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Preparing for new school year

In Truth and Charity
‘Living the Truth in Culture of Relativism’
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Vatican supports help for ‘humanitarian emergency’ of child migrants

Migrants, consisting of mostly women and children, who disembarked from a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement bus, wait for a Greyhound official to process their tickets to their next destination at a bus station in Phoenix May 29. Catholic leaders are calling for greater protections for migrants making the trip from Central America to the U.S. streaming out of Central America in search of safety and family reunification in the United States.

Pope Francis, meanwhile, described the situation as a “humanitarian emergency” worthy of the attention of the entire world.

BY DAVID AGREN

Today’s Catholic offering envelope
In this week’s paper. Thank you for your generosity.
No issue Aug. 3
Next publication Aug. 10

Young people encouraged to join diocese for World Youth Day 2016

FORT WAYNE — It is with excitement that the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has announced a diocesan pilgrimage to World Youth Day Krakow in July 2016 with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. The diocese is working with Dube Travel on all arrangements including the pre-World Youth Day spiritual preparation with visits to Czestochowa, Auschwitz, Wadowice and Kalwaria. The diocese has reserved spots for 200 young pilgrims.

“WYD 2016 will be held in Krakow, Poland — the home of World Youth Day’s beloved founder, Pope John Paul II,” said Natalie Kohrman, who will coordinate the pilgrimage trip to Poland. “The theme (from Matthew 5:7) is ‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.’”

Bishop Rhoades is inviting all young people who will be between the ages of 16 and 35 as of July 20, 2016, to consider attending as this will be an exciting time of grace for today’s Church, especially the young Catholics who hold John Paul II so dear.

While in North America, we tend to think of youth as 18 and under,” Kohrman said, “the target age for World Youth Day is 16-35. For this reason, we hope that parishes will support young adults in their late teens, 20s and early 30s, who are called to Krakow. Parish groups will be encouraged to join.

KNIGHTS’ third annual Festival of Faith slated Aug. 15-16

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — The Vatican’s secretary of state pledged full support for addressing the issue of child migrants.

BY TIM JOHNSON

The two-day festival will be held Aug. 15-16 at Headwaters Park in downtown Fort Wayne.

The event begins Aug. 15 with a 6 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. At the Mass, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will renew the consecration of the diocese to the Blessed Mother. August 15 marks the feast of the Assumption of Mary.

The bishop has invited all to join him and many others in the consecration to Jesus through Mary and proposes following the 33 days of preparation written by Marian Father of the Immaculate Conception Michael Gaitley. The guidebook, entitled “33 Days to Morning Glory,” includes prayers and meditations for each day, using the writings of St. Louis Marie de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta and St. John Paul II, who were all deeply devoted to Mary.

For those making the 33-day retreat, additional resources are available online. Bishop Rhoades offers a podcast reflection for each week that can be found on todaycatholicnews.org and then clicking on the “Podcast” icon. Bishop Rhoades’ invitation to join the consecration is available at www.dio-cesefwb.org and by clicking on the “33 Days to Morning Glory” link. There, visitors may find other information about the consecration.

Following the consecration at the end of the Mass, the Knights and others will lead a Marian procession through downtown Fort Wayne to Headwaters Park.

After the opening ceremony at the park on Friday at 8:15 p.m., festivities will include a square dance from 8:30-10:30 p.m. with Bill Werling and Breakaway Band. Food and beverages will be available from 8:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, events — see the itinerary on the back page of this week’s Today’s Catholic for times — will include a pancake and sausage breakfast, the Festival of Faith 5K run, rosary and Confessions, the Knights of Columbus Shroud of Turin display and video, nonprofit group displays, children’s games, a concert by the Fort Wayne Area Community Band and a pie bake off. Franciscan Father David Mary Ergo will speak from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Live entertainment, beginning at 7 p.m., will close out the festival.

Dr. Ray Guarendi, father of 10, clinical psychologist, author, public speaker and nationally syndicated radio and television host, will offer a 1 p.m. keynote talk titled, “Laughter: the Sanity of Family.” His radio show “The Doctor Is In” can be heard weekdays at 1 p.m. on Redeemer Radio. One can also listen live online or on Sirius/XM satellite radio, channel 130. Dr. Ray’s national television show, “Living Right With Dr. Ray,” is entering its fourth season.

Dr. Ray told Today’s Catholic, “Parents will have their self-confidence, peace of mind, and authority strengthened, along with being able to laugh at the everyday stuff of family life.”

Live evening entertainment will begin with Emma MacDonald and the Franciscan Brothers Minor and Smith Family Singers will follow with a few songs and closing.

Additional information and festival updates are available at www.kofcfestival.com.

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Living the Truth in Culture of Relativism

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

Relativism claims there is no objective truth. Proclaiming and living the truth of the Church has been more challenging today than it was 30 or 40 years ago due to strong currents of relativism in our culture today. Even the objective and universal truth about the nature and meaning of marriage is doubted or rejected by many today. Many truths of the Gospel and of natural law are dismissed as mere “opinions.”

In this cultural context, committed Christians are often criticized as being narrow-minded, intolerant, or even bigoted for standing up for the rights of the unborn or for the dignity of marriage. To speak of the inalienable right to life of every human being and the essential male-female complementarity for a true marriage opens one to criticism or even ostracism in some places.

Lest one thinks that committed Christians are only criticized on issues of human life, sexuality, and marriage and accusations also arise when one affirms fundamental principles of Catholic social teaching (e.g. the universal destination of goods). We’ve seen this, for example, when Pope Francis has spoken of the “duty of money” and against economic injustices in the world.

There are not two Gospels: a “pro-life” Gospel and a “social justice” Gospel. There is one Gospel, the Gospel of Jesus Christ: the Gospel of life, the Gospel of peace, the Gospel of love. Adhering to the truth of the one Gospel opens one to criticism from those who embrace contrasting political ideologies.

Where does all this leave the committed Catholic individual, family, or community? We should remind ourselves of Jesus’ words: we are “in the world,” but we are not to be “of the world.” We are called to live Christ’s teaching and obey the commandments, to adhere to divine truth. The Church in this age of relativism is calling people back to the reality of objective truth. This is part of the new evangelization. This truth, of course, must be embraced not only theoretically, but in everyday life.

In today’s cultural context, some committed Christians think we need to withdraw from today’s culture, kind of like the Amish community. I have much respect and admiration for our Amish brothers and sisters, but I don’t think we should withdraw from our engagement with the world. Some say we should close many of our Catholic institutions because of government attempts to coerce us to violate our beliefs (e.g. HHS mandate). Though we must be faithful to Catholic teaching in all our institutions and apostolates, I don’t think the answer is giving up or surrendering, closing or withdrawing. Though it is difficult and sometimes quite discouraging (e.g. recent defeats in our efforts to defend marriage), we are still called to evangelize our culture.

Some fear engaging the culture because of the danger of assimilation to the values of the culture. This is indeed a danger. We see the danger especially to our children and young people who are influenced or led into error by some entertainment media or in some educational settings. That is one reason I think we need our Catholic schools today more than ever. Parents need to be especially vigilant today concerning the moral formation of their children lest they embrace the destructive relativism so prevalent in our culture.

Not everything about today’s culture is bad. Good discernment is always needed — affirming the good and opposing the bad. True discernment is carried out in the light of faith and right reason. This is necessary for good moral decision-making and for how to live “in the world,” but not “of the world.”

We can easily become discouraged given the increasing hostility of our culture to the perennial teachings and values of the Catholic faith. It is good to remember that there have been many periods of Church history worse than our situation today. There have always been persecutions and martyrdoms. There are many places in the world today where Christians are suffering and even dying for the faith. I think sometimes about the difficult situation of the early Christians. They lived out their beliefs in an often very hostile culture. They loved one another and built Christian communities. They loved their enemies. And they spoke out. They spread the good news of salvation in Christ. They converted many to the Lord. They weren’t discouraged because they were such a small minority in the pagan Roman Empire with its many values and practices contrary to the Gospel. They persevered in the faith. They shared the Gospel. They lived “in the world,” but not “of the world.” They accomplished, by God’s grace, a Christian revolution as Christ’s Church was planted and grew in the Mediterranean region and beyond.

