



Witnesses to life

Advocates rally for the unborn

Pages 8-14

New cardinals named

Formal induction set Feb. 22

Page 3

Indiana Catholic Conference

This year's session and preschool vouchers

Pages 4-5

Babies baptized

Pope encourages motherhood, family

Page 6

Novena for Life

U.S. bishops encourage prayers

Page 11

Blessing

St. Jude Church stations

Page 20

January 19, 2014

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Bishop declares Our Lady of Lourdes as Marian patron



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades gathers with Principal Carl Loesch, chaplain Father Chris Lapp and student leaders of Marian High School at a Jan. 9 pastoral visit.

Feasibility study considers Catholic middle/high school in center of diocese

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — Would a Catholic middle and high school be feasible for the center of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend? A consulting group at the request of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is studying that question.

The diocese currently has four Catholic high schools: two in Fort Wayne and two in South Bend. There is no Catholic high school in the center of the diocese, and only one of the Catholic grade schools

STUDY, PAGE 7

Bishop names patron saints for all diocesan high schools

BY TRISH LINNER

MISHAWAKA — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades made his first pastoral visit of the new year to Marian High School on Thursday, Jan. 9, to celebrate Mass, visit with students and faculty and announce the new patron saint — Our Lady of Lourdes — for the Mishawaka school.

Bishop Rhoades will be visiting all four diocesan Catholic high schools to announce the patron saint at each school. "This is something I have thought about for a long time. I am excited about what this will mean for the students," Bishop Rhoades said.

Our Lady of Lourdes is a title of the Blessed Mother in honor of the apparitions witnessed by Bernadette Soubirous, a 14-year-old peasant girl from the nearby village of Lourdes. The

first apparition appeared to her in the cave of Massabielle while she was gathering firewood with her sister and a family friend on Feb. 11,

1858. Our Lady appeared to Bernadette 18 times during that year. Numerous healings also were credited to the spring water that Bernadette found after Our Lady instructed her to dig in the ground. Bernadette was later canonized as a saint. In

1862, Pope Pius IX authorized Bishop Bertrand-Sévère Laurence to permit the veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Lourdes.

See Bishop Rhoades' column, In Truth and Charity, page 2

MARIAN, PAGE 20

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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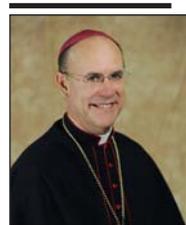
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Patron saints for our diocesan high schools



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

Each year, I thoroughly enjoy my official visits to our wonderful four diocesan high schools. I also enjoy “un-official” visits for various events. I try to visit Saint Joseph High School in South Bend on March 19th every year, the feast of the school’s patron, Saint Joseph. It is a special day of celebration there. I have been thinking for some time that it would be good for each of our high schools to have a patron saint and feast day. I have decided, after consultation with the principals, to name patron saints for all the high schools. The titles of the schools remain the same.

Of course, Saint Joseph is the patron saint of Saint Joseph High School. Both the name of the school and the title of the chapel is “Saint Joseph.” I believe that the devotion of the Holy Cross Brothers, who originally staffed the high school, to Saint Joseph influenced the naming of the school. The feast day of the high school, therefore, is the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary, on March 19th.

It is clear that the patron saint of Marian High School is the Blessed Virgin Mary, since the title of the school is “Marian.” However, the school is not named with any particular title of Mary nor does the school have a particular patronal feast day. I have, therefore, decided to designate Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Lourdes, as the patron of Marian High School. The feast day of the high school will be celebrated each year on February 11th, the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes. I have seen the wonderful devotion of young people to Our Lady of Lourdes, particularly at World Youth Day a few years ago when we spent a few days in Lourdes prior to the event in Madrid. Saint Bernadette, a teenager when Our Lady appeared to her, is a wonderful example for our youth.

Bishop Luers High School was originally staffed by the Franciscan Order. The community has always had a special devotion to Saint Francis of Assisi, therefore, I have decided to designate Saint Francis of Assisi as the patron of Bishop Luers High School. The feast day of Bishop Luers High School will be celebrated each year on October 4th, the Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi. The new chapel, presently being planned, will also have the title of Saint Francis of Assisi. The popular Saint Francis is an ideal role model for our young people who inspires all to live the Gospel of Jesus in simplicity and humility.

Bishop Dwenger High School students and teams are called “the Saints.” I have decided, therefore, to designate the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title Queen of All Saints, as the patron of Bishop Dwenger High School. The feast day of Bishop Dwenger High School will be celebrated each year on August 22nd, the Memorial of



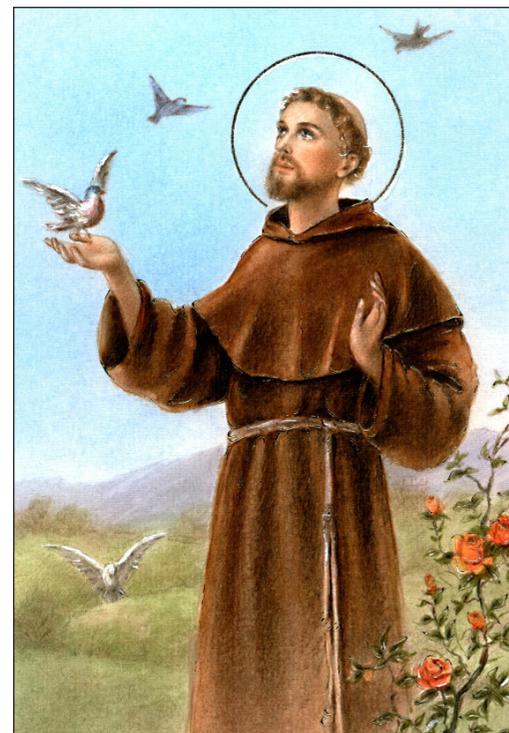
BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL, QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS



SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL, ST. JOSEPH



MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL, OUR LADY OF LOURDES



BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL, ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The new chapel, presently being planned, will also have the title of “Queen of All Saints.”

I am designating these patrons for our high schools in order to promote the veneration of these wonderful saints and also to implore their intercession for our high school communities. The veneration of the saints fosters our sanctification and growth in holiness. Their example helps us in living the Christian life. I also think it is good that the high schools have a patronal feast day, as Saint Joseph High School does, in order to celebrate their Catholic identity in a special way each year.

It is good to remember the following words of the Second Vatican Council about the saints:
To look on the life of those who have

faithfully followed Christ is to be inspired with a new reason for seeking the city which is to come, while at the same time we are taught to know a most safe path by which ... we will be able to arrive at perfect union with Christ, that is, holiness. God shows to us, in a vivid way, his presence and his face in the lives of those companions of ours in the human condition who are more perfectly transformed into the image of Christ. He speaks to us in them and offers us a sign of this kingdom, to which we are powerfully attracted, so great a cloud of witnesses is there given and such a witness to the truth of the Gospel. (Lumen Gentium #50)

May Saint Joseph, Our Lady of Lourdes, Saint Francis of Assisi, and Our Lady, Queen of All Saints, intercede for us and our Catholic high school communities!



Pastor resigns after allegation of sexual abuse of minor

Father James Seculoff, pastor of Saint Patrick Parish in Walkerton, has resigned from the office of pastor after being accused of sexual abuse of a minor, alleged to have taken place approximately 44 years ago.

After receiving the allegation, the diocese conducted a preliminary investigation in accord with the norms of the Church and diocesan policy. The investigation revealed sufficient evidence that the abuse did occur. Bishop Rhoades sought the advice of the Diocesan Review Board which examined the evidence and advised the bishop in the assessment of the allegation as credible.

As required by Church law, the diocese has notified both civil authorities and the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The norms of the Church also require that Father Seculoff be withdrawn from the public exercise of the sacred ministry while the canonical process continues.

If anyone has been the victim of sexual abuse by a member of the clergy, please contact the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Glowaski, at 260-399-1458 or the Vicar General, Monsignor Robert Schulte, at 260-422-4611.



Priest appointment

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has appointed **Father Jan Klimczyk** as Administrator of Saint Patrick Parish, Walkerton, effective January 15, 2014.

Pope names 19 new cardinals, including six from Latin America

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis named 19 new cardinals, including the archbishops of Westminster and Quebec and six men from his home region of Latin America, and announced a consistory for their formal induction into the College of Cardinals Feb. 22.

The pope announced the nominations to the faithful in St. Peter's Square shortly after noon Jan. 12, after praying the Angelus.

The consistory will bring the total number of cardinals to 218 and the number of cardinals under age 80 to 122. Until they reach their 80th birthdays, cardinals are eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope.

Two current cardinal electors will turn 80 in March, bringing the number of electors back to the limit of 120 set by Pope Paul VI. (Other popes have occasionally exceeded that limit for short periods of time.)

Five of the new electors are from Latin America, an increase by one-third of the current number from the region. Latin America, home to about 40 percent of the world's Catholics, will account for 16 percent of the group eligible to choose the next pope.

Four of the new cardinal electors are from Italy, leaving that nation's share practically unchanged at nearly a quarter.

Four new cardinal electors are Vatican officials, three of them in offices that traditionally entail membership in the college.

Another three of the new cardinals are already over the age of 80 and, therefore, ineligible to vote in a conclave. The pope uses such nominations to honor churchmen for their scholarship or other service to



CNS PHOTO/MARCIN MAZUR, BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Archbishop Vincent Nichols of Westminster celebrates Mass at the closing of the Year of Faith in November 2013 in London. He is among 19 new cardinals named by Pope Francis Jan. 12.

the Church.

Among the new so-called honorary cardinals is Cardinal-designate Loris Capovilla, who served as personal secretary to Blessed John XXIII.

Here is the list of the new cardinals:

- Italian Archbishop Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, who will turn 59 Jan. 17.
- Italian Archbishop Lorenzo Baldisseri, general secretary of the Synod of Bishops, 73.
- German Archbishop Gerhard Muller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, 66.
- Italian Archbishop Beniamino Stella, prefect of the Congregation for Clergy, 72.
- English Archbishop Vincent Nichols of Westminster, 68.
- Nicaraguan Archbishop Leopoldo Brenes Solorzano of Managua, 64.
- Canadian Archbishop Gerald Lacroix of Quebec, 56.

- Ivorian Archbishop Jean-Pierre Kutwa of Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 68.
- Brazilian Archbishop Orani Tempesta of Rio de Janeiro, 63.
- Italian Archbishop Gualtiero Bassetti of Perugia-Citta della Pieve, 71.
- Argentine Archbishop Mario Poli of Buenos Aires, 66.
- Korean Archbishop Andrew Yeom Soo-jung of Seoul, 70.
- Chilean Archbishop Ricardo Ezzati Andrello of Santiago, 72.
- Burkina Faso Archbishop Philippe Ouédraogo of Ouagadougou, 68.
- Philippine Archbishop Orlando Quevedo of Cotabato, 74.
- Haitian Bishop Chibly Langlois of Les Cayes, 55.
- Italian Archbishop Capovilla, 98.
- Spanish Archbishop Fernando Sebastian Aguilar, retired, of Pamplona, 84.
- Saint Lucian Archbishop Kelvin Felix, retired, of Castries, 80.



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Tuesday, January 21, 3 p.m. — Mass for Diocesan Participants at March for Life, Saint Matthew Cathedral, Washington, D.C.
- Wednesday, Jan. 22, 9:30 a.m. — Youth Mass before March for Life, Verizon Center, Washington, D.C.

Bishop Rhoades to celebrate Memorial Mass for Bishop D'Arcy

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate a Memorial Mass for Bishop John M. D'Arcy at 12:05 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 3 — the first anniversary of the passing of Bishop D'Arcy. The Mass will take place at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, and all the faithful are welcome to attend. After Mass, the annual blessing of throats for the feast of St. Blaise will be offered.



In addition, the Cathedral Choir will perform the Requiem Mass by Gabriel Fauré in memory of Bishop D'Arcy at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 2, (the anniversary of Bishop D'Arcy's priestly ordination) in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Admission is free, and all are invited to attend.

Diocese gains preliminary relief in HHS Lawsuit

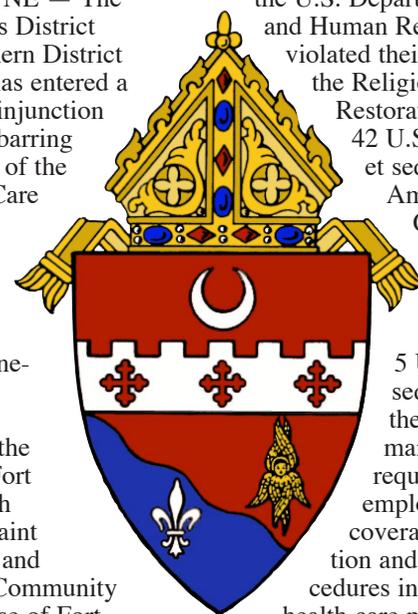
FORT WAYNE — The United States District Court, Northern District of Indiana, has entered a preliminary injunction temporarily barring enforcement of the Affordable Care Act's contraceptive mandate against the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Inc., Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Inc., Franciscan Alliance, Inc., Specialized Physicians of Illinois, LLC, University of Saint Francis and Our Sunday Visitor, Inc.

