ARISE

ROANOKE — “There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens”

This verse from Ecclesiastes 3:1 certainly sums up the situation at St. Joseph in Roanoke and St. Catherine, Nix Settlement, when it comes to the ARISE Together In Christ process of spiritual formation. Two years ago when Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades invited all parishes to learn about the program of spiritual and parish renewal, two parish representative were sent to the meeting. At that point the two parishes had several small-faith sharing groups that were meeting.

After careful thought, discussion and prayer, the pastor and Parish Life Committee decided that, although the program sounded very interesting, it just wasn’t for the two small parishes at that time. The parishes didn’t think they had the necessary leadership and the people who would be interested were already in Bible study groups.

Last year when Father Dale Bauman became the pastor of St. Joseph and St. Catherine parishes, he was surprised that the parishes were not part of the ARISE program. During the winter, a couple of men asked Father Dale why they weren’t in ARISE like other parishes were. They had friends who were telling them how much they enjoyed the group discussions and how the sessions were enriching their own faith.

Father Dale asked the committee to rethink the situation. This summer Father Dale, being the energetic leader that he is, ordered the coordinator’s manual and asked Deb Osterholt and Kay Schneider to read over the materials and put together a parish team. This proved to be much easier than anticipated.

The biggest concern for the team was that the parishes were coming into something a year late. This fear was alleviated by Dr. Laura Kolmar from Renew International, who explained that the topics were seasonal but not sequential. Parishioners could easily start with Season 3 and go forward from that point.

The parish team worked diligently through bulletin announcements, brochures, calls, talking to others and speakers to explain the program and process.

A neighboring parish, St. Aloysius, Yoder, sent people from their team to speak at the Masses before the first sign-up weekend. Early results were very promising.

Apparently, the fall of 2013 is the appointed time for St. Joseph and St. Catherine parishes.
FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School will be celebrating its 50th anniversary during the 2013-2014 school year. Friends, alumni and past and present parents are welcome. Friday, Oct. 4, beginning at 5:30 p.m., a pre-game Homecoming Tailgate Picnic and Fun at Zoller will be held. Cost is $5 per person. Tickets are available in advance at Bishop Dwenger’s office or call to reserve a spot. The Saints vs. Indianapolis Cathedral game kickoff is at 7 p.m. A 50th-year fireworks display in the stadium will follow the game. A post-game gathering will be held at Casa Ristorante Italiano at 4111 Parnell Ave.

Tuffy’s Birthday Carnival, featuring the Bishop Dwenger All-Alumni Band Concert and school tours, will be held on Bishop Dwenger’s front yard on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 12-3 p.m. The Hall of Fame Dinner and Ceremony will be held in the BDHS gymnasium on Saturday, Oct. 5, at 6 p.m. Inductees are the following: Alumna of the Year — Diane (Lynch) Hopen ‘70; Athletics: 1983 State Championship Football Team — Lauren Gant ‘01; Visual and Performing Arts — Mitchell McKinney ’85; and Citizens of Two Worlds — Gene Andert. For reservations contact Molly (Schrock) Schrech at mschrech@bishopdwenger.com or (260) 496-4775.

St. Anthony de Padua will host parish mission

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony de Padua, 2510 E. Jefferson Blvd., in South Bend will host its parish mission featuring a priest of the Congregation of the Priests of Mercy, Father Jewel Aytona, on Oct. 13-17. Presentations include “God, The Father of Mercies,” “Exsiliarious King,” “Grace and Mercy,” “Our Heavenly Mother,” and more. Confessions and Adoration will begin at 6 p.m. with mission talks at 7 p.m. A special youth night for ages 13-25 will also be held at St. Anthony de Padua on Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in the gym. The youth night will feature Father Aytona, also known for his beatboxing and breakdancing, and faith and fellowship.

Faithfest youth rally slated for Oct. 27

WARSAW — Faithfest Diocesan Youth Rally for all high school teens in the diocese will be held Sunday, Oct. 27, at Lakeview Middle School, 848 E. Smith St., in Warsaw. “Wayfarer Faithfest 2013” will feature Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Confirmation, Adoration, Mass music and an ecumenical dinner. There will be an all day service project for hundreds of other teens from the diocese, internationally-known speaker and comedian Mike Patin and the always-popular “text the bishop” session. Registration begins at 9 a.m. with praise and worship, Mass at 10 a.m., text the bishop at 11:15 a.m., lunch, breakout sessions, keynote at 3 p.m., MeguSessions, Confessions at 5 p.m. and closing prayer and dismissal at 6 p.m.

To register, visit http://faithfest2013.weebly.com and click on “register now.”

World Priest Day to be celebrated on Oct. 27

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring World Priest Day on the last Sunday in October, which coincides with the Serra Club’s Priesthood Sunday, Oct. 27.

World Priest Day focuses on celebrating the ongoing affirmation of priests and building of relationships between couples and priests. The mission and purpose of World Priest Day is to celebrate and affirm the men who commit their lives to the Lord and the Church through the sacrament of Holy Orders.

It is an opportunity for Catholic parishioners to thank, affirm and share their love and support for priests. This day, or during the week preceding or following it, Catholics across the country are encouraged by the World Priest Day National Coordinating Team to develop activities to affirm priests. Visit wpd.wmme.org for activity ideas.

For more information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter or World Priest Day call (800) 795-5683 or www.wmme.org and wpd.wmme.org.

Sons of St. Philip Neri Father Daniel Whelan, pastor St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, won the “kiss the pig” contest between Father Daniel and Amanda Jansen, principal of St. John the Baptist School, for selling the most tickets at St. John’s Parish fall festival held Sept. 14.

Eight receive 2013 Spirit of Holy Cross Award

NOTRE DAME — To mark the solemnity of Our Lady of Sorrows, on Sept. 15, and to honor the patroness of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Holy Cross Father Thomas O’Hara, provincial superior of the United States Province of Priests and Brothers, has named eight recipients for the 2013 Spirit of Holy Cross Award.

The award is given annually in glorification of the Virgin Mother to lay collaborators who faithfully serve the Province in the United States and abroad. The Spirit of Holy Cross Award recognizes lay collaborators who devotedly work to make Blessed Basil Moreau’s vision and mission to “make God known, loved and served” a reality at the congregation’s education, parish and mission apostolates.