We shouldn’t let discouraging statistics, cultural trends, or political defeats get us down. How do we avoid discouragement? We must not forget the treasures we possess. We have Christ and His Gospel, the sacraments and the Church, Mary and the saints. We have hope in the One who has conquered the world by His death and resurrection. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. The only thing we should ever be afraid of is losing or turning away from Him. We are called to bear witness to Him today and everyday, to live the truth with love. This is how the early Christians evangelized the culture of the Roman Empire. This is how we can evangelize our culture today. We must put the Gospel into practice in our daily lives and live as true disciples of Jesus Christ!
situation a “humanitarian emergency” and called for the international community to act.

Speaking at the Mexico’s Foreign Relations Secretariat July 14, Cardinal Pietro Parolin repeated a recent call of bishops in countries for Catholics and society at large to lend a helping hand for the thousands of young migrants traveling through Mexico and often arriving unaccompanied in the United States.

“Given these migratory facts, we urgently need to overcome the passive misgivings and again present common strategies at the subregional, regional and world levels that include all sectors of society,” Cardinal Parolin said in a speech attended by clergy and the foreign ministers of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

“They numbers grow daily exponentially,” he said of the Central Americans abandoning their countries. “Whether they travel for reasons of poverty, violence or the hope of uniting with families on the other side of the border, it is urgent to protect and assist them, because their frailty is greater and they’re defenseless, they’re at the mercy of any abuse or misfortune.”

The cardinal traveled to Mexico and Central America in the region to grip along with the increase in the number of Central American migrants not seen in decades — and an influx so unexpected and massive that U.S. officials have had difficulties properly processing those arriving at their border. It also came as countries in the region confronted longstanding issues such as crimes committed against migrants with impunity and an indifference toward asylum seekers. Central Americans traveling through the country — even as Mexico compliants of the treatment experienced by Mexicans living in the United States illegally.

The plight of the child migrants has the full attention of Pope Francis, who has called for an advance of the forum, jointly sponsored by Mexico and the Vatican.

“I wish to also call attention to the tens of thousands of children that emigrate alone, are unaccompanied and will not leave themselves to violence and poverty,” Pope Francis said in the message, dated July 11 and read July 14 by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, papal nuncio to Mexico.

“This is the category of migrants from Central America and Mexico itself that cross the United States border under extreme conditions and pursuing a hope that, for the major, will be in vain.”

“This humanitarian emergency requires, as a first urgent measure, these children be welcomed and protected,” Pope Francis continued.

“Many people forced to emigrate suffer, and often, die tragically; many of their rights are violated, they are obliged to separate from their families and, unfortunately, continue to be the subject of racist and xenophobic attitudes,” the pope said.

The pope also called for information campaigns on the risks of migrating and a commitment to developing the poor countries of Central America.

Cardinal Parolin committed the Church to finding solutions and offering assistance — something already carried out by a string of Catholic-run migrant shelters stretching the length of Mexico, which offers spiritual and material support for the thousands of Central Americans transiting the country, often atop a train known as “La Bestia” (The Beast) for the way it maims so many migrants.

“The Church will always support at the national and international level any initiative directed at the adoption of correct policies. No institution, not even the state, possesses the necessary economic, political or informative resources or social capital or legitimacy to resolve the root problems with emigration,” the cardinal said.

“It is evident that the phenomenon of migration cannot be resolved only with legislative measures or adopting public policies, however good, and much less only with law enforcement and security forces,” he continued. “The solution of the migration problem through an in-depth cultural and social conversion that permit passage from the, ‘Cultural of closure,’ to a ‘Culture of reception and meeting.’”

Central America suffers from high homicide rates, gang violence and some of the worst poverty in the hemisphere, motivating many people to leave for the United States, where they seek safety and earn money to support families left behind.

But Central American children have been abandoning their countries of origin in recent months, especially as rumors spread in the region that any youngster arriving in the United States will be allowed to stay put. Catholics working in Central America and with migrants and government officials say many parents see this as an opportunity to remove their children from dangerous circumstances, but also reunifying long-separated families.

“Many (migrants) have family in the United States and they’re looking to reunite,” Sobeida Mejía, a regional director for child migrants with the Honduran childhood and family institute, told Catholic News Service.

Mexico has announced a measure to make migration more orderly — especially on its oft-neglected southern border with Guatemala — and to respect the human rights of those traveling through the country. In Mexico, in Central America, in Guatemala, in Honduras, in El Salvador, in the United States, migration has a child’s face, and it obliges us to reflect more deeply and in short time frames,” said Mexican Foreign Minister Jose Antonio Meade Kuribrena.

“We will continue working to propose reforms under regional, national and international cooperation,” Pope Francis said.

The committee, which falls under a larger reorganization of the office’s efforts and efforts, will publish both a report and a plan for reform during the next year. Its goals are “to adapt the Holy See media to changing media consumption trends, enhance coordination, and achieve progressively and sensitively substantial financial saving,” the Vatican press statement said. It also plans to continue to strengthen the Vatican’s digital outreach.

Erlanson is one of six senior international experts appointed to the committee and the only American. Other committee members include Msgr. Paul Tighe, secretary for the Pontifical Council for Social Communications; Giacomino Ghisiani of Vatican Radio; Msgr. Carlo Maria Polvani of the Secretariat of State; Msgr. Lucio Adrian Ruiz, of Vatican Internet Service; and Giovanni Maria Vian of L’Osservatore Romano.

The committee will work in conjunction with Vatican staff members Matthias Paul Tighe, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications; Giacomino Ghisiani of Vatican Radio; Msgr. Carlo Maria Polvani of the Secretariat of State; Msgr. Lucio Adrian Ruiz, of Vatican Internet Service; and Giovanni Maria Vian of L’Osservatore Romano.

“I am both honored and humbled to have been appointed to the new Vatican media committee,” Erlanson said. Communications is central to the work of the Church, and the Vatican has a significant and multi-faceted media presence thanks to the hard work of many people. I look forward to meeting with my distinguished colleagues on the committee in the months ahead and accomplishing the tasks that have been set before us.”

Our Sunday Visitor Publishing, the world’s largest English-language Catholic publisher, is a not-for-profit organization that publishes OSV Newsweekly, a national weekly Catholic newspaper, as well as magazines, books, parish resources and curricula for Catholic schools and parishes.

Our Sunday Visitor also publishes the English-language edition of L’Osservatore Romano for North America.

Erlanson has worked in the Catholic press for more than 30 years. He served as president of the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada from 2011 to 2013 and was recently reelected to his third term as a member of the board of directors of the CPA. He was co-host of the 2012 Catholic Media Conference in Indianapolis.

Before serving as editor of OSV Newsweekly and as editor-in-chief of the Publishing Division of Our Sunday Visitor Publishing, Erlanson reported from the Rome bureau of Catholic News Service (1986-89). From 1983 to 1985 he was news editor for the National Catholic Register. He attended the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of California at Berkeley.

Erlanson currently is a consultant for the Pontifical Council for Social Communications. He has served two terms on the U.S. Bishops Communications Committee and was on the board of the Association of Catholic Publishers (previously the Catholic Book Publishers Association). He is also co-founder of Redeemer Catholic Radio in northeast Indiana.

Erlanson has published articles in both the Catholic and secular press, and in 2010 was co-author of “Pope Benedict XVI and the Sexual Abuse Crisis: Working for Reform and Renewal.”
Pope calls for prayers as militants chase all Christians out of Mosul

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As the last Iraqi Christians in Mosul fled the city, Pope Francis urgently called for prayers, dialogue and peace.