The court's order was filed, Friday, Dec. 27 by Judge Jon DeGuilio.

The plaintiffs had filed their first amended verified complaint seeking declaratory and injunctive relief claiming that the government defendants — including Kathleen Sebelius in her capacity as Secretary of

the U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources — have violated their rights under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000bb et seq., the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. § 500 et seq., by enacting the "contraception mandate," which requires certain employers to provide coverage for contraception and sterilization procedures in their employee health care plans on a no-cost-sharing basis, or face stiff financial penalties and the risk of enforcement actions for the failure to do so.

The defendants have moved to dismiss the amended complaint. By granting a preliminary injunction, the court focuses only on plaintiffs' request for injunctive relief and defendants' objection in an effort to prevent the possibility of any unjust enforcement of the contraception mandate against plaintiffs beginning Jan. 1, 2014 while the case proceeds to conclusion.



Indiana Catholic Conference gears up for legislative work as lawmakers return to state capitol

INDIANAPOLIS — A new year brings hope and challenges. This message rings crystal clear for those who headed to the state capitol for the opening of a new legislative session of the Indiana General Assembly, Jan. 7.

This included the return of Republican Gov. Mike Pence, a Republican-controlled House and Senate made-up of 150 state lawmakers, 100 House members and 50 Senators, and the Church's public policy watchdog, the Indiana Catholic Conference.

"Our goal during this 'short' session will be to do no harm," said Glenn Tebbe, executive director for the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC), who serves as the official public policy spokesperson for the Indiana bishops. Tebbe said that to "do no harm" means he will work to stave off attempts to change laws that currently are effective in protecting families and children, while working to support new laws that promote the consistent life ethic and the common good.

"Obviously the big gorilla in the room in terms of issues this coming session will be the marriage amendment," said Tebbe. "The Church's teaching is clear that we support traditional marriage between one man and one woman, and have a long history in the public square of supporting traditional marriage. We will continue that effort." (See Indiana bishops' statement on marriage issued Dec. 13, at www.indi-

[anacc.org](http://www.indianacc.org))

"Our overall goal this year, as is every year, is to promote a consistent life ethic," said Tebbe. The consistent life ethic teaches that all human life from conception to natural death has dignity and deserves respect and protection.

"It is out of this moral framework that the Catholic Church speaks to all issues," said Tebbe. "The Indiana Catholic Conference will be working to protect families and children — and all underlying necessities to support families and children."

The ICC will be engaged in promoting and improving education policies and programs; safeguarding parents and educational institutions' rights and responsibilities; protecting religious liberties regarding marriage and health care; protecting programs that support vulnerable families and individuals; and ensuring new programs or initiatives to protect parent rights and responsibilities and to enhance family life.

According to Tebbe, the ICC will work with state lawmakers to require parental notification for minors to use Plan B abortion-inducing drugs; improve access to early childhood education; improve childcare regulations; work to bridge the health insurance gap under the Affordable Care Act for Medicaid and lower income families; and work toward passing legislation to improve Indiana adoption laws.

"There will be many issues on the table, and we will be taking part in the process to ensure that the voice of the Church and the least among us are heard," Tebbe said.

Tebbe said that in years past, the success of the ICC's legislative agenda is impacted in part by: 1) the willingness of the leadership in the House and Senate to have these bills heard in committee; 2) a willingness of lawmakers to work in unison with the Church's efforts; and 3) a willingness of Catholics in the pew to be engaged in the political process.

To better equip Catholics to participate in the process, the ICC offers an online system that provides efficient and effective communication with members of the Indiana General Assembly and the U.S. Congress. A Legislative Action Center is available on the ICC web page (www.indianacc.org) that allows visitors to participate in the political process in a number of ways. Visitors to the center can sign up for the weekly I-CAN Update newsletter, identify his or her representatives, contact lawmakers, and much more. To explore the electronic political engagement go to www.indianacc.org and click "Legislative Action Center."

State lawmakers in the House will be led by Rep. Brian Bosma (R-Indianapolis), who serves as Speaker of the House, and in the Senate, Sen. David Long

(R-Fort Wayne) who serves as President Pro Tempore in the Senate.

"These two men wield enormous influence given their leadership roles by serving as gatekeepers on legislation," said Tebbe. "We will be working with leadership to forward the Church's initiatives."

Tebbe said that committee chairs also might decide the fate of any given bill even if it meets with approval of the House and Senate leaders.

Republicans hold super-majorities in both houses meaning they have enough members to conduct and pass legislation without the Democrats. Republicans hold a (69-31) majority in the Indiana House of Representatives and hold a (37-13) majority in the Senate.

The Indiana General Assembly alternates biannually between a "long" session or budget session, to a "short" session. This year is a "short" session. Tebbe said lawmakers will work at break-neck speed to meet the short working deadlines of this year's session, which lasts only 10-weeks. Due to time constraints, the "short" session renders fewer introduced bills, roughly 1,000 bills. Tebbe says that far fewer than that number will actually get hearings and move through the process. Lawmakers must complete legislative business by March 14.

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

Resources

Legislative Action Center available via the ICC web page (www.indianacc.org)

Visitors to the center can sign up for the weekly I-CAN Update newsletter, identify his or her representatives, contact lawmakers, and much more. To explore the new means of political engagement go to www.indianacc.org and click "Legislative Action Center."

Statehouse Calendar

Jan. 7 — Session began
Jan. 14 — Governor's State of the State Address
Feb. 3 — Third reading deadline for House bills in the House
Feb. 5 — Third reading deadline for Senate bills in the Senate
March 3 — Third reading deadline for Senate bills in the House.
March 4 — Third reading deadline for House bills in the Senate.
March 14 — Session adjourns

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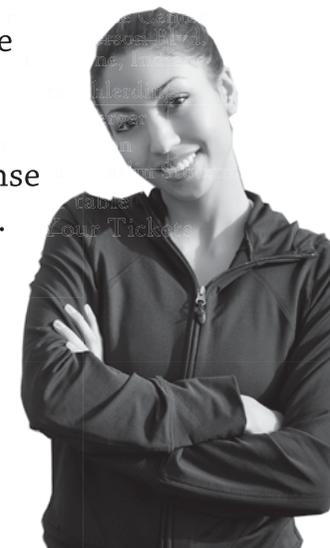
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Preschool voucher to assist low-income families clears House panel

INDIANAPOLIS — A bill to give low income families with young children access to an early education voucher passed the House Education Committee Jan. 9. The Indiana Catholic Conference supports the legislation.

The measure, House Bill 1004, establishes the early education scholarship pilot program. The program would provide supplemental funding for eligible children receiving eligible services from certain early education providers. Beginning after June 30, 2015, an eligible child may receive a scholarship through the program. Under the plan, a child or a sibling of a child who receives an early education scholarship and meets certain other applicable criteria is eligible for the Choice Scholarship program from grades K-12.

Glenn Tebbe, executive director for the Indiana Catholic Conference said, "The program outlined in HB 1004 will provide needed assistance to families who may experience more obstacles and whose children are often without sufficient opportunities that benefit their social and cognitive development."

Tebbe added, "Public policy should maximize the quality of educational opportunities for all children by ensuring that all parents have access to and the financial capability to exercise the right to choose the school they believe is best for their children."

The bill, authored by three Indianapolis lawmakers, House Education Chairman Rep. Bob

Behning and House Speaker Brian Bosma, both Republicans, and Democrat lawmaker Rep. Shelli Vandenburg, initiates a preschool pilot program in five counties across Indiana. The plan targets low-income children who would receive a voucher to attend a state approved, high-quality preschool program.

"We have done a lot in moving education and education reform forward. The greatest need where we have not done a lot is the area of early childhood education," said Behning. "There is no question, Indiana is behind the rest of the nation in providing early childhood education especially to children of poverty."

Under the bill, eligible students would come from families at 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, which is \$43,567 for a family of four according to the federal Health and Human Services Department. Students selected for the pilot program would receive \$6,800 to attend a high-quality preschool program for a child attending a full-day program or \$3,400 for a child who attends a half-day program. The bill would authorize the program, however, funding would need to be allocated during the 2015 budget session.

Leaders from the business community around Indiana spoke in favor of the legislation during the Jan. 9 education hearing.

Connie Bond Stuart, regional vice president for PNC Bank of Indianapolis, testified in support of the bill noting that PNC Bank has committed \$350 million over

multiple years to assist in early childhood initiatives. Stuart said that research shows for every \$1 invested in early childhood education the state saves \$16 in later remediation. Stuart said, "Every child deserves a chance to be prepared to learn and ultimately be successful with a productive life."

Angela Smith Jones, director of public policy for the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, said early childhood education has been their organization's top priority for the past 10 years. She added that early childhood education boosts the overall academic success for children throughout their school years and "provides a home-grown pipeline of workforce-ready individuals for our business community."

Derek Redelman, vice president of education and workforce policy for the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, echoed Smith's remarks saying early childhood education was a "high priority" and "critical approach" to the business community.

While public schools advocates have a history of being strong supporters of preschool education, several raised concerns about some of the specifics of the bill.

Vic Smith, representing the Indiana Coalition of Public Education, rose in opposition to the legislation and said, "We need to end the erosion of public school funding." Since House Bill 1004 gives students in the pilot program an automatic entry point into the state's Choice

Scholarship voucher program for grades K-12, he claims it would lead to increased funds being diverted from public to private schools.

"As the K-12 voucher program grows, public school students get fewer resources," said Smith.

John O'Neal, of the Indiana State Teachers Association, raised similar concerns that the pilot program would serve as a "feeder system" into the K-12 voucher program.

Vandenburg asked Behning if he would consider removing the portion of the bill, which gives children access to the K-12 Choice Scholarship. Behning reminded Vandenburg about the coming Senate battle to get the bill passed and that many members in the Senate who are not very pro-early education, voted for the bill last year primarily because it had the Choice Scholarship entry point. For now, Behning said he was keeping that

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

part of the bill intact.

House Bill 1004 now moves to its second reading on the House floor where it may be amended before it reaches its third reading and a final House vote.

To explore the ICC's electronic public policy tool and join the ICC legislative network go to the ICC Web page at www.indianacc.org and click "Legislative Action Center."



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- Luers varsity girls and boys basketball vs. North Side
- Adult party in the café following the boys game

Welcome back to Bishop Luers' Dance Teams (2000-2013)

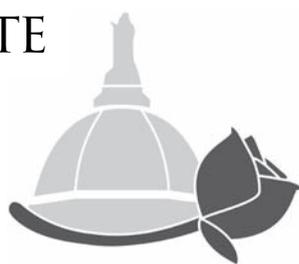
If you were a member of the Bishop Luers Dance Team, please contact Cindy Figel at cfigel@bishopluers.org

www.bishopluers.org



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Pope baptizes 32 babies on feast of the Baptism of the Lord

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis assured mothers that breast-feeding their babies in public, even during a papal Mass in the Sistine Chapel, is okay.

No chorus is as wonderful as the squeaks, squeals and banter of children, the pope said during a Mass in which he baptized 32 babies on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Jan. 12.

"Some will cry because they are uncomfortable or because they are hungry," he said during his brief and unscripted homily.

"If they are hungry, mothers, let them eat, no worries, because here they are the main focus," he said.

One of the mothers, Emer McCarthy, an Irish journalist at Vatican Radio, told Catholic News Service that while most of the other mothers had brought baby bottles for feedings, she did not hesitate to breast-feed her daughter, Polly Rose, discreetly at appropriate moments during the ceremony.

She said she hoped the pope's encouragement would help overcome social taboos against breast-feeding in public.

"Who would have thought the pope would be this great proponent," she said.

The pope made a similar appeal in an interview with *La Stampa* newspaper Dec. 15. In a world where so many children go hungry, people must help them eat, he said.

He used the example of a young



CNS PHOTO/L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO VIA REUTERS

Pope Francis looks over an infant as he baptizes 32 children in the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican Jan. 12. The celebration marked the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

woman he saw at a Wednesday general audience whose child was crying desperately.

"I told her, 'Ma'am I think your baby is hungry.' And she replied, 'Yes, it would be time.' I replied, 'Well, please, feed him.' She was modest and didn't want to breast-feed him in public while the pope drove by," the pope said in the interview.

The pope's remarks "underline how natural it is, how motherhood and maternity are natural and have a place, even in church, even in the Sistine Chapel," McCarthy said.

Typically, the babies that are baptized by the pope at the annual liturgy are children of Vatican employees.

This year, Pope Francis also included one couple who do not

work at the Vatican, but had requested the pope baptize their second child.

The couple, Ivan Scardia and Nicoletta Franco, both work for the Italian military police in the central Italian town of Grosseto.