The 2013 recipients are: Donna Lambert, controller, Provincial Business Office (Notre Dame); Mary Pat Russ, physical therapist, Holy Cross House (Notre Dame); Marty Ogren, associate director of warehouse, delivery and transportation, University of Notre Dame; Al and Sue Corrado, Board of Regents (former chairman), alumnus and benefactors, University of Portland, Ore.; Kathy Barber, coordinator of Campus Activities and Commuter Life, King’s College (Wilkes-Barre, Pa.); Craig Binney, associate vice president for finance and operations, Stonehill College (Easton, Mass.); Dennis Roverato, retired office manager and supervisor, Family Theater Productions (Hollywood, Calif.); Fernando Torres Herrera, lay administrator, District of Chile (Santiago, Chile).

Victory Noll Center service project makes blankets, hats for those in need

HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center will once again host its “Mathew 25 Project” service program to assist those in need in the local area. Volunteers to the program have produced hundreds of no-sew blankets and hats over the past two years that have been donated to local service agencies for distribution. Each Tuesday from 1-4 p.m. will be a “Mathew 25 Day” at the center, where anyone may come to help create the blankets and hats and take part in fellowship and service. Donations to the project including materials are also welcome. Victory Noll Center is located at 1900 W. Park Dr. in Huntington.

For more information about the program or Victory Noll Center, contact the center at (260) 356-0628, ext. 174, by e-mail at victorynollcenter@olvm.org, or visit www.olvm.org/vncenter.

Mello awarded the German Embassy Teacher of Excellence Award

SOUTH BEND — The American Association of Teachers of German has announced that Melanie Mello of St. Joseph High School, the German Embassy Teacher of Excellence Award. This prestigious award, created in 2008 by the German Embassy in Washington, recognizes teachers who use modern teaching methods, utilize the newest media in class and motivate their students through a variety of techniques to gain a solid grasp of the German language. Only three instructors in the United States receive this award each year.

Mello will be honored at the annual convention of the American Council on the Teaching of German Languages in Florida later this fall. In addition, she will take part in a two-week professional development course in Germany, offered by the Goethe-Institut. While in Germany, Mello will “experience the country anew, gaining fresh stimuli on teaching techniques, culture and society and the German language” stated the American Association of Teachers of German website.

“Receiving the award is a great honor and opens the door for any of a number of future projects,” Mello commented.

Earlier this year, the Indiana Chapter of American Association of Teachers of German named Mello the German Rising Star. She was chosen because of her support to the teaching profession, her students and colleagues in German, and service to the AATG and IFLTA (Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association). Mello has been a member of the Saint Joseph High School faculty for five years.

Local man professes solemn vows in the Dominican order

WASHINGTON — Dominican Brother Innocent Vincent Smith, the son of Thomas and Markia Smith of South Bend, is one of a number of men who professed his solemn vows on Saturday, Aug. 10, at the Dominican House of Studies in Washington.

Brother Innocent professed his vows in the hands of Dominican Father Darre Pierre, the vicar provincial, alongside Dominican Brothers Boniface Endord, Cassian
ST. CATHERINE HOSTS ECUMENICAL GATHERING

St. Catherine of Alexandria, Nix Settlement, hosted a women’s ecumenical gathering on Sept. 16 in the parish hall. The 66 women in attendance came from Laud Christian Church, Washington Center United Methodist Church, Hope Lutheran Church, Pleasant Chapel Church, Satan Christian Church, Jefferson Chapel Church and St. Joseph Catholic Church, Roanoke. The St. Joseph ladies provided desserts for the meal. Father Dale Bauman, pastor of St. Catherine, gave the blessing. Following the meal, Ted Vesa provided entertainment with a talk and slideshow on bluebirds.

ST. CATHERINE PROVIDES DESSERTS FOR MEAL

Dale Bauman, pastor of St. Catherine, gave the blessing. Following the meal, Ted Vesa provided desserts for the meal. Father Dale Bauman, pastor of St. Catherine, gave the blessing. Following the meal, Ted Vesa provided entertainment with a talk and slideshow on bluebirds.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SHIRLEY SMITH
DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA ‘ROCK’ IN ELKHART, BRISTOL

The Daughters of Isabella Circle No. 434 held their first rock-a-thon on Sunday, Sept. 8, at St. Vincent de Paul in Elkhart and St. Mary of the Annunciation in Bristol to raise funds to assist their parish and people in need in their communities. The members asked for pledges from family and friends and rocked before and after the Sunday Masses. The Daughters of Isabella is a charitable organization of Catholic women founded on the principle of its motto: “Unity, Friendship and Charity.” In the photo, participant Patti Roberts is shown in the rocking chair.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY MEMBERS DISTRIBUTE COATS

South Bend Christ Child volunteer Kathleen Flynn Fox shows two sizes of coats for a client’s daughter. The South Bend Chapter of the Christ Child Society is a not-for-profit association of volunteers dedicated to the personal service and clothing of all needy children and infants in the love and spirit of the Christ Child.
Celebrate with us!
Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration

September 29, 2013
2 PM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
Celebrant: Rev. Daniel Scheidt
Reception Following
St. Francis Convent, Main Chapel
1515 W. Dragoon Trail, Mishawaka, IN 46544

October 13, 2013
2 PM Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
Celebrant: Most Rev. Kevin Rhoades
Reception Following
University of Saint Francis, North Campus
2702 Spring Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Our Presence in the Diocese

St. Patrick School.........................Largo..............1889-1895
University of Saint Francis............Fort Wayne ....1890-present
Holy Family School .......................Hartford City ...1909-1971
St. Andrew School.......................Fort Wayne ....1911-1971
St. John School.........................Goshen.........1917-1934
St. Mary School.........................Huntington ...1921-2000
Sacred Heart School...............South Bend ....1952-1960
St. John the Baptist School ........South Bend ....1956-1994

St. Therese School......................Fort Wayne ......1957-1986
Queen of Peace School ..........Mishawaka ......1958-1970
Marian High School................Mishawaka ......1964-present
Primary Day School................South Bend ....1968-1985
St. Anthony de Padua School ......South Bend ......2009-present
Franciscan Alliance Corp. Office...Mishawaka ......1974-present
Bishop Rhoades celebrates marriage at annual anniversary Mass

SOUTH BEND — Celebrating couples reaching milestone anniversaries in their marriage, the annual Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades was held on Sunday, Sept. 22, at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend.

Bishop Rhoades welcomed the couples and thanked them for their faithful witness to the Lord in the sacrament of Marriage.