“Violence isn’t overcome with violence. Violence is conquered with peace,” the pope said before leading thousands of pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square in a moment of silent prayer July 20.

“Our brothers and sisters are persecuted, they are chased away,” he said, as he assured Christians in all of Iraq and the Middle East of his “constant prayers.”

The pope’s plea came as the last Christian families living in Mosul were forced from the city after facing increasing threats, violence and intimidation.

The Islamic State group, which has taken control of Mosul, Iraq’s second-largest city, was threatening to kill any Christians who did not convert to Islam or pay a tax, Syriac Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan told Vatican Radio.

The militants in Mosul also burned to the ground the building housing the Syriac bishop’s office, residence and library, and every- thing inside, he said July 19.

Islamic State fighters “have already threatened that if they don’t convert to Islam, all Christians will be murdered. It’s terrible! This is a disgrace for the whole international community,” he told the radio.

The international community must immediately halt all aid to the Islamic State group, he said.

“Whom are they getting their weapons from? From these extremist nations in the Persian Gulf, with the approval of Western political leaders because they need their oil.”

The patriarch said the world community must uphold human rights and the freedom of religion.

“We are in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon. We Christians weren’t imported, we’ve been here for millennia and, therefore, we have the right to be treated as human beings and citizens of these countries,” he said.

Patriarch Younan spoke with Pope Francis by telephone July 20 while visiting Rome and told him of the “disastrous” situation in Mosul.

The pope said “he was following closely and with anxiety the plight of Christians” in Mosul, the patriarch told Catholic News Service.

During their nine-minute phone conversation, the patriarch begged the pope “to continue intensifying efforts with the powerful of this world” and to warn them “that it is a mass purification based on religion which is underway in the province of Ninevah,” whose capital is Mosul.

“What a shame for the silence of the so-called ‘civilized world’” in response to the tragedy, the patriarch told CNS via email.

The Syriac patriarch was in Rome with Syriac Archbishop Basilie Georges Casmoussa of Mosul and Syriac Catholic Archbishop Ephrem Yousif Manassios of Baghdad, to meet with Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, the Vatican’s foreign minister, and explain the plight of Christians in Mosul and surrounding areas.

The patriarch proposed that the Vatican call on its diplomatic corps members to urge their respective governments to take “appropriate measures in order to prevent further killing and abusing of Christians and other minorities in the name of a religion.”

Syriac Catholic Archbishop Yohanna Moshe of Mosul told Vatican’s Fides news agency that Islamic State fighters took possession of a Syriac Catholic monastery outside of Mosul, near Qaraqosh, July 20.

Earlier, militants occupied Mosul’s Chaldean Catholic and Syriac Orthodox cathedrals, removed the crosses at the front of the buildings and replaced them with Islamic state’s black flag. Tombs and other places of worship were reported to have been desecrated, too.

Militants singled out homes belonging to Christians and marked them in red paint with the letter “N,” for “Nazara,” which means Christian, as well as “Property of ISIS.” — the Islamic State group, said Chaldean Auxiliary Bishop Saad Sirop of Baghdad.

“Our worst fears have come true and we don’t know what to do,” he told Aid to the Church in Need.

Those who fled their homes with whatever possessions they could carry were then stripped of everything they owned by the militants at the city’s checkpoints, said Archbishop Jean Sleiman, the Latin-rite bishop of Baghdad.

The militants took people’s belongings, money, personal items “even their cars, leaving them with nothing and forcing them to walk miles under the sun to get to the first Christian villages outside the city where they’re welcomed,” he told SIR, the Italian bishops’ news agency.

Chaldean Catholic Patriarch Louis Sako told AsiaNews that any dialogue with the extremists seemed impossible.

The militants are like “a wall” as they only repeat: “Between us there is nothing but a sword,” the patriarch said. He added that “there is no one of authority to face,” so people “don’t know where they come from and what the more want.”

Patriarch Sako said that as late as the end of June, 35,000 Christians had lived in Mosul, and more than 60,000 lived there before the U.S.-led invasion in 2003. But now, “for the first time in the history of Iraq, Mosul is now empty of Christians.”

“It is heading towards a humanitarian, cultural and historical disaster,” he said in an open letter to Iraqis and the world July 17.

“It is shameful that Christians are being rejected, expelled and diminished” from a land they have shared together with their Muslim fellow citizens for 1,400 years, the patriarch wrote.

He urged Muslims who support the Islamic State “to reconsider their strategy and respect the unarmed population of all ethnicities, religions and sects.” He asked Iraqi Christians to be rational, “calculate their options well,” to come together in solidarity and be patient as they “pray until the storm passes.”

Syriac Catholic Father Nizar Seman of Mosul told Fides that world leaders must do something concrete, like “include these groups in the list of terrorist organizations” as well as “make public the names of the countries and forces that finance them.”

He said intelligence agencies and some governments “know where certain weapons and money are that keep these groups going from country to country. It would be enough to stop the flow for a month, and these groups would not have any more force.”

Also, Sunni leaders and followers must help isolate the jihadist groups and declare a religious ruling against them, which “would certainly have a significant effect,” the priest said.

Contributing to this story was Doreen Abi Raad in Beirut.
St. Mary’s Heritage Fund awards 26 grants totaling $161,000

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has awarded 26 grants totaling $161,000 from the St. Mary’s Heritage Fund to various organizations throughout the diocese, including parishes, schools and agencies. The following were awarded grants upon the approval of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades:

**Parishes receive $7,000**
- St. Joseph, Fort Wayne — $5,000 to subsidize students, grades 6, 7 and 8 attending St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School
- St. Mary, Fort Wayne — $2,000 to install improved security system in Ave Maria House

**Schools receive $114,000**
- Catholic schools — $10,000 for financial aid-tuition assistance
- St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla — $4,000 to help fund the SGO Awards
- St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart — $9,000 for financial aid for Hispanic and other minority families

**Agencies receive $40,000**
- Fort Wayne:
  - Catholic Charities — $10,000 for the food pantry in South Bend
  - Catholic Charities — $1,000 to assist individuals or families avoid utility disconnection or eviction
  - Christ Child Society — $1,000 for “My Stuff” backpack program
  - Clinica Madre de Dios — $6,500 to purchase clinic supplies for urine and blood tests and pay for blood tests sent to LabCorp for analysis
  - The Franciscan Center — $4,000 for the food pantry
  - The Rose Home — $3,000 for resident assistance fund to assist residents with first two weeks of expenses at The Rose Home ($250 a person)
  - Vincent Village — $7,000 to provide licensed quality daycare for homeless children living at Vincent House

- South Bend:
  - Christ Child Society — $1,000 to provide newborn babies with pram suit

**Areas**
- Marian High School, Mishawaka — $14,000 financial aid for minority students
- Mishawaka Catholic — $10,000 for financial aid-tuition assistance
- St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla — $4,000 to help fund the SGO Awards
- St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart — $9,000 for financial aid for Hispanic and other minority families

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Executive order prohibits firing of gays by U.S. government contractors

BY MARK PATISSON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President Barack Obama’s executive order of July 21 has installed workplace rules forbidding the firing of gays, lesbians, bisexual and transgender people by the federal government and federal contractors — a key provision in the Employment Non-Discrimination Act languishing in Congress.

The U.S. bishops have opposed the bill, known as ENDA, which was passed by the Senate last November but was never scheduled for a vote in the House. The bill has been introduced in almost every Congress since 1994.

“Today’s executive order is unprecedented and extreme and should be opposed,” said Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, and Bishop Richard J. Malone of Buffalo, N.Y., chairman of the Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth.

“In the name of forbidding discrimination, this order implements discrimination,” they said in a joint statement. “With the economic power of the federal government to a deeply flawed understanding of human sexuality, to faith communities, Catholics and many other people of faith will not assent. As a result, the order will exclude federal contractors precisely on the basis of their religious beliefs.”