However, while they are Catholic, they were married civilly and not in the Church, which caused a slight "glitch" when they had to

send the requested paperwork to the Vatican, Scardia said.

"But they called me back right away and this problem, too, was taken care of," he told the Italian daily *Corriere della Sera*.

Scardia said they consider themselves to be believers and wanted their 7-month-old daughter to receive the sacrament of Baptism.

He said they had not gotten married in the Church because "we were in a hurry and there wasn't time to organize a Church ceremony. Maybe we will get married in the Church sometime later."

One of the intentions read during the prayers of the faithful was for families and asked that "the Lord rekindle the sacramental grace of marriage and give (parents) the ability to teach their children in the faith."

In his homily, Pope Francis told the parents and godparents the faith was "the most beautiful inheritance they will leave" their children and that they had "the duty to hand down the faith."

Later, at the Angelus prayer with pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square, the pope again underlined his hopes that a child's Baptism would serve as an impetus for his or her parents to live a Christian life more fully.

"I pray that the children's Baptisms help these parents rediscover the beauty of faith and to return, in a new way, to the sacraments and the community" of the Church, he said.

Churches inundated as violence continues in Central African Republic

OXFORD, England (CNS) — Church leaders in the Central African Republic report an increasing humanitarian crisis and warn that international forces, which have been in their country a month, had not secured law and order. "The situation is very chaotic and worsening all the time," said Msgr. Cyprien Gbate Doumalo, secretary-general of the Catholic bishops' conference. "All our churches and parishes are inundated with displaced people, and some were unable to celebrate Christmas as a result. Whole districts of Bangui are deserted, while even those in the relative safety of Catholic centers are living in total fear," he told Catholic News Service. Clashes continued in the capital between rival Christian and Muslim armed groups, despite the Dec. 8 arrival of 1,600 French paratroopers under a U.N. mandate. Msgr. Doumalo told CNS Jan. 2 that Bangui Archbishop Dieudonne Nzapalainga had paid a morning visit to Bangui airport, where the Church's Caritas charity was helping distribute food and shelter to more than 100,000 refugees. However, he added that 12,000 more displaced civilians had sought refuge in Bangui's major seminary, while the bishops' conference secretariat was sheltering 600 people, half of them children. He said many chil-

dren had been abandoned when their parents were killed or fled and were now without food and clothing and "at the mercy of armed groups."

Pope: In new year, step outside your comfort zone, get involved

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The new year will be brighter only if everyone steps outside their safe havens, gets involved and works together to solve local problems with generosity and love, Pope Francis said. As 2013 comes to a close, let everyone ask God for forgiveness and thank Him for His patience and love, the pope said as he presided over a Dec. 31 evening prayer service in St. Peter's Basilica. May Mary "teach us to welcome God made man so that every year, every month, every day be overflowing with His eternal love," he said on the eve of the feast honoring her as Mother of God. Leading the annual "Te Deum" prayer service to thank God for His blessings in 2013 and the gift of salvation in Christ, the pope asked people to reflect on how

they have spent the past year — the precious days, weeks and months the Lord has given as a gift to everyone. "Have we used it mostly for ourselves, for our own interests or did we know to spend it for others, too? How much time did we set aside for being with God, in prayer, in silence, in adoration?" People should also reflect on how they used their time to contribute to their communities. The quality of life in a community — how it runs and looks — depends on everyone, he said in his homily, which he delivered standing from a lectern.

USCCB president asks Obama for exemption from fines over ACA compliance

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops asked President Barack Obama to exempt religious institutions from fines related to health insurance requirements while legal challenges work their way through the courts. "The administration's flexibility in implementing the (Affordable Care Act) has not

yet reached those who want only to exercise what has rightly been called our 'first freedom' under the Constitution," wrote Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Ky. In a Dec. 31 letter, he asked Obama to extend the same kind of temporary exemption from penalties for non-compliance with the ACA that the administration has allowed for small employers and individuals whose current insurance plans will be canceled. The letter described those allowances as "actions to advance the ACA's goal of maximizing health coverage, while minimizing hardships to Americans as the act is implemented." Archbishop Kurtz said a whole category of Americans "has been left out in the cold: those who, due to moral and religious conviction, cannot in good conscience comply with the (Health and Human Services) regulation requiring coverage of sterilization and contraceptives. This mandate includes drugs and devices that can interfere with the survival of a human being in the earliest stage of development, burdening religious convictions on abortion as well as contraception," the letter said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Pope limits 'monsignor' honor for diocesan priests

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis has decided to limit the honor of "monsignor" among diocesan priests and grant it from now on only to those at least 65 years of age. The change, which is not retroactive and does not affect Vatican officials or members of religious orders, was announced in a letter from the Vatican Secretariat of State to nunciatures around the world, along with instructions to inform local bishops. Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States, informed U.S. bishops of the new policy in a letter dated Dec. 30. Msgr. Ronny E. Jenkins, general secretary of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, forwarded the letter to the bishops Jan. 3. Of the three grades of monsignor — apostolic protonotary, honorary prelate of His Holiness and chaplain of His Holiness — only the last will be available to diocesan priests who meet the new age requirement. Bishops must resubmit any pending requests for papal honors in accordance with the new rules. Archbishop Vigano's letter did not give a reason for the change, but Pope Francis has often warned clergy against the temptations of careerism and personal ambition.

Office of Worship posts liturgical trainings

FORT WAYNE — The Office of Worship has organized diocesan liturgical trainings in February and March for lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Registration is required.

Extraordinary minister trainings will be on Feb. 8 at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend, and on Feb. 22 at St. Charles Church in Fort Wayne.

Lector trainings will be on Feb. 22 at St. Jude Church in Fort Wayne, and on March 1 at St. Pius X Church in Granger. More specific information, as well as the full registration form (cost is \$15 per training), can be found online at www.diocesefwsb.org/Trainings-And-Retreats.

Christ Child Society to raise money with baby bottles

FORT WAYNE — The Christ Child Society of Fort Wayne will be holding their first annual Baby Bottle Fundraiser throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Baby bottles will be provided to local parishes where parishioners will be asked to take them home and fill the bottles with spare change and bills.

All proceeds of the fundraiser will go toward stocking the Crib Club at the Women's Care Center and providing layettes for moms in need. Baby bottles will be distributed Jan. 24-25.

For additional information on the Christ Child Society of Fort Wayne, visit www.christchildfw.org.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

ST. JUDE STUDENTS WIN TOP HONORS IN POETRY CONTEST



PROVIDED BY ST. JUDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL, FORT WAYNE

Four St. Jude School, Fort Wayne, students won top places in the 2013 Allen County Public Library Poetry Contest. The theme this year was "To Whom It May Concern." Hundreds of children and young adults from public, private, parochial and home schools entered their poems. The school's winning poets, from left, include the following: Louie Tippmann, fifth grade, third-place winner; August Grube, fifth grade, second-place winner; Annabella Cobos, eighth grade, second-place winner; and Isabel Adamson, fifth grade, first-place winner.

Heartland Chamber Chorale sings to keep Dr. King's dream alive

FORT WAYNE — The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. comes to life in "Heartland Sings: We are the Dream" on Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium at the University of Saint Francis. This production, which pairs Heartland with USF's University Singers, pays tribute to the revolutionary man and his contributions that have made the world a better place today.

The significance of Dr. King's drive to unite all people, regardless of race, religion or other affiliations will be underscored during this event when several community leaders share many of the words he spoke. The music of this concert sets the tone for a call to action to help change the world, much as King's life positively impacted the nation.

Celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with Heartland and the USF University Singers and be part of the dream. Although this soul-stirring community event by Heartland is free, tickets are required. To reserve your seats, call the Heartland office (260) 436-8080 or visit www.heartlandchorale.org.

The Light Is On for You set for March 12

"The Light Is On for You" is an initiative of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to allow all Catholics to avail themselves of the sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession is a wonderful opportunity to set aside one's sinful ways and to draw closer to our Lord. Confessions will be held on Wednesday, March 12, from 6-8 p.m. in every Catholic church in the diocese. Learn more at www.diocesefwsb.org.

STUDY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in that area offers grades seven and eight.

Bishop Rhoades told *Today's Catholic* that he has been approached at various times and places by people asking about having a Catholic junior high and high school in the central part of the diocese.

"People who have mentioned it to me speak about the benefits and value of a Catholic education for teenagers, especially the need for good moral formation during those years," Bishop Rhoades said. "Some have also mentioned the academic excellence of Catholic schools."

In a September, 2013, letter to pastors and Catholic school principals, Bishop Rhoades explained that he is open to the possibility of such a new school, but good stewardship requires a decision to be based on "sound reason and judgment." Thus, Bishop Rhoades asked that a feasibility study be conducted by the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Consulting group, which is based at the University of Notre Dame.

That study is ongoing and will conclude in March, according to Holy Cross Father Thomas Doyle, the senior financial analyst for ACE Consulting and a leadership development specialist in Notre Dame's Institute for Educational Initiatives. The consultants then will write a report for the bishop that details their findings, and Bishop Rhoades will make the decision.

Father Doyle explained that ACE Consulting identified 12 parishes in the center of the diocese (see box) to survey about interest in such a school. Only four of those parishes have grade schools, but the 12 parishes combined have over 15,000 registered parishioners.

The ACE Consulting study will analyze several issues, Father Doyle said, including: whether there is an adequate number of students and families that have a desire to be served by such a Catholic school; distances that would have to be traveled; what the number of students looks like in future years; and financial resources such as gifts, tuition, vouchers and other sources of revenue. The group has not been surveying existing buildings that could be used, though Father Doyle said people in the area have made suggestions.

Parishes surveyed

**Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw
Sacred Heart, Warsaw
St. Bernard, Wabash
St. Dominic, Bremen
St. Francis Xavier, Pierceton
St. John the Evangelist, Goshen
St. Martin de Porres, Syracuse
St. Mary of the Lake, Culver
St. Michael, Plymouth
St. Patrick, Ligonier
St. Paul of the Cross, Columbia City
St. Robert Bellarmine, North Manchester**

Two of the components of the study are focus groups that have been conducted in those central parishes and a survey instrument that invites input about the school possibility.

To date, the survey has garnered "a few hundred" responses, according to Brandy Ellison, ACE Consulting associate director of research and a faculty member in Notre Dame's English as a New Language Program. This is an "impressive" response rate she said, but she is hopeful even more people

will participate by the Jan. 26 deadline.

Ellison said ACE Consulting will not analyze the data until the survey closes, but she and Father Doyle can predict from their national work what characteristics of Catholic education lead people to Catholic schools.

"Right at the top would be Catholic identity of the school, academic quality, a sense of community," Ellison said.

Father Doyle also is talking to civic and community leaders for their input. He explained that Catholic schools could be a "gift" to an entire community, not just to Catholics.

"Whether they are community leaders or educational leaders, their input, insight and investment in the community in many ways mirrors the Catholic population as well," he said, adding that many schools in the diocese already educate large numbers of non-Catholics.

Father Doyle said they would expect that the parish grade schools in the center of the diocese would be feeder schools to a Catholic middle and high school, but would not be the only source of students.

"We're also very much aware that there are large numbers of

Catholic students and even non-Catholic students for whom Catholic education would be the optimal educational choice for them as well," he said, noting that the seven-through-12 grade group is not being served right now.

Father Doyle praised Bishop Rhoades for his openness and willingness to listen to the people, as well as his efforts to obtain good information on which to base his decision.

"One of the things to be grateful for is that the bishop really wants to know the answer. There is not a pre-determined outcome, and those are really exciting projects to be a part of," Father Doyle said.

Bishop Rhoades told *Today's Catholic* that success of the project depends on enrollment projections and evidence of affordability. If the study shows the feasibility of this project, he said he would have to proceed "prudently" and would probably form a committee to begin planning. He said he has no specific timeline in mind.

Catholics in the center part of the diocese who have not yet completed the feasibility survey are encouraged to do so by Jan. 26. The survey can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/fortwaynesouthbend>.

Looking to Our Lady of Victory to win the battle for life

BY LISA EVERETT

This past summer on vacation, our family visited a beautiful basilica near Buffalo, N.Y., named Our Lady of Victory. This national shrine was built in 1926 by Father Nelson Baker, who began his lifelong devotion to Our Lady of Victory after a visit to a basilica of the same name in Paris. Father Nelson, whose cause for canonization is underway, built this magnificent church to honor and thank the Mother of God for the success of the many charitable institutions he established and expanded to serve those in need. One in particular caught my attention — a home for unwed mothers and their infants, so that women in crisis would not be tempted to seek an abortion.

As we observe yet another anniversary of the tragic Roe v Wade decision, I have been thinking a lot about Our Lady of Victory and her role in the battle for life. This particular title of the Blessed Mother goes way back to the Battle of Lepanto in the 16th century. At this point in history, the Turkish Ottoman Empire occupied large swaths of Christendom and subjected it to a version of Islamic law. Having its eyes set on an eventual invasion of Rome, the Turkish fleet now sought to control the Mediterranean Sea. Knowing the terrible threat this posed, Pope Pius V urged Christians throughout Europe to gather in their churches to pray the rosary, imploring the intercession of the Mother of God.