God established marriage as a special reflection of His love. Bishop Rhoades told the faithful in the homily, “Marriage based on exclusive and definitive love is the icon (or image) of the relationship between God and His people…” (USCCB II). When we think of God’s love and Christian marital love, we realize it is not merely a sentiment or emotion. It involves both our intellect and our will. And it is something that is never finished and complete. It grows and matures through life, through ups and downs, joys and sorrows. Our anniversary couples can testify to this. It involves sacrifice. We see this in Jesus and His Passion and crucifixion — the total gift of Jesus the Bridegroom to His Bride, the Church. It’s what Pope Benedict called ‘love in its most radical form.’

St. Paul called upon husbands to love their wives as Christ loved the Church — totally, unto death.

“This is what you who are married promised when you exchanged your wedding vows: to love and honor each other until death do you part.” Bishop Rhoades said. “You pledged your love and fidelity for as long as you live.”

“Mutual married love is an image of the absolute and unfailing love with which God loves mankind,” he said. “Of course, we know that because of human sinfulness, our love is never as pure and deep as God’s perfect love. Yet, with the help of God’s grace in the sacrament of Marriage, you receive the strength and power to grow in love.”

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that couples receive grace from Marriage: “Christ dwells with them, gives them the strength to take up their crosses and so follow Him, to rise again after they have fallen, to forgive one another, to bear one another’s burdens, to be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ, and to love one another with supernatural, tender and fruitful love.”

Bishop Rhoades said, “The Mass is the perfect way to celebrate these wedding anniversaries because the Holy Eucharist is the sacrament of love.”

“We pray for all our anniversary couples,” Bishop Rhoades said, “that their love may continue to grow and that they may continue to cling to the unconditional promise they made on their wedding days. May God ‘who is love’ abide always in your hearts! May the love of Christ, present in the Holy Eucharist, move all married couples and all of us to ever greater heights of love!”

One couple celebrating a special anniversary this year is Laszlo and Clara Kocsis. They were married on Dec. 6, 1953 in Marjota, Hungary, and celebrating their 60th anniversary. The couple was married during communist rule in the small town where Clara grew up.

“At the time many couples didn’t want their names recorded in the church marriage book for fear of repercussions from the government. When the priest asked my husband if he wanted our names recorded, he gave a resounding, ‘Yes, Father.’ I knew that I had married a man of principle,” said Clara.

The couple settled down and began a family, but they feared for their safety. Laszlo had served with the freedom fighters during the war and had even been a prisoner. Under government oppression and often persecution of Christians, Laszlo and Clara dreamed of a better life for their growing family. Laszlo had several cousins in South Bend and they decided to leave everything they had ever known and migrate to the United States.

“At the time the United States government was eager to help people escape from communist society,” said Lazlo. “If you had a sponsor to help you, like we did, it made the process go faster.” In fact the couple and their two small children, Gabriella and Kinga spent a month in Austria and Germany and then were able to come to the United States.

“What a surprise it was to arrive in an open society. It was so different coming from a communist society,” said Laszlo. “We are so blessed to have such a wonderful family.”

The couple credits it their long marriage to “our faith in God and our similar backgrounds. We both grew up with the same faith and family values. We are lucky and we have been blessed,” said Lazlo.

It’s special to celebrate this anniversary,” Clara said. “We are happy to have our marriage blessed again at the special Mass.”

Other couples in attendance shared the Kocsis family’s views about the Mass. “What a beautiful celebration of marriage,” said Elizabeth Stanson.

“My husband Jeff and I have been married for 10 years. We have made it a tradition to come to this Mass every year. It reminds us of the strength we have in our marriage with Christ. It is also so inspiring to see the couples here celebrating real milestones in their lives.”

The Mass was followed by a reception for the couples and their families where Bishop Rhoades posed for photos with many of the couples.

Kenneth and Karen Amstutz, who are celebrating their 50th anniversary, receive a blessing at the Fort Wayne Anniversary Mass celebrated at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sept. 15. Msgr. Robert Schulte, rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, was the Mass celebrant.

The Anniversary Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral was followed by a reception for the couples and their families where Bishop Rhoades posed for photos with many of the couples.
Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration stand in prayer during the 150th anniversary Mass on Sept. 17.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is shown with Bishop Emeritus William L. Higi of Lafayette, Bishop Dale J. Melczek of Gary and Bishop Timothy L. Doherty of Lafayette.

Sister M. Rose Agnes Pfautsch was the reader at the 150th anniversary Mass.

The Sisters provide the music at the 150th anniversary Mass.
150 YEARS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the stigmata in terms of her life proceeding or coming forth from the wounds of St. Francis. … She embraced much suffering in her own life, and like St. Francis, with great faith she shared in the suffering of Jesus for the salvation of the world.”

Mother Maria Theresia felt a deep calling to live the Franciscan rule, rather than the Augustinian rule that was begun three years earlier. The saintly bishop of Paderborn, Conrad Martin, saw God’s hand in Mother Maria Theresia’s vision and thus proclaimed the Sisters of St. Francis.

Bishop Rhoades recalled the history of the sisters in the United States. At the invitation of Bishop Joseph Dwenger, five sisters were sent from Germany to the Diocese of Fort Wayne in 1875. Their mission began with the care of the sick in Lafayette, at that time part of the Diocese of Fort Wayne.

“Though poor and with little knowledge of English, those first missionary sisters trusted deeply in Divine Providence and began immediately their active apostolate of charity: educating children and caring for the sick,” Bishop Rhoades explained. “With a great pioneer spirit, the sisters, anchored always in prayer and Eucharistic Adoration, engaged in the active apostolate, beginning in Lafayette teaching in the German St. Boniface School and opening their first hospital, named in honor of the Franciscan saint, Elizabeth of Hungary.”

Bishop Rhoades acknowledged the support the sisters have given to the priestly vocation. “I have personally experienced this community’s beautiful support, love and prayers for priests. On behalf of all our priests, I thank you for your outstanding support of our priestly vocation. This celebration is all about you. This is your day.”

The celebration was attended by almost 100 of the 123 Sisters in the Mishawaka Province. A camera in the chapel allowed the sisters in the skilled nursing facility to participate in the Mass from their rooms.

After Mass, the celebration continued at the Gillespie Center. Sister Angela Mellady, mother superior of the province, spoke to the almost 400 people in attendance. She thanked Bishop Rhoades for celebrating the Mass for the sisters.