Archbishop Lori and Bishop Malone and two bishops in an early-July 1 letter to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ blog, addressed their opposition to the changes put in place by the executive order, saying it does not include a religious exemption and could keep Catholic agencies from getting federal contracts.

“Dismissing concerns about religious freedom in a misguided attempt to address unjust discrimination in the workplace is not to advance justice and tolerance. Instead, it stands as an affront to basic human rights and the importance of religion in society,” the four bishops said.

They included Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco, chair of the USCCB Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, and Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski of Miami, chair of the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development.

“The U.S. legacy of religious freedom has enabled the Catholic Church and other faith communities to exercise their religious and moral convictions freely and thus contribute to the good of all in society. No good can come from removing this witness from our social life,” they added in the blog posting.

“Eliminating truly unjust discrimination based on personal characteristics, not sexual behavior and protecting religious freedom are goals that we all should share. The current political climate makes it very difficult to maintain a reasonable dialogue on these contentious issues, but we must keep trying.”

Fourteen other religious leaders lead- ing July 1 and asked Obama to include a religious exemption in his executive order. “We are asking that an extension of protection for one group not come at the expense of faith communities whose religious identity and beliefs motivate them to serve those in need,” said the letter.

Among the signatories were Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, and Stephen Schneck, director of the Institute for Policy Research & Catholic Studies, at The Catholic University of America, Washington.

Schneck, in a July 19 analysis anticipating the executive order, said: “The executive order does not offer the nuanced exemption for religious positions that was sought. But, it does retain the 2002 George Bush executive order language that prohibits religious discrimination in the receipt of federal contracts and allows contracting religious organizations to prefer members of their own faith in some personnel matters.”

He added, “President Obama’s executive order will end discrimi- nation against LGBT citizens in federal contracts while at the same time allowing religious organizations to ensure that key personnel positions in their organizations reflect the values of their faith.” By retaining the Bush order, the administration is recognizing the importance of religious organizations in provid- ing for well-spent federal dollars to the neediest.”

In a statement July 21, Father Snyder said Obama’s executive order “upholds already existing religious exemptions that will allow us to maintain fidelity to our deeply held religious beliefs.”

“As has always been the case, Catholic Charities USA supports the rights of all to employment and abides by the hiring require- ments of all federal contracts,” the statement said.

“Specifically, we are pleased that the religious exemption in this executive order ensures that the same protections within Catholic Charities USA that are entrusted with maintaining our Catholic identity are to be held exempt,” Father Snyder said.

At a White House ceremony shortly before signing the execu- tive order, Obama said, “Today is a day that was welcomed by millions of our fel- low citizens wake up and go to work with the awareness that they could lose their job, not because of anything they do or fail to do, but because of who they are — lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgen- der. And that’s wrong.”

“We’re here to do what we can to make it right — to bend that arc of justice just a little bit in a better direction.”

The president added, “Congress has spent 40 years — four decades — considering legislation that would help solve the problem. That’s a long time. And yet they still haven’t gotten it done.”

Lawmakers first drafted a measure similar to ENDA in 1974. The Senate vote last fall on ENDA was 64-32 for pas- sage, with no vote schedule in the House.
Men lift a replica of a boat during celebrations.

**Pope prays for victims of downed plane, urges peace in Ukraine**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS) —** Though exactly what happened to Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17 remained unclear, Pope Francis offered prayers for the 298 passengers and crew members who died when it came down in eastern Ukraine. According to Australian news reports, as many as 108 of those who died July 17 were on their way to Melbourne for the International AIDS Conference.

Citing extensive efforts to help the world, including a highly active lay leadership lives on.

Pope Francis visits South Korea: Legacy of martyrs, lay leadership lives on.

**Jerusalem (CNS) —** The head of Caritas in Jerusalem said he would launch an international appeal to help with the Gaza Strip and would not wait until the end of Israeli-Hamas hostilities, as he had done in the past. Father Raed Abusahlia, general director of Caritas, said July 18 that more than 80,000 Palestinians had been displaced and 1,250 homes have been completely demolished in Israeli airstrikes and the invasion of Gaza in July. He said 80 percent of the Gaza Strip was without electricity and 90 percent of those who did not have drinkable water. “Families are leaving everything behind and they don’t know what they will be coming back to,” he told Catholic News Service. “It is very difficult. There will be a lot of work to do afterward.”

**Papal visit to South Korea: Legacy of martyrs, lay leadership lives on**

**Jerusalem (CNS) —** When Pope Francis visits South Korea Aug. 14-18, he will find a Catholic Church that exemplifies much of what he hopes for the Church around the world, including a highly active laity, extensive efforts to help the needy and strong relations with non-Christian communities. So says a retired American missionary who spent nearly half a century building up Catholicism in the country.

**Florida voters to consider legalizing recreational pot**

**West Palm Beach, Fla. (CNS) —** When someone close to Teresa Miller developed an addiction to prescription pain medication in 2009, the Florida mom was so distraught she enrolled herself at the University of South Florida. Miller emerged three and a half years later with a master’s degree in mental health counseling. Miller said she wanted to do everything she could to understand the addiction dilemma and to accompany a loved one — and eventually other parents and families in the community — in navigating what is a daunting crisis.

**No electricity, water; Caritas official to launch appeal for Gaza**

**Jerusalem (CNS) —** The head of Caritas in Jerusalem said he would launch an international appeal to help with the Gaza Strip and would not wait until the end of Israeli-Hamas hostilities, as he had done in the past. Father Raed Abusahlia, general director of Caritas, said July 18 that more than 80,000 Palestinians had been displaced and 1,250 homes have been completely demolished in Israeli airstrikes and the invasion of Gaza in July. He said 80 percent of the Gaza Strip was without electricity and 90 percent of those who did not have drinkable water. “Families are leaving everything behind and they don’t know what they will be coming back to,” he told Catholic News Service. “It is very difficult. There will be a lot of work to do afterward.”

**Papal visit to South Korea: Legacy of martyrs, lay leadership lives on**

**Jerusalem (CNS) —** When Pope Francis visits South Korea Aug. 14-18, he will find a Catholic Church that exemplifies much of what he hopes for the Church around the world, including a highly active laity, extensive efforts to help the needy and strong relations with non-Christian communities. So says a retired American missionary who spent nearly half a century building up Catholicism in the country. Bishop William J. McNaughton, arrived in Korea in 1954 and served as the first bishop of Incheon from 1962 until his retirement in 2002. The bishop, who spoke with Catholic News Service by telephone July 16, was watching Pope Francis’ visit next month on television from Massachusetts, where he lives with one of his sisters.

**Florida voters to consider legalizing recreational pot**

**West Palm Beach, Fla. (CNS) —** When someone close to Teresa Miller developed an addiction to prescription pain medication in 2009, the Florida mom was so distraught she enrolled herself at the University of South Florida. Miller emerged three and a half years later with a master’s degree in mental health counseling. Miller said she wanted to do everything she could to understand the addiction dilemma and to accompany a loved one — and eventually other parents and families in the community — in navigating what is a daunting crisis.

**Bill that would overturn any restrictions on abortion termed ‘radical’**

**Washington (CNS) —** A Senate bill that would make it unlawful for abortion services or the facilities that provide them is “the most radical pro-abortion bill ever considered by Congress,” said Carol Butler, president of South Dakota Right to Life. Butler was among several people who testified July 15 at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the Women’s Health Protection Act, or S. 1696, which was introduced in November 2013 by Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Connecticut.

**Votes fall short to move Senate bill forward in response to Hobby Lobby**

**Washington (CNS) —** The U.S. Senate July 16 voted to block consideration of a bill aimed at reversing the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling in Burwell v. Hobby Lobby and forcing businesses who provide contraceptive coverage for employees even if they object to it on religious grounds. Known as the “Protect Women’s Health Act” and introduced by Colorado Sen. Mark Udall and Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran, the bill would have required some businesses that object to contraceptive coverage on religious grounds to pay for it through insurance plans.