Our Lady of Victory national shrine, located near Buffalo, NY

Also praying the rosary were the crewmembers on the more than 200 ships of the Holy League, a tenuous coalition of political rivals commanded by 24-year-old Don Juan of Austria, who sailed to confront the Turkish fleet off the coast of Greece on Oct. 7, 1571. Muslim spy ships that were sent to scout the situation reported that the Catholic armada would be no match. But by the grace of God, through the intercession of His Mother, all but 13 of the almost 300 ships of the Turkish fleet were captured or sunk, and 12,000 Christian slaves who were rowing the Turkish galleys were set free.

According to military historian

John Guilmartin, Jr., “Turkish victory at Lepanto would have been a catastrophe of the first magnitude for Christendom, and Europe would have followed a historical trajectory strikingly different from that which obtained.” To honor and thank the Mother of God for winning what has been called the “the battle which saved Europe,” the Holy Father instituted on Oct. 7 the feast of Our Lady of Victory, which later became known as Our Lady of the Rosary.

While a stunning naval victory was what was needed in the 16th century to save Christendom, what is needed now to save civilization is a stunning victory in the battle for life, one that is fought on many

fronts — cultural and political, to be sure, but also and above all, as St. Paul says, with powers and principalities that are not of this world.

Blessed John Paul II spoke of a special kind of “prophetism” that belongs to women in their femininity. By this he meant that women are called to be exemplars of receptivity to the love of God and response to that love which is the essence of the Christian life. The Holy Father suggested that precisely because woman is called to be this exemplar to everyone, she is the special object of Satan’s enmity, his prime target: if he can “take down” woman, he can “take down” the whole human race. We see this from the temptation of Eve in Genesis, all the way to the dragon who stalks the Woman clothed with the sun in the Book of Revelation, waiting to devour her child. As soon-to-be saint John Paul II wrote in his beautiful letter “Mulieris Dignitatem,” on the dignity and vocation of women: “The strug-

gle with evil and the Evil One marks the biblical exemplar of the ‘woman’ from the beginning to the end of history. It is also a struggle for man, for his true good, for his salvation. Is not the Bible trying to tell us that it is precisely in the ‘woman’ — Eve-Mary — that history witnesses a dramatic struggle for every human being, the struggle for his or her fundamental ‘yes’ or ‘no’ to God and God’s eternal plan for humanity?”

As a direct, large scale and legally sanctioned attack on innocent human beings, abortion is one of Satan’s strongholds, and we cannot conquer it without imploring the intercession of Our Lady and imitating her love of God and neighbor. As St. Maximilian Kolbe, the priest and martyr of charity who gave his life for a fellow prisoner at Auschwitz once reflected: “The conflict with hell cannot be engaged by men, even the most clever. The Immaculata alone has from God the promise of victory over Satan. However, assumed into Heaven, the Mother of God now requires our cooperation. She seeks souls who will consecrate themselves entirely to her, who will become in her hands effective instruments for the defeat of Satan and the spreading of God’s kingdom on earth.”

There can be no doubt that widespread consecration to Mary and a daily commitment to pray the rosary will turn the tide in the battle for life in our nation. By the grace of God, may our diocese lead the way.

If you are interested in finding out more about what consecration to Mary entails, I recommend a very readable book, a sort of do-it-yourself retreat that was recently published, called “33 Days to Morning Glory,” by Father Michael Gaitley.

Our Lady of Victory, pray for us.

Lisa Everett is the co-director of the Office of Family Life.

Praying For Life
From Conception, To Natural Death

*Before I formed
you in the womb
I knew you.*

-Jeremiah 1:5-



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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

Project Rachel companions offer hope to those suffering from post abortion

BY KAY COZAD

Project Rachel is the post-abortion reconciliation program in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend that offers hope and healing for those suffering from the pain of abortion and its aftermath. In addition to the confidential dedicated toll-free number and email contact the program offers, 17 individuals across the diocese have recently been trained as volunteer companions to work one-to-one with those seeking help.

Allison Sturm, ministry specialist, offered companion-trainings consisting of three three-hour sessions in Fort Wayne and South Bend. She intends to hold these trainings in spring and fall each coming year.

The trainings offered informed speakers, as well as interactive discussion sessions on types of abortion and statistics, understanding why women choose abortion and its psychological impact, how to invite someone to seek healing, good listening skills and much more. A section on men and abortion and another on family members were also included. Participants acquired good listening skills as well as the tools to respond to secular comments on abortion as they prepared to be matched with clients who call seeking help. Because all information is held in confidence between the client and companion, Sturm offers debriefing for any volunteer who may need to process the interaction with the client.

The Project Rachel training had two main goals undergirding the effort. The first, says Sturm, is to reach out to those needing help with post abortion issues. The second is to spread the post abortion message. "If you are confident in the Church's teachings on post abortion, you can kindly respond to those who judge," Sturm says.

Sturm, a passionate pro-life advocate, admits that she was once one who judged. "It seemed at odds to be compassionate to people who had abortions. But this is as important a piece of the prolife movement as prayer, changing laws and chang-



when as a child, she visited a hospital with her mother and was asked to translate for a woman who had called the waiting room public phone to find an abortion doctor.

ing hearts."

The ministry is aimed at all ages yet Sturm reports that it is uncommon for young men and women to reach out for help following an abortion. She says typically the need arises years after the abortion when the wound requires attention. But she hopes Project Rachel will offer hope. "I want to give the message that we are here so they don't go through years of distress," says Sturm.

"We know they're out there," says Sturm, adding that the trained volunteers can now promote the project in any venue in which they work. "Even if these trained volunteers don't work with anyone in a year, they can see the beauty of the ministry," she says.

"We all have things in our past we regret."

In addition to standing ready to provide one-to-one service, nearly half the volunteer companions serve as liaisons for their particular parishes where they relay information and resources. And Sturm anticipates development of a support program directed specifically towards men who are ready to address the pain of abortion aftermath.

Nate Proulx, media specialist, has redesigned the Project Rachel posters and business cards to correspond with the website he created earlier this year. Website users can access services, encouragement and resources, including websites, videos and books, and information on how one can be involved and promote this ministry.

One volunteer who participated in the training, Lourdes Silva, felt a tug at her heart when she learned of this ministry. "I wanted to be of some help," she says, recalling

The training was a powerful experience for this bi-lingual woman and she is now working as Project Rachel liaison for the 13 Spanish-speaking parishes in the diocese.

Another newly trained volunteer, Mary, witnessed fruit following a discussion on the Project Rachel Ministry with her students. "... A male student kept me an hour after class to share his story. He had (been involved with) an abortion in his teens and although he has several children now, not a day goes by where he does not think about that decision," she reports.

Another trained companion, Julie says, "When Allison contacted me regarding the training classes, I was overjoyed. Having had an abortion 40 some years ago, I have always felt that I could be of service to other women who have gone through the same experience. God has been very, very good to me by providing me with wonderful priest-confessors who were nonjudgmental and have helped me along the way."

Sturm believes the pro-life movement has embraced the Project Rachel message of mercy and healing, and says, "There's value in it. It's part of the whole thing. We always give guidance with a way back."

To contact the Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Ministry call the confidential dedicated toll-free number (855) 722-4354 or email projectrachelhope@gmail.com. For more information visit <http://sites.diocesefwsb.org/projectrachel/>. To volunteer in this ministry or find out more about how to support Project Rachel, contact Allison Sturm at (260) 399-1452 or email asturm@diocesefwsb.org.



St. John the Evangelist Parish - Goshen

Rev. Tony Steinacker, Pastor

St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish - Bristol

Rev. Robert Van Kempen, Pastor

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish - Elkhart

Rev. Jason Freiburger, Pastor

St. Vincent de Paul Parish - Elkhart

Rev. Glenn Kohrman, Pastor



Join with us "in prayer" in support of the unborn children.

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Decatur, Indiana invites our diocese to offer "prayer cover" for the hundreds of thousands gathering January 22, 2014 in Washington, DC to show support for the unborn children and the Catholic Teachings which express dignity for all human life from the moment of conception. Thank you for your prayer!

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



Our parish is dedicated to

*The Mother of Our Saviour
The Star of Hope
The Comfort of the Afflicted*

And the one chosen to guide us through the sorrows of life, including the agony brought about by abortion.

Queen of Peace, be with us.

SAINT MARY PARISH - HUNTINGTON

Pro-life efforts advance in Allen County

Cathie Humbarger coordinates Allen County Right to Life activities

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Thursday, Jan. 2, marked the first time since June of 1978 that Allen County was abortion-free. Although the abortion facility was opened for 18-hour notifications for women seeking abortions, at this time Dr. Ulrich Klopfer, the abortion doctor, will be referring women to his South Bend facility for the abortion procedure.

Allen County has an ordinance that requires abortion doctors to have a backup doctor who is registered with the Allen County Health Department and who has admitting privileges at one of the Allen County hospitals or surrounding counties. Dr. Geoffrey Cly, a pro-life physician, had been that backup doctor.

But when details that Klopfer had not appropriately reported abortions that he had performed on young girls under age 14 — something required to be reported within three days to Indiana Department of Health and the Indiana Child Protective Services — Dr. Cly announced in mid-December that he would step down as the backup doctor.

“We found literally thousands of errors and omissions on termination of pregnancy reports filed by Klopfer, not only here in Allen County, but in Lake County where he performs abortions in Gary, and St. Joseph County, where he performs abortions in South Bend,” said Cathie Humbarger, executive director of Allen County Right to Life.

“After we filed the necessary complaints with the Attorney General’s office, the Indiana Medical Licensing Board has changed the classification of his license from ‘Active’ to ‘Valid to Practice While Reviewed’ and they have summoned him to appear before the Indiana Medical Licensing Board on Jan. 22, which is the anniversary date of Roe,” she added.

“I am happy to report that yesterday (Jan. 2) was the first day in years that there were no abortions done here in Allen County,” Humbarger said. “I will also caution everybody that this is not over yet.”

Dr. Klopfer could come up with a backup, “although I find that very unlikely,” Humbarger said, “but that is a possibility.”

There are 10 clinics within a two-hour drive from Fort Wayne that have closed within the last year or two.

Fighting for the cause of life

Humbarger is one of the forces behind the closure of the abortion facility. Humbarger, who has been executive director for 12 years and was the first employee of Allen County Right to Life, often finds herself in many roles: educator, fundraiser, public policy advocate,



Cathie Humbarger at her post with the Allen County Right to Life office.

referral agency coordinator and even a bit of watchdog — making sure that pro-life regulations are enforced.

Humbarger, who grew up in a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod home in Columbus, Ind., is quick to give credit for any successes to the Lord and those who are in the trenches with her fighting the pro-life cause.

“All the glory goes to the Lord. He has just used me as a tool in His hand and again, there are many other folks who stand with me,” Humbarger told *Today’s Catholic* at an interview at the Allen County Right to Life offices, located next door to the Fort Wayne abortion facility.

“I love babies. I want to save as many as I can. But I have a special place in my heart for the women who have believed the lie that, for a price, an abortionist can erase the life of a baby, and they find out later in a subsequent pregnancy when they see an ultrasound or through something they see on TV, or read, whatever, that ‘Oh my gosh, I paid to have somebody kill my child.’

Once they get to the point when they worked through the healing process, their witness has certainly advanced the cause for life, because you certainly cannot argue with somebody who says, ‘This is what I chose, and this is what happened to me.’ And they are becoming more and more vocal as well.”

Humbarger traces her interest in pro-life issues over 25 years ago, when a very dear friend shared that she had had an abortion and wanted to know, “If I would still be her friend even though she made an abortion decision,” Humbarger told *Today’s Catholic*.

Humbarger answered, “Well sure. I knew that abortions had been going on but I didn’t know that I knew anyone who had made an abortion decision.”

“The Lord grabbed my heart for this issue through the broken heart of a young desperate woman who chose an abortion in the midst of her crisis,” Humbarger said.

Efforts bring success

When Humbarger began her

career as executive director, she was a “one man band.” Today three part-time employees offer their talents as well.

“I am certainly standing on the shoulders of those who founded Allen County Right to Life, all those years ago after the Roe v Wade decision, and their investment in this issue,” she said.

“The Lord has blessed their efforts and likewise what we’ve been able to do, but I certainly take no individual credit for anything that has been accomplished,” she said.

The Catholic community was among the first to speak out for life — even before the Roe v Wade decision — and Humbarger has forged a good relationship with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. “We are on the battlefield together,” she said.

“I appreciated Bishop (John M.) D’Arcy so much. I miss his hugs and words of encouragement he always had for me every time he saw me,” she said. “And I have a good relationship with Bishop (Kevin C.) Rhoades.

“We produce a pro-life radio

program that airs on Redeemer Radio, and we produce and write the ‘Culture of Life’ snippets they air,” she noted.

“We couldn’t ask for a better partnership,” Humbarger said.