“Bishop Rhoades has been a faithful supporter of our mission,” Sister Angela said. “I thank him for coming today to celebrate this special occasion with us.” She also thanked the bishops from Lafayette and Gary for attending.

Many sisters were touched by the words of Bishop Rhoades. “The celebration was so impressive that the bishop thanked us for coming today to celebrate this special occasion with us.” She also thanked the bishops from Lafayette and Gary for attending.

Many sisters from other areas joined the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration for the anniversary Mass. Mother Ann Marie, a Dominican Sister of St. Cecilia from Nashville, Tenn., came to support the sisters. “What a wonderful celebration — so festive and jubilant. It is a great celebration for our Church,” she said. “These sisters are blessed by God.”

Other sisters shared Mother Ann Marie’s sentiments, including Sister Felicity Dorsett, who said, “What a blessing these sisters are to the community of God. Today is a beautiful celebration of their dedication.”

Sister Angela reflected on the jubilee of their community. “During this year of jubilee, we have reflected on the many ways God overflows us with His love. Mother Maria Theresia wanted us to remember that we are God’s instruments. All we do is for the greater honor and glory of God, and He will provide the grace for us to follow Him. Therefore, our motto for this jubilee year is: ‘With gratitude and in faith: He leads; I follow.'”

The jubilee year is especially rewarding for the sisters because their founder Mother Maria Theresia is scheduled to be beatified in Germany in November. Forty-eight of the sisters plan to attend the ceremony.

“With a special grace to have our beloved foundress, Mother Maria Theresia Benzzel, beatified during this jubilee year. We have tried to imbue ourselves more with her spirit and charism during this special year, grateful for our vocation to the community which she founded,” said Sister Angela.

The Sisters of Perpetual Adoration hosted a community celebration and reception in Mishawaka on Sept. 29 and will have their Fort Wayne celebration on Sunday, Oct. 13, at the University of Saint Francis. In Fort Wayne, there will be a Mass at 2 p.m. at the North Campus followed by a reception. For more information about the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration visit wwwssfpa.org.
An invitation from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Office of Evangelization and Special Ministries will offer a Day of Reflection for the Deaf on Saturday, Oct 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the St. Vincent de Paul Spiritual Center, 1502 East Wallen Road, Fort Wayne. Father Mike Depcik, from the Archdiocese of Detroit, one of only 10 deaf Catholic priests in the world, will offer inspirational talks, Confession and Mass - all in sign language. Cost is $20, which includes continental breakfast and lunch. Registration form and payment deadline is Oct. 7. This day of reflection is for Deaf participants only.

This day of reflection is for deaf participants only

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

Dignity and Respect for All – a Core Value of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Partners in the work of the Spirit www.poorhandmaids.org

FATHER PACHOLCZYK SPEAKS AT ICF DAYS FOR DIOCESAN SCHOOLS

Father Tad Pacholczyk from the National Catholic Bioethics Center and columnist for Today's Catholic was the keynote speaker at the 2013 Institute for Catechetical Formation held Sept. 23 at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend and Sept. 24 at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne. Teachers from diocesan Catholic schools and RCIA directors attended the institute. Father Pacholczyk, shown above at the Fort Wayne day, spoke about beginning of life issues — embryonic stem cells and in vitro fertilization — and end of life issues.

Father Tad Pacholczyk spoke to the teachers and RCIA directors in the South Bend area on Sept. 23 at Saint Joseph High School. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the Mass for the New Evangelization in South Bend and Fort Wayne. He told the teachers and educators of the diocese, “You are my partners in the great task of the New Evangelization here in our diocese as you assist in teaching our young people the Gospel of Jesus Christ.” He added, “Your vocation is so very important for the lives of our children and young people. For our evangelization to be effective, our witness is even more important than our words. We aren’t just to communicate information about God. We are to communicate God, God who is in our midst and present in our lives.”
Pope Francis emphasizes spreading the Gospel of Life in ‘context’

BY FREDERICK W. EVERETT, JD

Respect Life Month this October affords us an opportunity to reflect upon the pro-life movement in our country along with the Church’s mission in proclaiming, celebrating and serving the Gospel of Life — especially in light of recent comments by Pope Francis. In an interview recently published in Jesuit journals around the world, the supreme pontiff used the image of a field hospital to convey what is primary in the Church’s New Evangelization:

“The thing the Church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the Church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds; heal the wounds... And you have to start from the ground up.”

Understanding what is really ailing our culture must be the first step in effecting the change we so desperately seek. Certainly the pro-life movement has had many successes in saving hundreds of thousands — if not millions — of lives. Despite our successes in providing direct services through excellent agencies such as the Women’s Care Center; despite the passage of numerous state laws and regulations limiting the evil effects of abortion; and despite the reduction in the numbers of abortion clinics across the nation; there are still over a million unborn children killed each year in our country. In addition, more states are either considering or legalizing assisted suicide for patients — many of whom are often suffering from depression.

It has become apparent that passing laws that protect the life of every human being from conception until death will not be possible unless we change the direction of our culture — a culture that continues to yield to a growing and increasingly militant secularism. Only once the culture begins to turn back to God will the political process become less polarized and more open to a civil dialogue marked by truth and love. Only a new evangelization of our nation will be able to change the hearts of our younger citizens so as to aspire a culture of life.

So, what now? What is it that Pope Francis would have us do? If we have properly diagnosed the illness, we should be able to discern what will best treat it. If we look nationally at young adults who are in their early to mid-20s, a small minority of about 15 percent is strong in its faith and is trying to make a positive difference in our culture. On the other hand, about 40 percent of their peers can be described as religiously indifferent, disconnected or hostile. Most of the remaining 45 percent say that they still believe in God, but many simply do not know Him. They might think of Him as a cosmic force, a distant Creator, a helper in times of crisis or some form of Karma.

While this growing secularism is, of course, tragic, it also offers the Catholic Church an opportunity to reach out anew with the New Evangelization that Blessed John Paul inaugurated and that Pope Francis is now leading. This New Evangelization must be perceived as something new and inviting to all who have been wounded by our culture. It must be perceived as offering mercy and solidarity and not condemnation. This New Evangelization must be perceived as something new and inviting to all who have been wounded by our culture. It must be perceived as offering mercy and solidarity and not condemnation. To be authentic and attractive to others, the heart of this New Evangelization must be rooted in an intimate friendship with Jesus Christ, encountered daily in prayer and study. Getting to know Christ through the Scriptures, through the writings of the saints, through the sacraments of Eucharist and Penance, and through the daily recitation of the rosary are all important means of encountering Christ — but none of them can substitute for a daily period set aside for a heart to heart conversation with the Lord.