**Philomene Tiernan, a member of the International AIDS Conference.**

**Todays Catholic July 27, 2014**
Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart announce leadership team


Sister Joyce Shanabarger was elected general superior of the religious community. Sister Joyce is from Immaculate Conception Parish in Auburn. She also served at St. Charles Borromeo School in Fort Wayne.

Sister Mary Elizabeth Imler, of St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne, and former teacher at Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne, was elected to serve as vicar general.

Three other sisters were elected as councilors: Sister Karen Marie Lanigan, who taught at St. Charles Borromeo School and was principal of St. Mary School, Avilla; Sister Lovina Francis Pammit, who serves in the Archdiocese of Chicago; and Sister Genevieve Raupp, who is the assistant principal at St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne.

The Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart began their service to the Church in the United States in 1876 after being welcomed by Bishop Dwenger to the Fort Wayne Diocese. Besides St. Charles, the sisters presently minister at Presence Sacred Heart Home and St. Mary School in Avilla, and University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. Historically, the sisters have served the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend at St. Joseph School and Hospital in Garrett; St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne; Immaculate Conception in Auburn; and Immaculate Conception in Elgin.

‘Redeemer Mornings’ now airing on Redeemer Radio

FORT WAYNE — Redeemer Radio has announced the debut of “Redeemer Mornings,” airing weekday mornings from 6-8 a.m. on 106.3 FM in the greater Fort Wayne area, and 89.9 FM in Angola/Bryan.

“We are really excited about ‘Redeemer Mornings,’ bringing you information about being Catholic, and about living the joy of the faith,” said Deacon Jim Tighe, host of ‘Redeemer Mornings.’

Daily features of the morning show include national and international Catholic news, saint of the day, and readings and reflections from priests/deacons of the diocese or visiting clergy. Guest interviews cover a variety of topics from local events, projects and ministries to catechesis and personal faith witness. Redeemer Radio listeners will have local news from Peter Kileen, local weather from meteorologist Jeremy Naramore, and hear all the good news going on around the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

“We’re blessed to have Deacon Jim, Andrea Allphin and the entire team presenting a first-class morning show,” said Dave Stevens, Redeemer Radio’s executive director.

“In years past listeners might have tuned to other stations to get some of those services in the morning, but now it’s all presented with Deacon Jim Tighe’s comfortable style with over 30 years of radio experience,” said Stevens.

“‘Redeemer Mornings’ brings a Catholic morning broadcast to Redeemer Radio listeners that will quickly become part of a morning routine. Coffee, conversation and catechesis in a fun, joy-filled manner. ‘Redeemer Mornings’ encourages area Catholics to live their faith by bringing them information and Catholic programming with a conversational, friendly flavor to help you build a Catholic day.”

Quality Dining awards scholarships to diocesan high school seniors

MISHAWAKA — Quality Dining, Inc., local Burger King franchisee, announced July 11 the funding of $110,000 in Burger King continuing education scholarships for high school seniors and $30,000 in scholarships for their Burger King employees. This includes scholarships of $1,000 each to Allison Kelty, John Kelty and Rachel Thelen of Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, Mackenzie North and Nathan Grabner of Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne, Bridget VerVaet, John Julien, Kiersten Lieurance and Mackenzie Robinson of Marian High School, Mishawaka and Chelsea Suppinger of St. Joseph High School, South Bend.

The Burger King McLamore Foundation scholarship program was designed to recognize students who maintain academic standards and are also involved in co-curricular and/or community service activities. Since 2000, the foundation has granted more than $22.6 million in scholarships to more than 20,000 students.

St. Adalbert teacher receives ACE award

SOUTH BEND — The Alliance for Catholic Education recently announced the recipients of its annual awards to six outstanding ACE graduates whose service to the mission of Catholic schools have yielded diverse, important accomplishments.

The recipient of the Maureen T. Hallinan Award for Excellence in Catholic Education was Annette Romans, a teacher at St. Adalbert School, South Bend.

Romans did her first teaching in South Bend as a member of the ACE 11 cohort where she remained to become an essential part of the reshaping of school culture at St. Adalbert Catholic School. Over the past several years, her roles have included second-grade teacher, resource teacher for the language lab, Title I teacher, ACE supervisory teacher and board member for the school. She earned her certification for teaching English as a New Language through Holy Cross College, and she started an innovative student ambassador program at St. Adalbert. Her transformative and inspiring initiatives to teach those most in need resonate with the spirit of Maureen Hallinan.

Pierceton hosts free community dinner

PIERCETON — A group of people had an idea and formed a committee and the “Free Community Dinner” was born. On Monday, July 14, over 75 people came through the doors of St Francis Xavier hall and ate and visited and ate some more. The success of this event can be contributed to the coordination and hard work of the Pierceton United Methodist Church, Pierceton Presbyterian Church, Harvest Community and St Francis Xavier Catholic Church. Working together these churches will take turns being in charge of future community meals.

ST. JUDE VBS TRAVELS BACK IN TIME

During the St. Jude, Fort Wayne, Vacation Bible School held June 24-26, participants went back to 33 A.D. and walked in Jesus’ footsteps. They saw dramas telling of Jesus’ Holy Week, made crafts at various marketplace shops, attended synagogue school and learned Bible games at the village playground. "They found out how life was different in Jesus’ time and learned some great songs. In the photo above, Rachel is excitedly telling everyone that she just saw Jesus enter Jerusalem."
**Redeemer Radio 95.7 FM**

**Coming to Michiana**

**Hiring three Full-Time Positions**

Redeemer Radio, a non-profit, Catholic Radio Group is seeking to fill three staff positions for its new listener supported Catholic Radio Station coming to Michiana. Redeemer Radio will soon have local studios and will be broadcasting on 95.7 FM.

These positions include:
- Station Manager/Development Director
- Community Relations Director
- Operations Manager

all serving the greater Michiana Catholic community.

**Station Manager/ Development Director responsibilities include:**

- Manage staff and volunteers, introducing a quality Catholic Radio station on-air and in the community
- Install and maintain a strong Catholic faith atmosphere amongst staff, volunteers and donors
- Develop and enhance funding sources for both operational and capital needs while ensuring budget attainment in both revenue and expenses

To learn more about Redeemer Radio and these positions go to RedeemerRadio.com and click on the careers tab.

Interested candidates should send resume, references, salary history; and salary requirements (necessary for consideration) to:

Redeemer Radio
Attn: Executive Director
4618 East State Blvd. Ste. 200
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

You may also choose to email all of the above information to jobs@RedeemerRadio.com.

As a religious broadcaster, St. Joseph Catholic Radio (Redeemer Radio) has established a religious qualification for all employee positions. In accordance with all FCC rules and EEO Program compliance measures, Redeemer Radio makes reasonable, good faith efforts to recruit and hire applicants without regard to race, color, national origin or gender, among those who are qualified for employment based on their religious belief or affiliation.

**Community Relations Director responsibilities include:**

- Promote and create local on-air announcements about parishes and Catholic apostolates free of charge
- Develop relationships with local Priests and Deacons for locally produced Readings and Reflections and future local programming
- Provide direction for station events including: Sharathon (on-air fund drive), Catholic Schools Week and special Diocese local broadcasts

**Operations Manager responsibilities include:**

- Production (live recording and editing) of long and short form on-air messages
- Technical production—broadcast of all live and remote broadcasts
- Equipment maintenance, repair of broadcast transmission and studio production equipment with assistance of technical volunteers and contractor engineer in an advance telecommunications/data center environment

To learn more about Redeemer Radio and these positions go to RedeemerRadio.com and click on the careers tab.