Three advances

Humbarger credits three reasons for the advances seen in the fight for life.

“The first is the younger face of the right to life movement,” she said. “It is absolutely amazing to go to Washington, D.C., to the National March for Life and see the youth. I think they far outnumber those of us who are of the older generation. That is so encouraging and it is our responsibility to make sure that they are ready and prepared to carry on the fight.”

“The second thing,” she noted, “is technology — particularly ultrasound. I’m of the opinion that the best witness for the unborn are the unborn. Depending on the studies that you look at, anywhere between 90 and 95 percent of abortion-minded women — in other words they’ve already decided they’re going to have an abortion — change their minds if they see an ultrasound.”

“We are blessed to have the Women’s Health Link (coordinated by the Allen County Right to Life) right here and we get people coming in thinking they are going next door to the abortion facility, and because of where we are located we can walk them in the interior of the building down the hallway to the Women’s Care Center.”

“We’ve worked hand in hand with them and in 2013 we know of 11 babies that were saved as a result of our being here and Women’s Care Center being at the other end of the hall,” Humbarger said.

“The third thing is the testimonies of women who have made an abortion decision and regretted it and have come through the healing process,” Humbarger added. “You cannot deny somebody’s testimony of the heartbreak and grief that they experienced. Maybe (there is) relief immediately after the procedure because they thought their problem was solved, but what they realized later is that they did not erase that pregnancy, it just made them the mother of a dead baby.”

“Obviously there is forgiveness and healing at the foot of the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ for this sin choice, just as there is for every one of us,” she said.

Humbarger added, “The 40 Days for Life campaign and the faithful prayer effort of people in this county have been the basis for any success that we’ve had. God hears and answers prayer. I think we’ve seen an ever increasing level of activity and success since the 40 Days for Life campaign started and since people are more and more aware of the importance of praying for an end to abortion here in Allen County and then we’ll take on the state.”

Right to Life rallies, marches and activities

Fort Wayne

Angela Minter will be the keynote speaker at the 40th annual Fort Wayne March for Life on **Saturday, Jan. 18, at 12 p.m.** at the University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, 421 W. Berry St.

Her story is one of forgiveness and healing through Christ. Minter is the founder and executive director of Sisters For Life — a Christian, nonprofit organization based in Louisville, Ky., and is inspired by God to take a holistic approach in advocating for preborn babies, and mothers and fathers that are faced with an unplanned or crisis pregnancy.

After the rally, attendees will march through downtown Fort Wayne and conclude at the Federal Building to hear Silent No More Awareness Campaign post-abortion testimonies.

South Bend

Wednesday, Jan. 22, St. Joseph County Right to Life will sponsor the March For Life/South Bend at the Federal Courthouse, 204 S. Main St. (Jefferson and Main) in downtown South Bend from noon to 1 p.m. March participants are encouraged to show elected representatives and the South Bend community that citizens care about LIFE. Signage will be provided. Participants' sacrifice in the cold will be meaningful as they represent the unborn who have no voice of their own. For more information, call (574) 232-LIFE (5433).

“What We Pray, Say, and Do” is the theme for this year’s “Walk the Talk for Life” event hosted by the Knights of Columbus at Council 553 in downtown South Bend on **Sunday, Jan. 26, at 2 p.m.** Participants are asked to gather at the Knights of Columbus at the corner of Hill and Washington streets, so they can walk together prayerfully to the nearby St. Joseph Church for a prayer service at 2:15 p.m. Deacon Mel Tardy will preside.

Participants will return to the council for a panel discussion at 3 p.m., followed by a question-answer session and conversation/networking/refreshments until 4 p.m. Two speakers will briefly describe how spiritual values, informed policy stances and activities grounded in love go hand-in-hand to promote the full range of pro-life causes.

Father Tom Shoemaker, chaplain of South Bend’s Apostolate of Divine Mercy in Service of Human Life chapel, will give an overview of the new apostolate’s offerings of service for women and children and its spiritual grounding. Jeanette Burdell, program director at St. Joseph County Right to Life, will describe that organization’s ecumenical and informational mission and activities. The event is free and open to the public.

National

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a bus trip to the 41st National March for Life in Washington, D.C. Pro-lifers will depart from several locations around Indiana for Washington, D.C., for the national march. Non-Knights are welcome on this trip. For more information visit www.indianakofc.org or call Michael Velasco at (219) 663-0509.

HOMESCHOOL GROUP ATTENDS RIGHT TO LIFE DINNER



PROVIDED BY JOHN PAUL FITZMAURICE

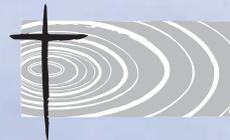
An area homeschool group of 12, organized by John Paul Fitzmaurice, had a teen table at the Annual Right to Life dinner hosted by the St. Joseph County Right to Life on Oct. 10, 2013. Anonymous donors assisted the group with funding. It was the first time the group, who hopes to make this an annual event, attended the dinner.

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

9DAYS FOR LIFE
PRAYER • PENANCE • PILGRIMAGE

YOUR PRAYERS MATTER.
YOUR SACRIFICES MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Pray with the bishops to end abortion

WASHINGTON — On Jan. 22, the United States will remember the 41st anniversary of Roe v Wade. Since that tragic decision, more than 55 million children’s lives have been lost to abortion, and the lives of millions of their parents have been shattered.

In prayerful recognition, “Nine Days of Prayer, Penance and Pilgrimage” will take place Jan. 18-26.

A simple novena with different intercessions, brief reflections and suggested acts of reparation can be received directly each day by email, text message or through a new mobile application for smartphones (soon to be made available for both Android and iOS). Visit www.9daysforlife.com to subscribe through any of these means.

Other prayer, programmatic and promotional resources are also available on the USCCB website at www.usccb.org.

Lord, hear our prayer!



May Saint Monica, example for wives and mothers, intercede for those who seek her assistance.

St. Monica Parish
222 West Mishawaka Avenue
Mishawaka



St. Patrick Parishioners in Walkerton, Indiana support all life from conception to natural death!

For rallies and events in the diocese visit diocesefwsb.org



Take my hand... not my life!

St. Stanislaus Kostka
55756 Tulip Road
New Carlisle, Indiana

Abortion

cannot be a human right... it is the very opposite.

- Cardinal Franz Konig

Pope says abortion, hunger, environmental damage threaten peace

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS)— Pope Francis said world peace requires the defense of human dignity from violations such as world hunger, human trafficking and abortion.

The pope made his remarks Jan. 13 in his first annual address to the Vatican diplomatic corps, offering a survey of world conflicts and crises he said were caused by “envy, selfishness, rivalry and the thirst for power and money.”

Speaking in the Apostolic Palace’s Sala Regia, the vast “royal hall” where popes traditionally received Catholic monarchs, Pope Francis spoke of what he has frequently called a “throwaway culture” exemplified by widespread food waste that leaves children starving or malnourished.

“Unfortunately, what is thrown away is not only food or disposable objects, but often human beings themselves, who are discarded as if they were unnecessary,” the pope said. “It is horrifying just to think that there are children, victims of abortion, who will never see the light of day; children being used as soldiers, abused and killed in armed conflicts; children turned into merchandise in that terrible form of modern slavery called human trafficking, which is a crime against humanity.”

The pope also lamented what he called rising numbers of “broken and troubled families,” which he attributed to both moral and material factors: the “weakening sense of belonging so typical of today’s world” as well as the “adverse conditions in which many families are forced to live, even to the point where they lack basic means of subsistence.”

Noting the devastation caused by typhoon Haiyan in November, Pope Francis warned against “greedy exploitation of environmental resources,” and quoted what he said was a popular adage: “God always forgives, we sometimes forgive, but when nature — creation — is mistreated, she never forgives!”



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis leaves a meeting with ambassadors to the Holy See at the Vatican Jan. 13.

Most of the pope’s speech was devoted, as usual for the occasion, to geopolitical problems in different regions of the world.

The pope called for an end to the almost three-year old civil war in Syria, voicing hope for upcoming peace talks and praising neighboring Lebanon and Jordan for accepting refugees from the conflict. He also noted what he called “significant progress” in ongoing negotiations over Iran’s nuclear program.

Pope Francis lamented the “exodus of Christians from the Middle East and North Africa,” as well as violence between Muslims and Christians in Nigeria and the Central African Republic.

Without specifying countries, the pope noted sectarian tensions in Asia, “where growing attitudes of prejudice, for allegedly religious reasons, are tending to deprive Christians of their liberties and to jeopardize civil coex-

istence.”

The pope recalled his July visit to the southern Mediterranean island of Lampedusa, an entry point for immigrants without legal permission to enter Europe, and voiced sympathy with those who, “in the hope of a better life, have undertaken perilous journeys which not infrequently end in tragedy.”

“I think in particular of the many migrants from Latin America bound for the United States,” he said, “but above all those from Africa and the Middle East who seek refuge in Europe.”

After his speech, the pope personally greeted the attending ambassadors and their spouses. The Holy See has full diplomatic relations with 180 nation-states, the European Union and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, as well as “relations of a special nature” with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

40th Annual March for Life

COMMEMORATING THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF ROE v. WADE

Sponsored by Allen County Right to Life
Three Rivers Educational Trust Fund

Saturday, January 18, 2014
RALLY AT NOON

March to Immediately Follow
USF Performing Arts Center
(formerly The Scottish Rite)

431 West Berry St. Downtown Fort Wayne

Keynote Speaker:
Angela Minter



Angela Minter
Executive Director
Sisters for Life

A
“Silent No More”
Awareness Event
at the Federal Building
will follow immediately
after the march!

 **RIGHT TO LIFE**
SAINT JOSEPH COUNTY

2004 Ironwood Circle, Suite 130

South Bend 46635

(574) 232-LIFE (5433)

www.prolifemichiana.org



Catholic witnesses back No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic witnesses at a Jan. 9 hearing on the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act endorsed the bill, one of them calling it “long overdue.” One of those testifying at the hearing sponsored by the House Judiciary Committee’s Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice was Richard M. Doerflinger, associate director of the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities.

Doerflinger said the bill, if enacted, would “write into permanent law a policy on which there has been strong popular and congressional agreement for over 35 years” with the adoption of the Hyde amendment in the annual appropriations bill for the federal department of Health and Human Services.

“Even public officials who take a ‘pro-choice’ stand on abortion have supported bans on public funding as a ‘middle ground’ on this contentious issue — in recognition of the fact that it is not ‘pro-choice’ to force others to fund a procedure to which they have fundamental objections,” Doerflinger said.

“And even courts insisting on a constitutional ‘right’ to abortion have said that this alleged right ‘implies no limitation on the authority of a state to make a value judgment favoring child-birth over abortion, and to implement that judgment by the allocation of public funds.’”

Doerflinger said the implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act may still force Americans to pay for elective abortions through state insurance exchanges.

“Each insurance company will decide whether its plan will include elective abortions, for those who receive federal subsidies as well as those who do not,” Doerflinger said.

“Once that decision is made, federal law will demand that every enrollee must help pay for those abortions, notwithstanding any conscientious objection they may have,” he continued. “This mandatory surcharge for abortion will be kept in a separate account from the account used for federal premium subsidies, apparently so it can be said that no ‘federal tax dollars’ are being used for elective abortions; and insurers are forbidden by federal law to make any special effort to inform people that their plan includes such abortions, or to tell them how much they will be paying for other enrollees’ abortions.”

He added, “This ‘separation of funds’ scheme is contrary to the policy of the Hyde amendment and parallel laws, which forbid federal subsidies to any part of a benefits package that includes elective abortions. It also violates the spirit of these laws in terms of subsidies for abortion itself.

Love LIFE
as a heavenly gift!

SS. PETER AND PAUL
HUNTINGTON



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*

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
NOTRE DAME

All of those who favor abortion have already been born.