Let me illustrate this important point with an example. If you have ever seen a newly smitten young couple, you know that they have little problem in finding the time to communicate with each other. Especially with today’s technology, even if they cannot be together in the same physical location, they will text, call, Skype and visit each other’s Facebook page ad infinitum, and, even ad nauseam. If they are apart and they decide, for example, to Skype at a certain hour each day, if they are truly smitten, this will not be seen as some oppressive obligation. On the contrary, they will look forward to it. Such opportunities for communication are the lifeblood of any such relationship for it to grow in ardor.

The same is true with setting aside time each day for conversation with the Lord. Only a love that is passionate will attract others to the truth. The main work of the New Evangelization is to manifest the loving face of God to each person we encounter and to encourage others in their own relationship with God. This can only happen, though, if we have an intimate relationship with Him ourselves. To have this, we must know Him and love Him passionately. As St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross and other doctors of the Church have written, this comes through an ever deepening prayer life.

It is the conviction of the Church — a conviction upon which the pro-life movement rests — that God loves each human being — from the unborn child to the sick and elderly — with a passion that far exceeds that of lovers, spouses or parents.

However, for a friendship to form, that love must be reciprocated — even if it begins only as a small, tender shoot. What is this beginning according to the doctors of the Church? A friendship with God begins with an acknowledgement of His Lordship and the firm resolution not to offend Him in any serious way. For Christians, this begins with a firm resolution to accept the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to follow His commandments as taught by the Church.

Once a person has resolved to put God first, that person is much more open to learning about the Gospel of Life and much more willing to proclaim, celebrate and serve it in his or her own life. This is the “context” that Pope Francis believes will be the most fruitful. This does not mean that a person cannot be convinced of the truth of the Gospel of Life on its own terms without such a deep conversion of heart, but, in my experience, such people will tend to be more intellectually minded than most. This does not mean that the Church should stop making its case from reason in the public square, but that the Church must be careful in not letting this effort eclipse evangelizing others in the faith.

Once a person is on this trajectory of spiritual growth and renewal, he or she goes beyond simply resolving not to offend God in serious matters. The next step is a firm resolution not to offend God in any matter regardless of the cost followed by the final step of resolving to please Him in every matter despite any preferences to the contrary. At this stage, a person can begin to sincerely say along with the saints that they would rather die a thousand deaths, than do anything to displease God. This is the type of ardor, the type of passionate love of God that can begin to break through and destroy the secularism that is slowly choking our culture.

What the pro-life movement most needs today are modern saints who radiate the truth and love of God. Nothing else will do. With Pope Francis, let us all rededicate ourselves to this great mission of our times.

Frederick W. Everett, JD, is the co-director of the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

“A New Evangelization must be perceived as something new and inviting to all who have been wounded by our culture. It must be perceived as offering mercy and solidarity and not condemnation.”

— Pope Francis, for the occasion of the annual Day for Life in Britain and Ireland, held on July, 2013

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

A.J.’s mother was planning to have an abortion until she came to Women’s Care Center.

Women’s Care Center
Helping women choose life

Centers in Fort Wayne, South Bend, Elkhart, Mishawaka, Plymouth and Bremen
womenscarecenterfoundation.org

Abortion cannot be a human right... it is the very opposite.
-CARDINAL FRANZ KÖNIG

St. Joseph County Right to Life, Inc.
2004 Ironwood Circle, Suite 130
South Bend 46635
(574) 232-5433
Life@Prolifemichiana.org
RESPECT LIFE
“The gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus’ message...it is to be preached with dauntless fidelity; as ‘good news’ to the people of every age and culture.”
-Pope John Paul II

St. Patrick Church
ARCOLA

May
Saint Aloysius
Patron of Catholic Youth
Intercede for Pro Life advocates and bring about increased understanding and respect for human life in all stages.
St. Aloysius Parish
YODER

May our Respect Life prayers invite the Holy Spirit to visit those who mistakenly believe that their support of abortion is righteous.

Holy Family Parish
South Bend

“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.
You were appointed to my agricultural purposes, and how can I now refuse you? The purpose of the Lord is powerful, and the work of the Lord is wondrous!”
-Jeremiah 1:5

Praying For Life • From Conception • To Natural Death
The Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus’ message. Lovingly received day after day by the Church, it is to be preached with dauntless fidelity as “good news” to the people of every age and culture.

As we look forward to the canonization of Blessed John Paul II this coming spring, it seems fitting to consider what a debt we owe as a Church to this man whom the Holy Spirit placed on the chair of Peter as a champion of human love and human life at a critical time in history.

“As a young priest, I learned to love human love,” Pope John Paul once reflected. He counted many married couples among his friends, and when he was appointed chaplain for the university students in his diocese, he took small groups of young people camping among the lakes and ski slopes of the Tatra mountains. There was singing and dancing and when he was appointed chaplain, Karol Wojtyla participated via written reflections, a stroke of Providence, which gave him enormous influence on the writing of “Humanae vitae,” the landmark encyclical which reaffirmed the conscience of the new life.

When he became pope in 1978, Karol Wojtyla lost no time in the making the pastoral care of marriage and the family one of his main priorities. In the first three years of his pontificate, in fact, he launched five major initiatives regarding the family. First, in September of 1979 he started his series of Wednesday audience catecheses that came to be known as the “theology of the body,” a primary purpose of which was to give a deeper and more beautiful basis to the Church’s understanding of the moral norm prohibiting contraception. Second, in 1980, he convened an international synod of bishops on the family. Third, in 1981, he inaugurated the Pontifical Council for the Family and, fourth, he authored the apostolic exhortation, “Familiaris consortio,” on the role of the Christian family in the modern world. In this document, he laid out a breathtaking vision for the family as a community of persons at the service of love and life. When presenting difficult issues like contraception, he referred to the Church as both teacher and mother.