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**Saint Joseph High School holds Christian Service Camp**

**BY DONNA QUINN**

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph High School held its second annual Christian Service Camp on July 9-10. More than 60 students participated in this year’s camp.

“Christian Service Camp is a hands-on, summer learning camp emphasizing the spirituality of Christian Service. Students will gain greater insight and understanding of our mission,” said Kathy Kershner, Christian service coordinator at Saint Joseph High School. Students at Saint Joseph are required to perform 20 hours of service each year. Participants in the camp will earn 10 hours of service for the upcoming school year.

The camp focused on three organizations that help those in need — Unity Gardens (a community garden), St. Vincent de Paul Society’s Thrift Store and the Center for the Homeless. Students worked in shifts at all three locations.

Enrico Lazareto, a junior, worked at Unity Gardens on the first day. “I wanted to help and I wanted to know where I could go to help people in South Bend,” Lazareto said. He learned a lot about the work that goes into growing food and reusing energy.

Incoming freshmen Alma Nuñez and Leslie Alvarez came together. Alvarez attended the camp because “I wanted to help and I wanted to know where I could go to help others in South Bend,” she said. Alvarez intends to ask her pastor if they can plant a vegetable garden for the parishioners to use.

“I know what Unity Garden is, but knowing about vocation and seeing it in action is a totally different experience,” said Alex Daughtery, a senior. “Unity Gardens lives the motto ‘God calls, we answer.’”

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**Saint Joseph High School students assist with Unity Garden gardening duties.**

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**Saint Joseph High School students gather as they head to their destinations as part of the Christian Service Camp, which was offered by the school July 9-10. The camp focused on three organizations that help those in need — Unity Gardens (a community garden), St. Vincent de Paul Society’s Thrift Store and the Center for the Homeless. Students worked in shifts at all three locations.**

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**Director of Development – Redeemer Radio Fort Wayne**

Redeemer Radio, a 501(C)(3) non-profit is seeking a full-time Director of Development for the 106.3FM and 89.9FM listening areas. The Director of Development (DOD) is chiefly responsible for enhancing and maintaining donor revenue both for capital and operating budgets to achieve Fort Wayne Redeemer Radio’s financial needs.

The DOD must have a passion for the station with a demonstrated ability to build and develop long term relationships outside and outside of our own circle of influence securing the funding necessary to continue the work of our apostolate.

**Responsibilities include:**

- Leading and directing all strategies and activities for donor cultivation, solicitation and communication
- Developing new and improving existing fundraising programs to support the annual budget including capital and long term needs as well as operational fundraising programs like Sharathon
- Responsible for donor communications and relations

**Requirements include:**

- Practicing Catholic in full communion with the church
- A four-year Bachelor’s degree and four years related professional experience
- Demonstrated volunteer experience in parish and Catholic environment
- Strong computer skills
- Previous public speaking/presentation experience
- Non-profit experience helpful but not required

Interested candidates should send resume, references, salary history; and salary requirements (necessary for consideration) to:

Redeemer Radio
Attn: Executive Director
4618 East State Blvd. Ste. 200
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

You may also choose to email all of the above information to jobs@RedeemerRadio.com.
GRANGER — In celebration of his 40 years of pastoral service within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Msgr. Bill Schooler joined several friends and family members last month to undertake the momentous challenge of bicycling through four countries in just under three weeks.

The team of pilgrims venturing with Msgr. Schooler, who serves as pastor of St. Pius X in Granger, included his brother Tony, St. Pius X parochial vicar Father Terry Coonan, and members of the Corbett, Schmid and Carozza families. While not everyone could be present for the entire duration of the trip, Giancarlo Carozza, Paolo Carozza, Brad Gregory and Monsignor’s sister, Janet Rivers, were fortunate enough to accompany him from start to finish.

Their journey began in Canterbury, as they gathered at the cathedral where St. Thomas Becket was martyred in the 12th century. Throughout the voyage, these cyclists would come to identify with saints and Biblical figures, experiencing joy, sorrow, exhilaration and exhaustion, in a much more profound way than they could have initially realized. Their first day on the trail was a rocky one. After experiencing multiple flat tires, they eventually arrived at their destination for the evening, only to learn that there was no wine available to celebrate Mass. Thankfully, other than this one unfortunate circumstance, they were able to share in the Eucharist together every other day throughout the trip.

Each morning, someone from the group would read a reflection for the day, inviting the others to ponder the similarities of their momentous excursion to the sufferings, challenges and joys of living a holy Christian life. As they left England behind and entered into the French countryside, they were greeted with beautiful weather and gracious hospitality.

Their journey also led them to view the magnificent splendor of several legendary cathedrals, including Notre Dame of Reims, where most of the French kings throughout history have been crowned. This cathedral, as well as the even more famous Notre Dame of Chartes and Notre Dame of Paris, demonstrates the significant role the Blessed Virgin Mary plays throughout French spirituality.

As the riders continued further south, they soon entered into Switzerland, facing the challenge of climbing the Alps. Encountering both rain and snow during their uphill challenge, they steadily rose through the mountains, making it to the highest part of the San Bernardino Pass at 8,114 feet.

Once arriving at the hospice, which has been operated by wonderfully gracious and hospitable Augustinian priests and religious for over 1,000 years, the group convened for Mass. Here the pilgrims placed their emotions of triumph, exhaustion and exhilaration at the foot of the cross as they joined in worship together. This was the midpoint of the trip, and for some the last leg of the journey before returning to the United States. Before doing so, however, most of the other pilgrims arrived, and together they rested for one day to admire the beauty of God’s creation that lay before them, evident in the picturesque landscape of snow-covered mountains and lakes, which many of their group had just experienced through.

Now riding into Italy, they encountered even more small towns, friendly welcomes, delicious food and many historic churches. In Pavia, the burial site of St. Augustine, Msgr. Schooler celebrated Sunday Mass, which he revealed was his favorite place to have offered the Eucharistic Sacrifice other than the Crypt Church at St. Peter’s in Rome.

Father Coonan, the only one not to have rendezvoused with the group yet, soon arrived with all his clothes — but without his bike. The problems increased, however, because before he was able to obtain his delayed equipment from the airline, Msgr. Schooler, his brother Tony and Bill Corbett had their bicycles stolen while touring the city of Luca.

Although they caught a group of men who appeared to be planning to steal the remaining bikes, the police did not charge anyone or provide assistance in obtaining the stolen property. In order to continue on the journey, the travelers had to purchase new bikes, and because of the delay were unable to spend much time in the beautiful city of Sienna or visit St. Catherine’s tomb.

Nevertheless, three days later, after stops in Florence, Tuscany and the volcanic landscape of Lago di Balsena, the group triumphantly arrived at the Vatican for the feast of St. Peter and Paul. The exhilaration of seeing their destination in all its glory, as well as witnessing a papal address by Pope Francis brought joy and tears, even more so than after reaching the pinnacle of the Alps.

Sadly, however, their van, which had faithfully been driven by Janet, Maggie Schmid and Evonne and Mariel Corbett throughout the duration of the trip to provide much needed supplies, rest and renewal for the cyclists, was broken into during this time of celebration — turning their elation into great sorrow.

Suitcases, laptops, passports and more were now stolen and beyond retrievable for the exhausted travelers.

The next day, Msgr. Schooler and Father Coonan were able to concelebrate Mass inside St. Peter’s at the chapel of the patron saints of Europe, Cyril and Methodius for the feast of the First Martyrs of Rome. They reflected on the graces of their pilgrimage and on the necessity to rely on God’s mercy and love even when the world is seeking one’s destruction.

In the remaining days, these triumphant, yet now essentially penniless pilgrims were able to explore the splendid treasures and majesty of the Vatican and the Eternal City. From seeing the burial places of great saints, including those of St. Peter, St. Pius X and St. John XXIII, as well as the Sistine Chapel, the four major basilicas, the Spanish Steps, Pantheon and Colosseum, these men and women were able complete their journey and become rich through wonderful experiences and memories, even if now poor in material possessions.