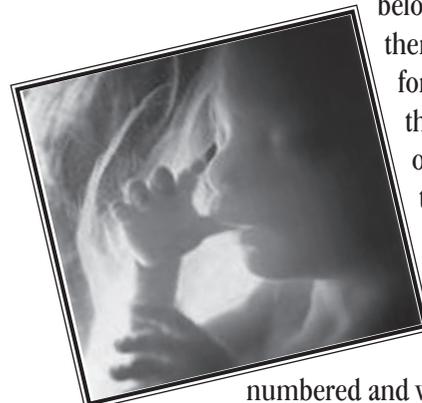
TODAY'S CATHOLIC

“THE CONFLICT is between a culture that affirms, cherishes, and celebrates the gift of life, and a culture that seeks to declare entire groups of human beings - the unborn, the terminally ill, the handicapped, and others considered ‘unuseful’ to be outside the boundaries of legal protection”

-Pope John Paul II

ST. LOUIS BESANCON

“Human life is sacred and inviolable at every moment of existence, including the initial phase which precedes birth. All human beings, from their mothers’ womb,



belong to God who searches them and knows them, who forms them and knits them together with His own hands, who gazes on them when they are tiny shapeless embryos and already sees in them the adults of tomorrow whose days are

numbered and whose vocation is even now written in the ‘book of life’. -*Evangelium Vitae*

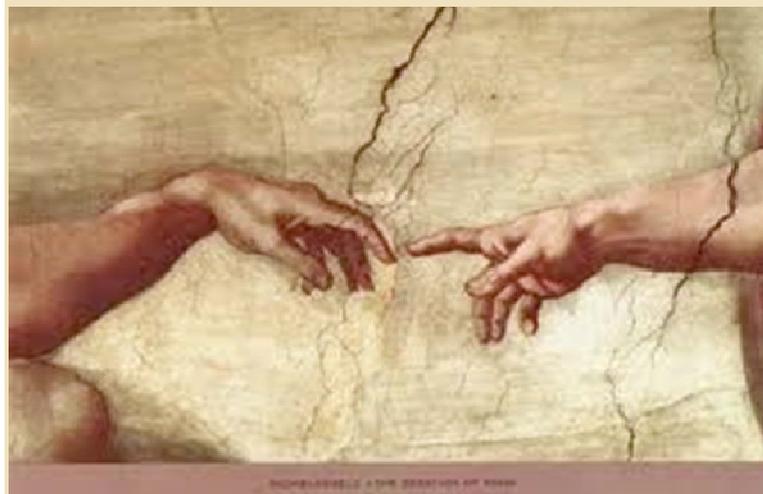
ST. JOSEPH PARISH
MISHAWAKA

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Jeremiah 1:5

ST. PETER PARISH - ST. MARY PARISH
FORT WAYNE

“God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.” ~Genesis 1:31



Saint Pius X Catholic Church
Respect Life Ministries
From Conception through Natural Death,
ALL life is sacred
StPius.net/RespectLife





Respect Life!

**GOD'S GREATEST
GIFT OF ALL**



St. Bavo Parish

MISHAWAKA



The nearer a soul
is truly united to
God, the more its
sensibilities are
increased to every
being of His Creation; much more
to those whom it is bound to
love by the tenderest and most
endearing ties.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH
FORT WAYNE

St. Joseph Parish - Bluffton



*May the noble humility and
caring love of our parish patron,
St. Joseph, as the protector of the
infant Jesus and the Holy Family,
enhance the cause of Pro-Life!*



**"A society that kills its children
has lost its soul and hope."**

Servant of God, Dr. Jerome Lejeune
Discovered the cause of Down Syndrome

*May God have mercy on our nation
for the killing of the unborn!*

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fort Wayne

Babies are a gift from God



CHOOSE LIFE!

Sacred Heart Parish
125 North Harrison
WARSAW

**Acknowledge
God's Sovereignty
Over All Life--
Respect and
Defend Life!**



SAINT MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH
SYRACUSE, INDIANA



*It was you who created
My inmost self; and put
Me together in my
Mother's womb; for all
These mysteries I thank you,
For the wonder of myself, for
The wonder of your works.*

Psalm 139, 13-14

Corpus Christi Catholic Community
SOUTH BEND

**God, author of all life,
bless, we pray, all unborn children;
give them constant protection
and grant them a healthy birth
that is the sign of our rebirth one day
into the eternal rejoicing of heaven.**

**Grant their parents
comfort in all anxiety
and make them examples of
justice and truth for their children.
Amen.**

Adapted from the rite of blessing of a child in the womb

CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH
52473 STATE ROAD 933
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA 46637

The lonely trail

Now that the holidays are behind us, many are breathing a sigh of relief, grateful for the time spent with family and friends and all the preparation and events that made this season so special. Most are grateful to pack up the Christmas decorations and get back to “normal.”

But there are some who struggle with the end of the season that kept them so busy — struggle with getting back to normal. Those who are in deep mourning for a lost loved one know of what I speak.

The loneliness of losing a loved one is a burden any time of the year, but for some it is especially cumbersome during and after the Christmas season. I remember well, that first Christmas after my husband Trent died in a car accident. Every event was a sheer act of will for me as I trudged numbly through the traditional Advent preparations and Christmas events he and I would have enjoyed together.

Don't get me wrong. My life overflowed with caring, generous people who stepped out of their way to include me in the festivities of the season. But in the exhausting pain of my early grief, I had little energy to respond.

The loneliness that pervaded my life that first Christmas swept me to a place of darkness where I was sure I would simply exist forever. The only light I saw was the youthful joy my two young daughters maintained even in their loss.

So in that light — for them — I decorated a tree, not quite as elaborate as in years past, but standing nonetheless as a reminder of peace and beauty, baked cookies to share with family and friends and then to place on the hearth on Christmas Eve for Good St. Nick, wrapped gifts that were distributed at family gatherings and, of course, on Christmas morn, and tried my best to be joyful as well.

The busy-ness of the season kept



KAY COZAD

HOPE IN THE MOURNING

my grief at bay some of the time, though the ache I felt for Trent grew with each gathering. And when Jan. 2 finally arrived I breathed a sigh of relief that I had survived my first Christmas season without my beloved spouse.

Unfortunately for me then, and many others who grieve, I suspect, the relief of the “back to normal” routine that one usually experiences after the activities are over and the decorations are boxed in anticipation of another season did not return

HOPE, PAGE 16

Invited to know Jesus



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Jn 1:29-34

The Book of Isaiah furnishes this weekend's first reading from the Scriptures. There is the overtone of relief and joy. There is the promise of a bright future. It was all because of the fact that, first, after the humiliation and anguish of being conquered by Babylonia, and then after generations of exile in Babylon for many, God's people were entering a new day of return to their homeland and hopefully to lives of prosperity and security.

Lest anyone think this fortunate turn of events was the mere outcome of changing politics, or luck, the prophet eloquently insists that the plight of the people is improving because of God's direct and merciful intervention into human affairs. God brings their relief. God had promised to protect and sustain the people, despite the misfortunes that might befall them. They were God's people.

In turn, the Hebrews, God's people, human instruments on earth of the divine will, bearing witness among, had been faithful during their years of trial.

For its second reading, the Church this weekend selects a passage from St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians. Today, the Apostle Paul ranks among the

greatest religious figures of all time, and certainly he stands as a most extraordinary figure in the development of Christianity in the crucial time of the first century.

However, attaining this distinction was not without personal cost for Paul. He had to contend with converts to Christianity who were not always loyal to the Gospel. The very culture in which they lived not only surrendered without a whimper to human instincts but also elevated these instincts literally to the level of the divine, delighting in lust, gluttony, drunkenness and so on.

Such was the case with the Christian converts in Corinth, then one of the major cities of the Mediterranean world.

Another burden for Paul was that his very credentials to preach the Gospel were questioned. He had to insist that Jesus had called him to be an apostle.

The last reading is from St. John's Gospel. The author of the fourth Gospel was attracted to John the Baptist, to say the least; possibly coming from a group influenced by John the Baptist. Among John the Baptist's qualities was his absolute intellectual and religious honesty. He was fearless. He thoroughly believed that God had called him to be a prophet.

So, St. John's Gospel presents John the Baptist in most admiring terms.

Here in this reading, John the Baptist sees Jesus in the distance and acknowledges Jesus as the Redeemer. The element of sacrifice is present. John identifies Jesus as the “Lamb of God.”

Finally, treasured Old Testament symbols testify to the identity of Jesus. The dove descends from the sky, from heaven to rest upon Jesus. God is in Jesus.

Reflection

At Christmas, the Church excitedly told us that Jesus was born. Son of Mary, Jesus was a human, as are we. The shepherds adored Jesus, representing all humanity.

At the Epiphany, the Magi found Jesus after searching for God. To assist them God led them and protected them. In Jesus, they found God.

At the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, celebrated last week, the Church introduced us to Jesus as the Savior of doomed humankind. In Jesus, humans would have access to eternal life.

Now, continuing the process, John the Baptist, so reliable and so insightful, proclaims Jesus as the Lamb of God. In all these settings, the Church carefully puts before us the person of Jesus the Lord and tells us about Jesus.

It is an invitation to follow Jesus. Hearing these Scriptures of this season, we know Jesus. He is no stranger. However, truly knowing the Lord depends upon our willingness to respond to this invitation.

READINGS

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10
1 Cor 1:1-3 Jn 1:29-34

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23 Ps 50:8-9,
16-17, 21, 23 Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:16:1-13 Ps 89:20-
22, 27-28 Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37,
40-51 Ps 144:1-2, 9-10 Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7
Ps 56:2-3, 9-13 Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21 Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Acts 22:3-16 Ps 117:1-2
Mk 16:15-18

Fasting

When I first contemplated writing an article on fasting I thought it might give me the opportunity to discuss all the health benefits involved. Being a doctor, that was my initial simplistic view. After just a little research and reflection I realized how little I really knew. So I am going to presume there will be plenty of readers like me that need some education.

Fasting is primarily for the spirit! There are certainly some health benefits especially for the overweight crowd, but it's all about the spirit and without a plan of prayer during your fast it is really an empty exercise.

I also became very much aware of how wimpy I have been over the years with incorporating fasting into my life as a Catholic. I don't eat meat on Fridays during Lent. On Good Friday and Ash Wednesday I try to follow the teaching of two small meals, one regular meal and no eating in between. On Easter, I more than make up for it! Sound familiar at all?

Now look at Jesus — a 40-day fast in the wilderness — are you kidding me? I can't even wrap my arms around a full one-day fast, which I am embarrassed to say I have never done other than when I was sick.

The Bible tells us that adding fasting to prayer elevates your ability to more fully connect with God. Biblical characters added fasting to prayer when they needed to step up their game and get serious about worshipping God or getting God's attention.

It sounds like a good idea for modern times as well. Do you need forgiveness? Do you or a loved one need healing? Has your spiritual life faltered? Maybe it is time for a fast.

Some basic ground rules are in order. There are some people that should not embark on a significant fast. They include people that are fighting advanced cancer or other serious illness, insulin dependent diabetics, eating disorders, pregnancy, or if you are just too underweight.

Whether it's a one meal fast or a several day fast you shouldn't restrict liquids. Dehydration is never good and not the goal here. So drink plenty of water or juice. I would suggest minimizing caffeine or for extra penance no caffeine at all (that might kill me!). Start out by missing a meal. Then maybe miss a couple of meals.

If you are really serious, you may consider a multiple day fast. If you want to fast for more than two or three days, I would suggest a conversation with your doctor before starting. If you plan to fast for a prolonged period of time like several weeks or maybe 40 days, then there should be a plan in place for providing adequate daily nutrition, like several small meals per day. I really do not recommend going

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

longer than two days without some caloric intake.

I know of a couple that fasts one day a week by eliminating all foods other than natural juices. They use their juicer to combine fruit and vegetables into nutritional liquid meals. This also would give you health benefits by reducing your caloric consumption for the week and would provide you with a wonderful blast of natural vitamins and minerals (which as discussed in a previous column is the way nature intended people to get them).

When fasting, it is essential that you design it around major time for prayer. It is through praying and fasting together that you will close the gap between your humanity and the spiritual. Your goal should be to conquer the flesh. With a successful fast your mind will become sharper and clearer and you may very possibly be able to discern the right decision or course of action that you have been seeking. Is this not what Jesus was doing in the desert for 40 days and nights?

One more very important thing when you fast — don't tell anyone! As Mt 6:16-18 says: “When you fast, you are not to look glum as the hypocrites do. They change the appearance of their faces so that others may see they are fasting. I assure you, they are already repaid. When you fast, see to it that you groom your hair and wash your face. In that way no one can see you are fasting but your Father who is hidden; and your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.”

Dr. David Kaminskas is a cardiologist and the treasurer of the Dr. Jerome Lejeune Guild of the Catholic Medical Association. All health professionals are welcome to join. Visit www.fortwayneccma.com.

Opting out of the Belgian solution

Recently, Belgium's Senate voted overwhelmingly to extend legal euthanasia to children of any age. The proposal, which will likely become law, limits the practice to children who are terminally ill, suffering great pain and have their parents' permission.

In theory, they must also understand what they are asking for (if that is even possible for, say, a 10-year-old).

This horrifies most Americans. Perhaps *The New York Times* exaggerates when it makes a subtle comparison to "the horrors of Nazi Germany, which killed thousands of mentally and physically handicapped children," but that does not mean the Belgian proposal is wise or well-thought-out.

Philippe Mahoux, sponsor of the Belgian bill, argues that ever since Belgium legalized adult euthanasia, doctors have been killing terminally ill children anyway and covering it up. He hopes to spare those doctors from prosecution.

Once death is pursued as an acceptable medical outcome, medicine is changed. Mahoux's argument implies as much. And if doctors can cause the death of suffering adult patients, then what argument is there to deprive children of the same option? Dr. Jan Bernheim of the Free University of Brussels makes precisely this argument in favor of Mahoux's bill.

Across the border, the Royal Dutch Medical Association has taken the argument a step further still. Although euthanasia is illegal

in the Netherlands for children under 12, the association holds that "severe suffering (by) the parents" over a newborn's abnormalities is sufficient to justify euthanasia. This is the scariest position of all, depriving medicine of any reference whatsoever to the patient's well-being.