“In the field of conjugal morality the Church is Teacher and Mother and acts as such. As Teacher, she never tires of proclaiming the moral norm that must guide the responsible transmission of life. The Church is in no way the author or the arbiter of this norm. … As Mother, the Church is close to the many married couples who find themselves in difficulty over this important point of the moral life … she knows that many couples encounter difficulties not only in the concrete fulfillment of the moral norm but even in understanding its inherent values. But it is one and the same Church that is both Teacher and Mother. And so the Church never ceases to exhort and encourage all to resolve whatever conjugal difficulties may arise without ever falsifying the Gospel truth: she is convinced that there can be no true contradiction between the two.

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

JOHN PAUL II, Evangelium Vitae

Sacred Heart Basilica
NOTRE DAME

OctOber 6, 2013

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

JOHN PAUL
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

divine law on transmitting life and that on fostering authentic married love.” Later on he would reflect that the motherly love of the Church consists in being close to people and all that happens to them, bringing their human needs within the radius of Christ’s saving power, as did Our Lady at the wedding at Cana. There, Mary, the model of the Church, acted as both mother and teacher, noticing the need of the newlyweds and interceding with her Son, but also giving a clear directive to the servants, “Do whatever He tells you.”

It was to Our Lady, in fact, that John Paul the Great entrusted the cause of life, and it was on one of her feast days that he planned to announce his fifth major initiative for the family. He was on his way to the Wednesday audience on May 13, 1981 to announce the establishment in Rome of a Pontifical Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family when the would-be assassin struck. Months later, the Holy Father entrusted the Institute to Our Lady of Fatima, who he credited with saving his life that day. Many years later, in 1994, when the Holy See was battling to keep contraception and abortion from being defined as universal human rights by the United Nations, Pope John Paul connected the attack on his life with the attack on the family: “I understand that I have to lead Christ’s Church into the Third Millennium through prayer, by various programs. But I saw that this is not enough; she must be led by suffering, by the attack 13 years ago. The Pope has to be attacked. Why now? Why in the Year of the Family? Precisely because the family is threatened, the family is under attack. The Pope has to suffer, be attacked, so that every family may see that there is a higher Gospel, the Gospel of suffering by which the future is prepared . . . .”

Blessed John Paul II often repeated his conviction that the future of humanity passes by way of the family. In his “Letter to Families” to mark the United Nations Year of the Family in 1994, he wrote that “the family is placed at the centre of the great struggle between good and evil, between life and death, between love and all that is opposed to love.”

He took up this theme again the following year in his encyclical “Evangelium Vitae,” the “Gospel of Life,” calling upon the family to become “the ‘sanctuary of life,’ the place in which life — the gift of God — can be properly welcomed and protected against the many attacks to which it is exposed, and can develop in accordance with what constitutes authentic human growth. Consequently the role of the family in building a culture of life is decisive and irreplaceable.”

During Respect Life month, as the Year of Faith draws to a close, let us take to heart the appeal addressed to each of us by soon-to-be-saint John Paul the Great: “I look with renewed confidence to every household and I pray that at every level a general commitment to support the family will reappear and be strengthened, so that today too — even amid so many difficulties and serious threats — the family will always remain, in accordance with God’s plan, the ‘sanctuary of life.’”

Lisa Everett is co-director of the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
Resolving to follow Christ

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lk 17:5-10

This weekend’s first reading is from the Book of Habakkuk, his complaint among the prophets about shortsightedness, including only three chapters. In some cases, little is known about the author of a given book. In this case, the prophet identifies himself by name (Hab 1:1, 3:1). However, this hardly statics all other questions. Who was Habakkuk?

Some experts believe Habakkuk was a prophet associated with the temple in Jerusalem. When did he write? The most accepted opinion is that Habakkuk wrote this work in the latter part of the 7th century B.C. At the time, the struggles among the great powers of the Middle East were numerous and intense, and the small Jewish community was threatened in the accompanying clash. It is not hard to imagine fear and anxiety among the people of God, and desperation and confusion easily led them away from strict obedience to God. Like the other prophets, Habakkuk appealed to the contemporaries to call for God to protect the uncertain international situation. The prophet insists, however, that the “just” will survive.

Paul’s second Epistle to Timothy gives us the second reading. In this letter, the Apostle Paul reminds Timothy of the strength available to him as a disciple. Instead of the referent of a command or a request, the use of the present tense for the verb “to pray” (1 Thess 5:23) is used instead. It is used to direct Timothy’s attention to the importance of prayer as a way to strengthen his own life and to mediate God’s presence in the world. Prayer is thus presented as a vital aspect of Christian life and ministry, and it is emphasized that it is a crucial element in establishing and maintaining a strong spiritual foundation.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the prayer of Habakkuk is a powerful reminder of the need for perseverance in the face of adversity. It is a call to trust in God’s sovereignty and to rely on his strength even in the midst of uncertainty and suffering. The prayer is a model for all who seek to follow Christ, and it provides a source of comfort and encouragement during times of difficulty. Together, the first and second readings offer a powerful message of faith and hope, calling us to trust in God’s provision and to participate actively in ministry and proclamation. May we be inspired by the faith and courage of Habakkuk and Timothy, and may we respond with prayer and dedication to the service of God’s kingdom.
Everyday continued from page 19

best as he could. He encouraged me and called or showed up at my chemo appointments to check up, I felt safe in that fraternal care.

Brother No. 1 (the businessman) is a fast talker. He’s what business writers call a “connector.” He networks. He juggles. He’s up at 4:30 a.m. doing entrepreneurial activities and is always busy with something — reading, networking, playing handball at lunch. He’s got crazy ideas, one of which was to fly our entire family out to California to visit his son (our nephew) and David’s and my son, to get us together growing up. “Frick and Frack,” you might say. They have the same high school friends. They finish each other’s sentences.

Once, we were playing Pictionary and my husband had only drawn one line and a curve, when my Other Brother jumped up, guessing the answer correctly, “Den! It’s a lion’s den!” he yelled. They think this way, you see, as if their minds were connected, because I think in some way they are. The two will often talk on the car phone all the way into work, which takes 30 minutes. When I want to talk to the eds, I’ll bring it up with this Other Brother, whom I’ve grown close to. He mostly shares my political opinions, but is finer in expressing it. When we don’t agree, we’ll argue — just like I will with my biological brothers.

The attributes of Other Brothers are much like the attributes of biological brothers:

• They tease.
• They offer strong opinions.
• They open doors for you and offer you drinks when you are in social situations with them.

• You can commiserate together.

• You learn from each other.

• They will stick up for you or they’ll challenge you. There are benefits to each.

• You will journey through life together, through ups and downs, through births and deaths.