To dive even more deeply into the journey taken by these adven-turesome travelers, including more personal stories, humorous commentary and photos, read Msgr. Schooler’s blog at fromcanterburbtorome.blogspot.com.

Msgr. Bill Schooler is shown in this photo with those who rode with him from start to finish after arriving at St. Peter’s Square: Brad Gregory, Giancarlo Carozza, Paolo Carozza and Janet Rivers.

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A Pilgrimage to Poland, V

Mass will be celebrated at the Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Warsaw on July 22, 2016. The cathedral witnessed the coronations of kings, weddings and funerals of royalty, and the swearing in of the Polish Constitution on May 3, 1791. The church was nearly destroyed during the Warsaw Uprising in 1944 and reconstructed after World War II with the consecration of the church occurring on June 9, 1960.

The basement of St. Stanislaus Church in Warsaw offers the shrine of Blessed Father Jerzy Popielzuko, who was martyred by Security Service Officers on Oct. 19, 1984, for his opposition to communism. The shrine visit is part of the activities for pilgrims on July 23, 2016.

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The maps of Poland and the insert shows the itinerary of the World Youth Day Krakow pilgrimage in 2016. The dots in the circles denotes the travel days to different sites in the pre-World Youth Day and the World Youth Day activities.
**WYD KRAKOW 2016**

The railway entering Auschwitz-Birkenau, one of the concentration camps operated by the Nazis during World War II, is shown in this photo. Auschwitz-Birkenau housed the extermination facilities that killed approximately 1 million people in a five-year period. St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. Edith Stein were among those who lost their lives at the camp. Diocesan pilgrims will visit the camp on July 24, 2016.

**WYD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

...can determine whether to allow 16-18 year-olds to travel with their group.”

The diocese has space for 200 pilgrims, so it is recommended to sign up as soon as possible.

Because of all that Poland has to offer, Kohrman said one can imagine how many Catholics from all over the world are going to want to travel to WYD.

“Therefore, we got an early start and have reserved spots for 200 pilgrims with our travel agency,” she said. “They have been working hard to secure hotel rooms, transportation and everything else needed.”

Kohrman said, “While hotel and flight costs are still being negotiated, we have a reasonable estimate of $4,000 per person for the trip, including all transportation, lodging, WYD registration and many meals. This considerable investment will require great sacrifice for our young people, but will certainly be an experience that will impact them and bear great fruit for years to come.”

An initial deposit of $500 will be required in order to register and secure a spot in the diocesan delegation. WYD 2016 will not have a diocesan-wide fundraising event similar to the one held for WYD 2011 in Madrid. However, diocesan WYD staff will provide ideas and suggestions to those parishes interested in fundraising to cover the costs of WYD.

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend’s delegation to WYD 2016 will consist of 200 pilgrims including Bishop Rhoades, priests, religious, seminarians, diocesan WYD staff, young adult pilgrims, youth pilgrims and chaperones.

Youth pilgrims will travel in groups of 10-16 teens and be accompanied by two chaperones, who will be 25 years-old or older. In order to allow for better relationships between youth pilgrims and their chaperones, Kohrman said parishes participating in WYD 2016 will be responsible for recruiting their own chaperones.

“WYD 2016 will be an amazing pilgrimage,” Kohrman said. After departing from the diocese on Thursday, July 21, 2016, pilgrims will begin their pre-World Youth Day spiritual preparation in Warsaw, Poland.

While in Warsaw, pilgrims will tour the city’s Old Town and Market Square. They will participate in Masses at the Metropolitan Cathedral of St. John the Baptist and at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, which houses the Shrine of Blessed Jerzy Popiełuszko, who was martyred in 1984 for his opposition to communism. Next there will be an opportunity to visit Poland’s national shrine and pray before the miraculous Icon of the Black Madonna at Jasna Gora (Luminous Mount) Monastery in Czestochowa.

The next stop, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Kohrman said is sure to be an emotional, prayer-filled one as pilgrims will spend time on the grounds of the former concentration camp where St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) and St. Maximilian Kolbe were martyred.

Then pilgrims will visit the birthplace of John Paul II, Wadowice, and the home of one of his favorite shrines to Our Lady, Kalwaria. The pilgrimage will continue with six more days in Krakow — the final resting place of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska and, of course, the home of St. John Paul II.

Activities in Krakow will include a visit to the Divine Mercy Sanctuary, the WYD opening Mass, catechetical sessions, daily Mass, Stations of the Cross and other WYD events.

Pope Francis will arrive on Thursday, but the culmination of WYD will be the vigil Mass with Pope Francis on Saturday evening. Following the closing Mass and farewell dinner on Sunday, pilgrims will journey home on Monday, Aug. 1.

The website — www.diocesefwsb.org/wyd — features an overview of the itinerary with pictures, a “Frequently Asked Questions” section, registration and payment information, and some interesting facts about Poland. Questions may be directed to Natalie Kohrman at wyd@diocesefwsb.org.
Catholic singles find home in faith community

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Being single at an age when many contemporaries are marrying and even starting families can make maintaining a fulfilling social life difficult. Add to that the faith component and some young adults find it a very real challenge to develop and sustain relationships that meet their social and spiritual needs.

One grassroots group of twenty-something Catholics on the southwest side of Fort Wayne, led by Molly Slocum, has formed to meet that challenge. Slocum, the director of religious education at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, says, though her ministry of overseeing the weekly faith formation of 550 students in kindergarten through eighth grades and supporting the 100 volunteer catechists there keeps her busy, being single in Fort Wayne is complicated.

“In general, it’s difficult to be single here because it’s very family oriented. Most you meet are married. … As a Catholic you add another layer in finding someone who has the same faith,” she says.

The young adults are transient — they move to the big cities. There’s not a well established young adult presence here.”

Slocum, a Bishop Luers graduate who earned an early childhood education degree from Xavier University has taught in Alaska as well as in the Southwest Allen County public schools before teaching first and second grades at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School. When she was asked to step up as director of the religion program in early 2013, she recognized, “This is where God wants me to be.”

It was the consensus of the staff at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish recently that the young adult presence was essential to the life of their faith community. So it was agreed that Slocum would facilitate an ARISE group for young adults. ARISE Together in Christ is a three-year, parish-centered process of spiritual renewal and evangelization for all ages.

“We started in the fall ARISE season with eight to 10 people,” Slocum relates. “We developed good relationships. We even went sledding together and out to coffee,” she adds.

In spring the group, who now has a Facebook presence, opted for a weekly Lenten Bible study and much to Slocum’s delight the group doubled in size to 20-25 members with the help of a little recruiting from the original members. For more structured events in the fall, Slocum says the group will meet at different times and come together for Mass.

As the group continues to grow and their faith is challenged to grow, the social climate is expanding as well. “In between the fall and spring sessions we do social things,” says Slocum, who explained how the group recently experienced curling, the sport of sliding stones on a sheet of ice. Slocum hopes to establish a core group soon that will guide the young adult group as it expands.

The members attend other faith events in the diocese such as Theology on Tap, a monthly speaker and conversation series for young adults, and Slocum reports a service component is developing within the group with volunteer service trips to St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen and the hope of establishing a game night at Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community.

Another founding member of the young adult group, 27-year-old Sean Clerget, is new to Fort Wayne and found it important to step up and join in. “There are certainly challenges for unmarried Catholic young adults in their 20s and 30s. Many parishes don’t really know how to relate to this segment of the population and that is not necessary the fault of the parishes. We are a diverse group, often focused on careers, and many of us move frequently. Ultimately unmarried Catholic adults have to take initiative themselves and have to work hard to build communities and sustain friendships,” he says.

But he notes there is a positive side to being a single Catholic as well. “Not having the family responsibilities of a married person or of a parent, young adults sometimes have the ability to be more involved in their parishes. One of the great things about this time in life is the opportunity to volunteer and hopefully have an impact on others while growing in your own faith at the same time,” he relates.