It is not hard to deduce from this mindset the danger it creates for patients who are incapacitated or who feel pressure (real or imagined) from family or society to choose death. Underlying the embrace of doctor-assisted suicide and euthanasia is a conviction that suffering is pointless.

My brother Kevin died from leukemia when he was 13. His form of the disease is survivable today, but in those days few survived more than 18 months. It was a hard trial for Kevin, who as a child was afraid of a lot of things, including scary movies, large birds, spiders and needles.

He needed bone marrow transplants and blood transfusions, both of which involved large, painful needles. The drug regimen caused his hair to fall out. When he couldn't fight an infection and his temperature spiked, the doctors would put him in a tub full of ice water. He became thin and weak. He eventually bled to death.

But as Kevin grew weaker from the disease, he grew in wisdom and holiness. For our family it was a period full of grace. I was 10 years older, but I found myself making mental notes of how I could be



JOHN GARVEY

INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

more like him. He had long since overcome his fear of needles, the least of his problems.

By his last Christmas, he knew he was going to die, though he didn't burden the rest of us with the knowledge. I remember praying the rosary with him and thinking what a privilege it was to pray with such a saintly young man.

Catholics maintain that suffering has meaning and can be redemptive. Kevin's suffering changed his family, his doctors and the children around him in the hospital. After he died, my parents bought a house in Buffalo, N.Y., near the hospital, for the use of patients and families who needed a place to stay while being treated.

Since then, hundreds of other houses have cared for thousands of families. These things wouldn't have happened if my parents had opted for the Belgian solution.

John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America in Washington.

HOPE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

— as much as I tried to coax it.

Without the hustle bustle of the Christmas season, the loneliness encircled me once again in a shroud of darkness that brought me an intrusive physical ache. And as the new year unfolded my only hope was in God's promise of healing.

Best selling author Richard Paul Evans exposed my very life in his 1997 novel "The Letter," when he penned, "I feel lost. No. To be lost is to not know where one is — and I am all too sure. I am alone. My heart, my love, has been torn from

me and I am consumed by the pain of it. ... I don't know where my road now leads but I fear the shadowlands that lie ahead. But it is not the darkness of the path I fear. Just the loneliness of the trail."

It is sometimes a dark and lonely trail that those who mourn must walk when life outside resumes its normalcy, especially after the holidays, no matter the type of loss. But hope is hidden in that loneliness for all of us. God is present in the empty, fertile space of the new year, even when the ache vies to overcome us. His grace will sanctify our grief as we work through it toward healing. But we must do that necessary work!

I've learned over the years that grief work is essential to discov-

ering how our lives have been changed by the death of our loved ones and how we will create a "new normal" that will honor them. The work of grief is not time bound and is certainly difficult with its emotional chaos and uncertainty. But it is a transitional process — and will not last forever. In the process we must maintain our hope that God's plan for our future is one of healing and peace.

Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and news editor of *Today's Catholic* newspaper. She is the author of "Prayer Book for Widows," Our Sunday Visitor, 2004, and can be reached at kcozad@diocesefwsb.org.

Gratitude expressed for the 2013 Collection for the Church in Latin America

On behalf of the Subcommittee for the Church in Latin America, I would like to express my gratitude to you and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for the generous contribution of \$42,332.10 to the 2013 Collection for the Church in Latin America (CLA).

As a result of your diocese's continued generosity, the subcommittee was able to award a total of 393 grants amounting to \$5,548,716 in pastoral grants in 2013. These projects included the formation of seminarians and religious, the development of youth ministry projects and the support of pastoral ministry activities. The

2014 campaign highlights the call to share our faith. Catholics in Latin America and the Caribbean face many challenges when it comes to living and sharing their faith; yet the light always shines through and hope arises. For example, I recently attended the American Missionary Congress in Maracaibo, Venezuela, whose theme was "Missionary America Share Your Faith" following the call of Aparecida to the Continental Mission. The collection funded part of the congress and many people from the United States attended. It was truly a blessing to be there and share our faith and mission.

Our next collection is scheduled for the weekend of Jan. 25-26.

Without you, our solidarity could not take shape into concrete programs that support and spread the faith among the people of Latin America, a faith that is now bearing fruits in the person of our Holy Father Francis. On behalf of the subcommittee and those who benefit from the collection, I offer you my humble thanks.

**Yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Eusebio L.Elizondo,
M.Sp.S.
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle
Chairman, USCCB Subcommittee
on the Church in Latin America**

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for January 19, 2014

1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

Following is a word search based on the Second Reading and Gospel for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PAUL CHURCH NAME LORD LAMB OF GOD RANKS AHEAD LIKE A DOVE	APOSTLE CORINTH GRACE TOWARD HIM TAKES AWAY WATER REMAIN	SOSTHENES BE HOLY PEACE BEHOLD WORLD ISRAEL SEEN
---	--	--

GRACE

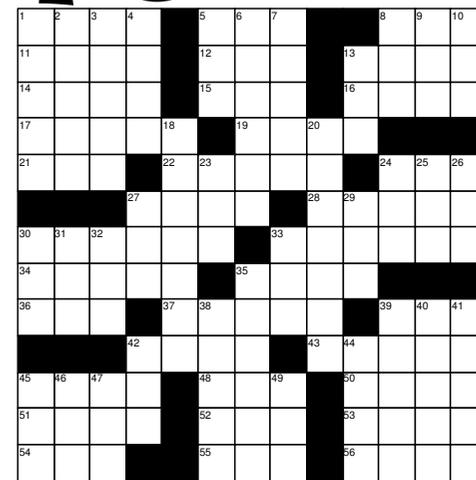
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W K T A K E S A W A Y A
L M O B E D L O R D D P
S P I E V A R O R A O O
O B E H O L D F E D G S
S C H O D J O H M C F T
T G H L A R A F A O O L
H Y I Y E S A P I R B E
E D S M K E L W N I M W
N C R N I E L A O N A E
E P A U L N A M E T L T
S R E R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

January 19 and 26, 2014



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Based on these Scripture Readings: Is 49: 3, 5-6; 1Cor 1: 1-3; Jn 1: 29-34 and Is 8: 23 - 9:3; 1 Cor 1: 10-13, 17; Mt 4: 12-23

ACROSS

- 1 Swiss mountains
- 5 Blessed ___ thou
- 8 St. Peregrine had cancer in his
- 11 David was one
- 12 Quilt
- 13 Air (prefix)
- 14 Ask God's help
- 15 School group
- 16 He has spoken
- 17 Shoe fasteners
- 19 Ancient NA Indian
- 21 East northeast
- 22 Slow (musical term)
- 24 South southeast
- 27 Risk-free

DOWN

- 28 Less cooked (as meat)
- 30 Whist
- 33 "As on the day of ___"
- 34 Adam's grandson
- 35 Air coolers
- 36 Swindle
- 37 Throw out
- 39 Pouch
- 42 Swiss-like cheese
- 43 Eastern religion
- 45 Information (abbr.)
- 48 Metal container
- 50 St. Benedict the ___
- 51 Temple offerings
- 52 Bullfight cheer
- 53 Read attentively

- 54 Easter symbol
- 55 Gamblers placement
- 56 Rushed

DOWN

- 1 Adam's fruit
- 2 Navigation system
- 3 A gift of God
- 4 Eye infection
- 5 Viper
- 6 What you do at 65
- 7 Guitar sound
- 8 Popular pope name
- 9 Sin
- 10 Three Persons, One ___
- 13 Wing
- 18 Gashed
- 20 Paul wrote letters to this Greek city
- 23 Towards the stern
- 24 ___ Lanka
- 25 Capernaum by the ___
- 26 Sea eagle
- 27 Part of a min.
- 29 TV spots
- 30 Dowel
- 31 Whichever
- 32 Cut
- 33 IBM Competitor
- 35 Woman
- 38 Also called Israel
- 39 Watch secretly
- 40 Worship God
- 41 Jesus ___ every disease
- 42 Goddess
- 44 Small demons
- 45 Wrath
- 46 Wornout horse
- 47 Madagascar franc (abbr.)
- 49 Peter & Andrew cast one

Answer Key can be found on page 19

Sports

RENNER PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL NFL PUNT, PASS, KICK COMPETITION Hunter Renner, a sixth-grade student at Mishawaka Catholic School in Mishawaka, participated in the NFL Punt, Pass, Kick Competition on Jan. 11 in Denver, Colo., representing Mishawaka and the Chicago Bears. Locally, he won the competition and advanced to sectionals in Gary, where he won and placed in the top 4 to go to the Team (State) Competition with the Chicago Bears. Renner won that competition and the following day participated in a pass demonstration before the Bears' game. Renner was announced as the winner for the 10-11 year olds and placed No. 2 in the nation for his age group.

St. John, New Haven, girls off to a good start

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

NEW HAVEN — In his 15th season, Coach Steve Pepe is off to a good start with his St. John the Baptist, New Haven, eighth-grade girls' basketball team. The Raiders finished runner-up at the preseason Queen of Angels Invitational over the Thanksgiving break, won a holiday tournament, which they host each year the week before

Christmas, then had a good showing at the Hoopsfest tournament after Christmas. The Raiders were eliminated at Hoopfest by the top two teams — St. John Emmanuel Lutheran School and St. Charles.

Pepe lists eight on his roster and leaves the ball handling to his two playmakers — Grace Wharton and Grace Renbarger. "They work well together and make a dynamic duo," praised Pepe.

Rounding out this year's squad

is center Norah Painter, Mallori Wigent, Abby Tippmann, Mallorie Vowles, Megan Heckman and Veronica Hathaway.

The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) champs from a year ago also list their defense as a team strength.

The Raiders had a tough challenge as they faced St. Charles again in their first conference matchup of the season when CYO games resumed on Saturday, Jan. 11.

After winter weather break, ICCL teams return to basketball action

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — The streets were shoveled and the temperatures back to a "balmy" 28 degrees as the Inter-City Catholic League play drifted back to normalcy after a week of weather that had closed schools and gyms.

The Eagles of St. Joseph, with just one blemish to their early season record, were playing a much-improved St. Matthew team that had made a run to the semifinals of the Christmas tournament.

Both squads relished in their front line play. St. Joseph had a beast in big man, Josh De St. Jean, and the Blazers would counter with a posse of three — Coley Quinn, Casey Szymanski and Mason Talos.

The teams started action like two pugilists measuring strikes and circling the ring as De St. Jean struck first, but was countered with a score from Quinn.

The early full court pressure defense of St. Joseph set the tone as

they forged ahead 10-5 after one; the pressing issue was that De St. Jean was relinquished to the bench with early foul trouble.

Without their muscle, St. Joseph turned to running the floor and pushed the lead to 14-7. Then Eagle Ben Falkaw knocked down a three late in the stanza to inflate the lead to 24-8 and a blowout seemed imminent.

As the Blazers came out of the locker room, it looked as though their game plan would be to fight fire with fire and promptly went inside to Talos, who converted a three-point play the hard way as St. Matthew concluded an 8-0 run catching the Eagles flatfooted.

St. Joseph skipper Paul Anthony, to refocus the team, called a much-needed timeout. It worked out. The Eagles stopped the bleeding by calling on De St. Jean to score.

What was a seemingly halftime lead became a 27-23 third quarter ending deficit for the Blazers who were truly holding the momentum card.

Counter punches on a three pointer by St. Joseph's Ben Lamont and a goal from De St. Jean and the constant driving and penetration from Talos made it a two-point game with 1:10 on the clock.

De St. Jean knocked down one free throw; but just seconds later, Szymanski knocked down a big time shot making the margin one with 50 ticks left on the clock.

The final points of the contest would come from the line by the Eagles' Michael Anthony and De St. Jean as the Blazers' comeback victory would be extinguished, the final score 35-31.

"A win is a win and it was definitely great to get this one," commented Eagle Coach Anthony. "Two of our eighth graders, Josh and Michael, came up big at the line in the last minute and played tough down the stretch. I'm pretty happy with their leadership," he said.

"Our goals are to go after every loose ball, rebound and play fun-

ICCL, PAGE 18

SAINT JOSEPH, MARIAN TEAMS WRESTLE



PAUL TINCHER

Wrestlers from Saint Joseph and Marian met for a Jan. 9 match. It was Saint Joseph's Senior Night and St. Joseph won by a score of 42-36. St. Joseph's Ryan Jankowski is currently ranked second in the 182-pound class of IHSAA state wrestling rankings. Jankowski is shown with Marian's Jack Yeung. Jankowski won with a pin at 3:05.



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MOVIE CAPSULES

NEW YORK (CNS) – Following are capsule reviews by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“47 Ronin” (Universal)

Despite lavish special effects,

this big-budget retelling of the fact-based Japanese national legend of the title is so badly done as to render its classic story incomprehensible. Working from a script by Chris Morgan and Hossein Amini, director Carl Rinsch has Keanu Reeves as a mysterious half-breed warrior helping 47 leaderless samurai (most prominently Hiroiyuki Sanada) regain their honor after their master (Min Tanaka) has been deposed through the machinations of a jealous rival (Tadanobu Asano) and a shape-shifting witch (Rinko Kikuchi).