A biological brother becomes one by chance. An Other Brother becomes one by choice — you pick your spouse and he’s simply part of the package. I think God orchestrates this all a little bit. He knows how we need to love and grow and be challenged. And He knows when we need to be looked out for and protected. And for these reasons and many more, that’s why he gives us Other Brothers.

“Let brotherly love continue.” (Heb 13:4)

“… a brother is born for adversity. (Prov 17:17)

“… he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. (1 Jn 4:20)
Mishawaka Saints vs. the Crusaders

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — Coaching rivals for almost two decades, John Krzyzewski and Toni Violi, prepared their teams for a showdown at Father Bly Field at Saint Joseph High School as the undefeated Mishawaka Catholic Saints squared off against the Crusaders of Holy Cross-Christ the King. Battles in the past have had grave implications in determining regular-season champions and playoff byes. This matchup would be yet another footnote in the long line of players that have donated the majestic purple and gold of the Saints and the bold black and white of the Crusaders.

The Saints would boast a bruising line and a couple of big backs, while the Crusaders would pin their hopes on a fine running and the arm of quarterback Drew Sutton. The Saints would not have the same fortunes as their counterparts on their opening drive. The stingy Saint defense stumped running back Hunter West and gave fits to quarterback Sutton forcing the Holy Cross-Christ the King squad to punt after only three plays.

That big question would be if the Crusaders could stop the inside power game of the Saints. The answer would be yes as a wall of black stuffed the Mishawaka Catholic march on consecutive plays at the 10-yard line to take over on downs.

The Crusader offense started to chip away at the purple mountain with first down runs by West. But the Holy Cross-Christ the King campaign would be cut short after an incomplete pass, giving the Saints the ball around midfield with a mere 1:01 left in the half. That miniscule amount of time proved to be too many tics as Cataldo burst through heavy traffic and crossed the goal line with under 60 seconds left in the half, giving the Saints a 12-0 lead at the half.

The Crusaders started the half by going to their fluent back — West — but to no avail, again putting the ball to the Saint defense denied the comeback attempt and secured the game and the inside track as the league champs.

“We didn’t do a good job of tackling today. He made contact in the backfield and didn’t wrap up,” assessed Krzyzewski. “The Inter-City Catholic League competition comes down to a couple of plays.”

The opening 59-yard drive was capped as Saint quarterback Cam Cataldo burst through heavy traffic and crossed the goal line with under 60 seconds left in the half, giving the Saints a 12-0 lead at the half.

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The Crusaders started the half by going to their fluent back — West — but to no avail, again putting the ball to the Saint defense denied the comeback attempt and secured the game and the inside track as the league champs. Considering your burial needs now will save your loved ones from making those difficult decisions.

At the Catholic Cemetery, we understand that death is often more difficult for the living than for the faithfully departed. We invite you to consider your burial needs thoughtfully and without pressure now, before the need arises, relieving others of those difficult decisions.

Not only will pre-arranging your burial ensure that your final wishes will be honored, but for a limited time the Catholic Cemetery is offering 10% off in-ground grave spaces, opening/closing and vaults or $250 off single crypt spaces (above ground entombment) or $75 off single niche (cremains) spaces.

Call Larry Fisher at 260.426.2044 for an appointment or visit the Cemetery Office at 3500 Lake Avenue from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
CYO football in review

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Fans got their money’s worth Saturday night, Sept. 21, at Luers Field, watching the Jerry Bowl game under the lights. The annual contest is dedicated to the memory of longtime coach Jerry Krouse.

The St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SJFW) Eagles held on to beat a hard-hitting St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth/St. Aloysius/St. Therese (JAT) squad, 19-12, taking the final lead with three seconds remaining on the clock.

A pleased Coach Jim Carroll detailed, “Both teams played hard and fought to the end. I’m happy our Eagle kids didn’t flinch and ground out that last score for the win. It was an exciting, competitive, thrilling game. This is developmental football and it’s rewarding when you see flashes of brilliance in these young players.”

In the win LaShon Brite threw two beautiful TD passes to Deshawn Bussell. Brite then scored the winning points on a 5-yard quarterback run. Dominic Easley and Chase Roffelson led the Eagles in the trenches.

“There were tons of penalties and mistakes that we need to fix from the game, so we’ll grab our lunch pails and hard hats and get back to work,” Carroll summarized.

On Sunday, St. Charles improved to 3-2 with a 36-14 win over St. Jude. Eddie Morris was 7-10 for 133 yards and two touchdown tosses to Bradley Black and Collin Reed. T.J. Tippmann and Will Nelson added rushing touchdowns for Coach Sam Talarico’s Cardinals.

St. Charles will have a bye for Week 6 before squaring off with their North Side rivals, the St. Vincent Panthers, in the final contest of the regular season on Sunday, Oct. 6. The final week of play will also be a battle of the unbeaten between Holy Cross and SJFW who improved to a 5-0 record after a win over the group from Queen of Angels/PB/St. John New Haven on Sunday, Sept. 29. In the win for the Eagles, touchdowns were scored by Brite, Bussell, Taryeon Hambright and Carney Greer.

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Please be generous!
Soup kitchen ministry plans fundraiser

Fort Wayne — St. Mary Parish will have a soup kitchen fundraiser Saturday, Oct. 19, from 3-10 p.m. in the parish hall. 50/50 raffles, silent auction, food, beer and wine will be offered. Music by Spike and Bulldogs. All proceeds will benefit the soup kitchen and the Ave Maria House which serves the needs of the poor.

School auction and ball planned

Wabash — St. Bernard School Ball and Auction will be held Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Honeywell Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St., in Wabash. Doors open at 6 p.m. with cocktails and dinner at 6:45 p.m. Cash raffle drawing and the live auction will follow. The silent auction continues as guests are entertained by Beyond Recognition featuring Mark Ford and Joe Munson. The event provides scholarships and aid to the school. Call (260) 563-5746 for reservations.

Trunk or treat Halloween party planned

Wabash — St. Bernard’s Knights of Columbus will sponsor a Halloween party at the hall, 595 S. Huntington St., on Saturday, Oct. 26, at 5:30 p.m. Candy treats, games organized by HASA, a hayride and hot dogs will be provided.

St. Hedwig Polish Festival

South Bend — St. Hedwig Parish will have a festival at the Hedwig Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. A polka Mass at 11 a.m. will be followed by games, raffles and food.