Combat violence, the bloodless portrayal of a suicide and a beheading. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

“Justin Bieber’s Believe” (Open Road)

Director Jon M. Chu’s amiable follow-up to his 2011 feature “Justin Bieber: Never Say Never” chronicles the eponymous star’s second world tour. The young girls who represent the Canadian-born singer’s carefully targeted

audience will certainly need no convincing of his latest project’s worthiness. But parents will be reassured to know that, though it contains a brief acknowledgement of the wunderkind’s foul-mouthed encounter with a cursing photographer, this documentary as a whole provides overwhelmingly harmless entertainment. A single, incomplete instance of crude language and some gyrating dancers. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

ICCL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

damentally sound. And we feel that if we can do those things, we can be competitive,” remarked Kevin Selesky, Blazer coach. “We tried to double team De St. Jean whenever he had the ball in the low block and take him out of a rhythm. Both teams played hard. We will get better from this.”

In other action from around the league, Christ the King downed Corpus Christi in overtime, 44-40, behind the 13 points of Trey Miller.

Jack Froschaner of St. Thomas led all scorers as the Spartans upended the Pumas of Queen of Peace, 42-24.

The 18-point output from St. Michael’s Brady Holiday was not enough as Mitchell Coleman and the Holy Cross Crusaders prevailed, 46-25.

The mighty Lions of St. Pius X remained unbeaten in league play as they handled the Saints of Mishawaka Catholic, 43-28, behind the 15 points scored by Reese Jackwick.

The duo of Jack Wheeler and Chris Riley helped the Panthers of St. Anthony knock off St. Jude, 46-26, and Holy Family doubled up St. Adalbert, 52-21, to round out the week.

A complete list of scheduled games can be found on the website at www.icclsports.org.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 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.

Our Lady of Hungary hosts trivia night
 South Bend — The Our Lady of Hungary School will host a trivia night Saturday, Jan. 18, at 6 p.m. Game starts at 7 p.m. Cash prize of \$200. Tickets are \$100 per table of 10. Bring in your own food for sharing with your table. No carry-in beverages. Call (574) 289-3272 or email: mjay@olhsb.org by Jan. 14 to reserve a table.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner
 South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Jan. 17, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8.50, children (5-12) \$3.50. Carry-out available.

Be Still ... The Contemplative in the Active World
 Notre Dame — Three evenings of reflection will explore the dimensions of contemplative prayer for people in the active world. On Jan. 13, many listened to Holy Cross Sister Judith Anne Beattie, speak on the nature of silent prayer. John C. Cavadini, Ph.D. will speak Jan. 24 and Kyle Kramer, M.Div., on Jan.

30 at 6 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Parish Center. After the presentations and sharing, Sister Beattie will lead the participants in centering prayer. For information visit icl.nd.edu/proclaim or by phone at (574) 631-1379 or email pbellm@nd.edu. Reservation required.

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

NFP classes offered
 Fort Wayne — The Couple to Couple League will offer morally acceptable, 99 percent-effective Natural Family Planning classes. Three classes, one per month, as well as optional pre-menopause or postpartum classes as needed. Classes start Sunday, Jan 26, at 6 p.m. in the home of Ron and

Marilyn Shannon. To register call (260) 489-1856 or email mshannon11@frontier.com.

Freshman registration begins at Luers
 Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will begin registration Jan. 29-30, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. A copy of birth certificate, recent report card and \$135 registration fee will be needed. For information call the admissions office at (260) 456-1261 ext. 3141 or email Jenny Andorfer at jandorfer@bishopluers.org.

Chapel of Divine Mercy announces Masses, Adoration
 South Bend — Dominican Father Anthony Giambrone will celebrate Mass Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. in the Chapel of Divine Mercy, 2018 Ironwood Circle. After Mass, Father Giambrone will lead prayer for Exposition. Consider an hour of Adoration on Tuesday or Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. or on Wednesday from 2-7 p.m. Contact Tom Policinski to schedule a time at Tom.policinski@divinemercuryforlife.com.

REST IN PEACE

Auburn
 Herman F. Lemper, 95, Immac. Conception

Bremen
 Eugene M. Myers, 95, St. Dominic

Bristol
 Karl R. Balyeat, 79, St. Mary/Annunciation

Decatur
 Robert H. Boyle, 75, St. Mary/Assumption

Elkhart
 Mary A. Miles, 90, St. Vincent de Paul

Fort Wayne
 Sue A. Garr, 74, St. Jude

Robert A. Lengerich, 88, St. John the Baptist
 Helen E. Mueller, 95, Saint Anne Home

Richard E. Turner, 80, Most Precious Blood
 Randall R. Sordelet, 62, Our Lady/Good Hope

Richard G. Leffler, 81, Our Lady/Good Hope
 Dolores M. Bock, 88, St. Therese

Lorraine D. Kleber, Cathedral of the Immac. Conception
 Kenneth Lawrence Lauer, 87, St. Therese

Mary Y. Smith Moore, 88, Saint Anne Home
 Thelma M. Sperone, 91, St. Therese

Ann M. Amstutz Brock, 51, Our Lady/Good Hope
 Julia M. Bojrab, 98, St. Charles Borromeo

Marjorie C. Disser, 93, Saint Anne Home
 Joseph John Rager, 96, St. Jude

Linda Clevenger, 36, St. Vincent de Paul

Karen S. Schlup, 69, St. Jude
 Margaret M. Clifford, 86, St. Therese

Antoinette L. Berger, 77, St. Jude
 Kent R. Nelson, 81, St. Vincent de Paul

Emery J. Spisak, 73, St. Charles Borromeo
 Ruth Clara White, 89, Queen of Angels

Garrett
 Steven M. Tullis, 61, St. Joseph

Granger
 Mary Barrett Worland, 70, St. Pius X
 Elizabeth Ann Housand, 49, St. Pius X

Theresa A. Walczewski, 84, St. Pius X

Huntington
 Sister Justine Kiefer, OLVM, 96, Victory Noll

Mishawaka
 Larry J. Morris Sr., 73, Queen of Peace
 Philonese Miles, 86, St. Bavo

Notre Dame
 Sister M. Ann Patrice, CSC, 101, Our Lady of Loretto
 Sister M. Joellen, CSC, 88, Our Lady of Loretto

Sister Marie Marchand, CSC, 92, Our Lady of Loretto
 Brother Thomas Minta, CSC, 65, St. Joseph Chapel

Plymouth
 Pauline L. Patrick, 92, St. Michael
 Rolando Soria, 56, St. Michael

Rome City
 Nancy Badders, 68, St. Gaspar

South Bend
 William A. Ross, 98, St. Casimir

Lillian Watts, 86, St. Jude
 Riley Allen Putz, 33, Holy Family

Thomas Michael Taylor Sr., 94, Holy Cross
 Bartolome M. Saucelo, 88, Corpus Christi

Rita M. Luczkowski, 82, Holy Family
 Ann E. Aranowski, 93, Holy Family

William C. Kolacz, 89, St. John the Baptist
 Mary Lou Chrobot, 80, St. Hedwig

Jon Clyde Greenlee, 71, Little Flower
 Lucia LeeVan, 74, Holy Family

Ruth E. Peli, 88, St. Anthony de Padua
 Clement E. Holeczynski, 86, Holy Family

Vincenzo Sgambelluri, 91, Our Lady/Hungary
 Eleanor J. Kazmierzak, 90, St. John the Baptist

Mary Ann Keszei, 90, St. Jude
 Leonard Peter Pavacik, 81, Holy Family

Sharon Vadas Seifert, 71, Corpus Christi
 Delores M. Sobol, 81, Christ the King

Jerri Omega Pawlak, 76, Holy Family
 Mary M. Van Hulle, 86, Little Flower

Yoder
 Helen C. Freiburger, 87, St. Aloysius

Bishop Luers Trivia Knight correction
 Fort Wayne — The Bishop Luers Trivia Knight will be held Friday, Feb. 28, in the Bishop Luers gym from 7-11 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Cash bar for beer, wine and margaritas. Soft drinks and water are complimentary. Bring your own food and snacks for your table. Round sponsorships for \$50 per round are offered. Name will appear at the top of each round sheet and on the screen throughout the evening. Table reservations of 10 adults are \$100. Contact Trish Scheible at (260) 625-5605 for reservations.

The CrossWord

January 19 and 26, 2014

A	L	P	S		A	R	T		L	E	G
P	O	E	T		S	E	W		A	E	R
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R	A	M	S		O	L	E		P	O	R
E	G	G			B	E	T		S	P	E

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PHOTOS BY KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Marian High School students pray during the Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Thursday, Jan. 9.

Marian students sing during the all-school Mass during Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades' pastoral visit on Jan. 9.



MARIAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Before the big announcement, Bishop Rhoades celebrated Mass. His homily focused on St. John and his writings. Bishop Rhoades noted, "A major theme (of St. John) was love, God's love and our vocation to love. St. John wrote that, 'God is love.' This is a profound truth of Christianity. With love, He sent us His Son. This was entirely gratuitous. In today's reading, he reminds us that, 'we love God because He first loved us.' But there is a requirement attached to God's gift of love, that of sharing it with others."

Bishop Rhoades also reflected on Catholic schools.

"Catholic schools are meant to be institutions of learning, schools of knowledge," he said. "But they are also meant to be schools of virtue. And the greatest virtue is charity. Here at Marian, you learn about God's love for you and also about your vocation to love God and neighbor. And you have many opportunities to live that vocation. Here at Mass, for example, we are showing our love for God through prayer."

"In your service activities, you show your love for neighbor, especially the poor and suffering," Bishop Rhoades added. "But there are opportunities every day to live this vocation to love through the way you speak and act with your

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades visits the freshman theology class of teacher Erin Pierce during a pastoral visit to Marian High School on Jan. 9.

fellow students, your teachers, your coaches and the school staff. And also living this vocation at home, loving and respecting your parents and brothers and sisters."

After Mass the bishop joked with the students about their delayed return from the Christmas vacation due to the bad weather. He also expressed his gratitude to Principal Carl Loesch and the entire staff for their "holy mission of Catholic education. May God bless you for your service to our youth."

Finally Bishop Rhoades made his announcement. "Marian has a patron saint — Our Lady. But you don't have a title of Our Lady or a feast day devotion to Our Lady," said Bishop Rhoades. "Our Lady of Lourdes revealed herself to a young woman, Bernadette, who would later become St. Bernadette. The feast day for Our Lady of Lourdes falls on Feb. 11. Every year we will celebrate her feast day and I hope to build a grotto on school grounds," the bishop told the students and staff.

While Principal Loesch knew the patron Bishop Rhoades had chosen, the rest of the school had no idea the announcement was coming. The students and faculty were very excited about their new patron.

Religious education teacher Erin Pierce commented, "I am thrilled about Our Lady of Lourdes. I am a graduate of Our Lady of Lourdes Academy in Florida. I think the students will really embrace this."

The school will be working on a plan to celebrate the annual event. "We are excited about this announcement," said Principal Loesch.

When asked by the bishop if the school could build a grotto, Principal Loesch smiled and said, "We will find a way."

After Mass, Bishop Rhoades sat in on a freshmen religion class and talked to the students about studying religion in high school versus middle school.

"It's so great in high school because you can delve into the theology of our religion," he said. "You have the chance to study the faith and reason of what we believe."

Bishop Rhoades enjoyed a special lunch with members of the student council, Right to Life and the Young Vincentians.

The students commented on the bishop's homily and announcement of their new patron, Our Lady of Lourdes.

"I was excited to meet the bishop for the first time," said freshmen Josh Weist. "I really liked the homily."

Matthew DiTommaso, freshmen student council president, agreed saying, "I enjoyed the bishop coming to our school. I have heard of the name, Our Lady of Lourdes, before the bishop mentioned her, but I am not familiar with her background information. I think it is great to have a feast day to celebrate as a school. I do think the student council will plan activities for this wonderful feast day."

Senior Matthew Garatoni was also impressed with Bishop Rhoades' visit. "He is very insightful and broke up his homily into three parts that made it so easy to understand his message," Garatoni said. "While I am leaving the school, I am excited about the new grotto and patron saint for Marian. I have younger siblings that will be here soon and will really be able to enjoy it."

More photos are available at www.diocesefwsb.org



FATHER DELANEY BLESSES STATIONS



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Father John Delaney, pastor of St. Jude Parish in South Bend, is shown near the baptismal font and the oil paintings of the Stations of the Cross. The stations were blessed on Dec. 16. The renovations and artwork were a part of the \$3.9 million "Our Time to Build" capital campaign, which began in 2012. Also shown are mosaics of St. André Bessette, a Canadian Holy Cross brother, and Blessed John Paul I, which were recently completed.