Catholic Business Network Group

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, Oct. 4, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel. Mass will be followed in the Cathedral Center by guest speaker Dave Steffen with Lupke Rice Insurance-Financial and also a member of the Board of Directors for Redeemer Radio who will be speaking about “Evanglcal Catholicism.” Refreshments will be provided by Redeemer Radio.

Cone and see weekend planned

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods — The Sisters of Providence will have a cone and see weekend Oct. 18-20 at the motherhouse. Single, Catholic women ages 18-42 are invited to spend a weekend retreat, including lodging, free. Visit SistersofProvidence.org for information or contact Sister Editha Ben at (812) 535-2895.

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

Scouts offer the Haunted Castle and Black Forest

Fort Wayne — The Haunted Castle and Black Forest is open weekends to Nov. 3. Visit www.hauntedcastle.com for information. Special group and family rate forms available on the website. Bring a canned good for $1 off regular price of admission. Sponsored by the St. Vincent Boy Scouts at 8965 Auburn Rd.

Knights to host pancake breakfast

Granger — The Knights of Columbus Council 4263 will host a pancake breakfast on Sunday, Oct. 13, after the 8:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses in the St. Pius X auxiliary gym. Adults $6, children ages 6-10 $3 and children under 5 free.

Back to the Eighties

Fort Wayne — St. Jude HASA is hosting “Back to the Eighties, for the Future of St. Jude School” on Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Scout Park Conference Center, 2300 Meyer Rd., and will include beverages, heavy hors d’oeuvres, live music (performed by Father Jake Runyon) and dancing. New this year is a raffle for a $500 “tuition credit,” photo booth and prizes for best costumes. Tickets $20 in advance at the school office, or $25 at the door. Contact Christine Nix at (260) 493-4798 or cjnix4@frontier.com for information.

Fall cleanup announced

South Bend — The Sacred Heart Cemetery, corner of Western Ave. and Pine Rd., will conduct the fall cleanup Oct. 21 through Oct. 26. Remove all spring and summer decorations from the graves by this time.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends announced

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the special time and tools to rekindle the flames of your marriage. The next weekend is Nov. 8-10, at Quality Inn in Fort Wayne. The 2014 weekends are Feb. 14-16 at the Baymont Inn in Elkhart and March 21-23 at the Quality Inn in Fort Wayne. For more information visit www.wmene-ni.org or call Greg and Norma Geramm at (574) 287-6432.

Knights plan fish fry

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Oct. 4, from 5-7 p.m. Adults $8, children (5-12) $3. Chicken strips for $8 and shrimp for $8.50 will be available.

Bishop Ken C. Rhodes to preside at the South Bend Red Mass

Notre Dame — The Red Mass will take place at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, on Monday, Oct. 7, at 5:15 p.m. A reception will follow at the Eck Hall of Law, Eck Commons (second floor). The public is invited.

Fundraiser to be held for Sam Dailey

Columbia City — A hog roast fundraiser will be held at the Whitley County 4-H fairgrounds on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 4-9 p.m. Proceeds will help defray the ongoing medical expenses of Sam Dailey, a senior at Columbia City High School, who is recovering from a traumatic brain injury suffered during a football game on Aug. 23. Free will donations appreciated. For updates on Dailey’s recovery visit http://doitfordailey.org.

The Mystery and Humor of God in Nature Donaldson — MoonTree Studios will offer an opening reception for the exhibit “The Mystery and Humor of God in Nature” by Rev. Richard Zollinger, to be held Saturday, Oct. 5, from 1-3 p.m. The exhibit of photographs will be displayed at MoonTree Gallery through Nov. 3.

Rosary to be prayed for the nation

Warsaw — A public rosary will be prayed Saturday, Oct. 12, on the Kosciusko County Courthouse square, at the corner of Buffalo and Winona and at Central Park Gardens at noon. Contact (574) 452-3143 for information.
The truth of the Eucharist revealed as...

"Science Tests Faith"

This DVD presents the findings from the investigation of a Eucharistic miracle commissioned by Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1999. This Cardinal is now known to the world as Pope Francis!

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JUDE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

beauty of our Catholic faith. This renovation … reflects your appreciation of the beauty of our faith, a beauty that is expressed in your newly-renovated church.”

Bishop Rhoades noted during his homily that the Catholic Church is built on the foundation of the Twelve Apostles. We are reminded by St. Paul, he added, that as Christians we are members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets, with Christ Himself as the cornerstone.

Bishop Rhoades reminded those in attendance that the sacred space was not merely a gathering place or assembly hall.

“Rather, this building signifies and makes visible the Church living in this place, the Christian community of St. Jude, the members of which are called, as all Catholics are called, to be built into a spiritual house and to be ourselves temples of the living God. … In this house of God, this house of prayer, your spiritual home, may God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be worshipped in spirit and in truth.”

During the Mass the bishop also revisited the history of the parish. Originally called St. James, its name was changed two years after it was founded in 1948 by Bishop Leo J. Parsley. A small church was built that quickly became too small, and then a larger structure was built. Soon, a school was added.

Father John Delaney, pastor, expressed contentment with the outcome of the renovation.

“Titled “Our Time to Build,” the capital campaign project began in 2012 at the initiative of Father Delaney. A three-year capital campaign has raised almost $3.4 of the $3.9 million to bring the long-awaited improvements to fruition. In addition to their regular pledges, many parishioners donated funds for additional items needed that were not part of the originally planned improvements. It is hoped that donations will also come in for a new bike rack for the school.

New flooring, lighting and décor are complete and a sound system is functioning. A number of finishing touches still need to be put into place such as two custom mosaics of Blessed John Paul II and St. André Bessette, and custom-painted oils of the Stations of the Cross.

Over the summer Father Delaney blessed a new cross and bell tower.

Once the state has certified a new elevator, worshippers with physical limitations will be able to participate fully in all functions of the parish.

“I’ve always loved St. Jude’s. You have a great parish,” Bishop Rhoades said at the close of the dedication Mass. “How grateful I am for the leadership of your pastor, who has put his heart and soul into this project. Thank you, Father Delaney. And thank you to each of you, for your profound demonstration of faithfulness.”

An open house event is being planned 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 27, so that members of the community, neighbors and future students and their families may take a look at what has transpired inside both the church and the school during the construction period.

Three new stained-glass windows depicting Jesus and the children, the Divine Mercy image and the Holy Family of Nazareth were blessed by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at St. Jude Church in South Bend on Sept. 29.