Though Slocum feels there is still a misconception among young adults about the truth of the Catholic Church, she has great hope for the future of the young adult presence in the diocese. “I hope it continues to grow. We’ll take small steps to establish a continuous presence. … We’re letting the Spirit guide us and taking it as it comes,” she says, adding, “It’s important to have a faith community. … We can reach out to the community and do works of mercy. We can truly be Christ’s presence in the world. We’ve always been called to that. … It helps to have a group to do these things with,” she says.

Slocum feels the Church and the diocese are both working slowly to improve the sense of community for Catholic young adults. “Lots of young adults are looking for a place for community — to feel welcome. Pope Francis is doing a nice job. The Church is giving the message that we can be that home,” she concludes. 

Weekend Retreat for Families
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Retreat Leaders:
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• Father Steve Gibson, C.S.C.
• Father Ken Grabner, C.S.C.
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Meet the new principals ...

Gale Powelson takes administrative helm at St. Rose of Lima School

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

MONROEVILLE — Gale Powelson has been appointed the new principal at St. Rose School in Monroeville. The Ohio native is a familiar face at St. Rose of Lima Parish, where she married her husband Bob 40 years ago this August and has been a member ever since.

Powelson attended St. Barbara Catholic School in Cleverdale, Ohio, until it closed during her eighth grade year. She was a 1971 graduate of Continental High School and went on to beauty school and work before staying home to raise her family.

Powelson has two grown children — Michelle, who lives in New Hampshire with her husband Doug and children ages 3, 5 and 7 and Matthew who lives nearby in Monroeville with his son Jacob.

While volunteering in the classroom during her own children’s school years, a teacher encouraged her to get her degree. She took an assistant position and began classes at Indiana University-Purdue University in Fort Wayne to begin her second career in education.

From there Powelson’s life has come full circle. “I feel like I’m home,” she explained to the St. Rose community in her remarks after Mass at the church on Sunday, June 29. The school officially changed names from St. Joseph to St. Rose of Lima, July 1.

Powelson’s primary goal in her new role will be to carry on the legacy of the school. “St. Rose has a very strong academic and faith base,” she detailed. “I hope to grow our students academically and spiritually, as well as in numbers.”

The school will be adding a pre-school this fall which Powelson feels is crucial to growth, “It is very important to get students in the door at a young age.”

Very involved in the parish life at St. Rose, Powelson serves as chairman of the Annual Bishop’s Appeal, an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, member of the arts and environment committee and pastoral council. She is also active in Delta Kappa Gamma, an educational organization and enjoys reading, traveling, oil painting and gardening in her spare time.

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Stanley Liponoga
new principal at Most Precious Blood School

FORT WAYNE — Stanley Liponoga IV has accepted the leadership role as new principal at Most Precious Blood School and he’s hit the floor running. “I want to ensure each student gets a Christ-centered education to continue the rich tradition of academic excellence that Most Precious Blood is known for,” he says.

An Elkhart native, Liponoga found his way to Fort Wayne in 2007 after earning his bachelor’s degree in physical education from Indiana State University in 2006. He first served as a full-time physical education teacher at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, then took on the responsibility of the administrative office and served as assistant principal at both campuses.

Then in 2011, after earning his master’s degree in educational leadership, Liponoga accepted the principal’s position at St. Joseph School in Monroeville. While principal there the school was moved into the recently purchased old Monroeville Elementary School building with a name change to St. Rose of Lima to reflect Monroeville’s Catholic church’s title.

As for the move to Most Precious Blood, Liponoga says God was calling, “I felt God calling me to move,” he says, adding, “It was a leap of faith, but God was talking so strongly. There were too many signs.”

Liponoga is looking so forward to collaborating with his team at Most Precious Blood, where he says, “It was truly a ‘God-thing,’ there were too many signs.

As for his new school and staff Liponoga says, “I think the teachers and staff are as excited as I am to start. I’m blessed to be able to be called to serve with this veteran staff. Once you become part of this school you never leave.”

Principal Liponoga hopes to fill the few open spots left in the school that educates 260 preschool through eighth-grade students soon and reports the school has after school care and a summer camp as well to offer the community.

Liponoga and his family are active members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne.
Holy Family principal stresses Catholic identity at heart of school vision

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

SOUTH BEND — For incoming Holy Family Principal Joe Miller, Catholic education was central to his development as a son, husband and father. With his mother a former teacher at Holy Cross School and his father a current deacon at St. Anthony de Padua Parish in South Bend, the values instilled from his Catholic upbringing resonate with Miller today.

Miller is a graduate of St. Anthony de Padua School and Saint Joseph High School in South Bend. The new principal also received two master’s degrees; one in education as a part of the Alliance for Catholic Education from the University of Notre Dame and the second in divinity from the University of Notre Dame.

Following graduation Miller taught school for two years at St. Joseph’s Academy in Brownsville, Texas. He returned to South Bend and spent time in the seminary with the Congregation of Holy Cross, discerning if he had a vocation to religious life. Most recently he taught theology and Spanish for seven years at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend.

The enthusiasm for his new appointment as principal at Holy Family is evident as he describes his fondness for the west side of South Bend. “Having been a teacher, I felt called to a leadership role and Holy Family opened up. I was attracted to the job because I have known about the school and have several friends that have attended,” says Miller. “I like the west side of South Bend; the values and the good people on this side of town.”

Sustaining the school’s Catholic identity is the cornerstone of Miller’s goals for the school. “Our Catholic identity is at the heart of everything that we do. I really love the name of the school. I hope that our goals are consistent with the Holy Family itself — being placed where love is at the heart of it,” Miller stresses.

“We want to have a warm loving environment where our faith is first, and we pursue excellence in everything we do, keeping Christ at the center,” he continues. “I view the job as a fulfillment of my vocation, and I feel this is what God is calling me to do. It is a privilege to help children discover who they are and what God is calling them to do as well.”

Miller acknowledges that the efforts of his predecessors, the Felician Sisters who served at Holy Family School for 60 years, make the school the success it is today.

“There is a way to get to know me, and I have been a part of the community where I live (he commutes to the diocese that educated me).”

Serving the public education sector for 21 years, Goralczyk has been on the administration side of education for the past 13 with positions at Northwood Middle School, Fort Wayne South Side High School and most recently Michigan City High School.

Goralczyk is very excited to be in the Catholic school system. “It’s great to be back in the community where I live (he commuted to his last three school assignments), and be able to give back to the diocese that educated me.”

“Being a Catholic school principal is important to me because it allows me to use my faith and my journey with Christ and apply that every day,” says Goralczyk. “I can honestly work with kids and we can talk about Jesus and commandments. Our anti-bullying program is very successful because its roots are in the faith and teachings of the Church.”

Working closely with and for the school staff are many new high school youth group room.

Parishioners take tour of educational wing expansion

BY CORINE ERLANDSON

FORT WAYNE — On the evening of July 8, dozens of parishioners, both young and old, took walking tours of the new educational wing expansion at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish that is in the final phase of construction. The construction is due to be finished in the coming weeks, well in time for the opening of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School on Aug. 13.

On hand to show the newly constructed rooms and answer questions were St. Elizabeth Ann Seton priests Father Jim Shafer and Father Ben Muhlenkamp, Deacon Jim Kitchens and other staff members. Also on hand to help show the new classrooms to visitors were National Junior Honor Society school students and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Religious Education students.

Visitors saw nine new classrooms, a media center, a computer lab, meeting rooms, resource rooms, bathrooms and a new and expanded high school youth group room.

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Deacon Jim Kitchens, left, shows visiting parishioners the new media center.
Reaffirmed the clear and consistent Catholic doctrine on the sanctity of marriage and the immorality of contraception. Fast forward to 1960, when the “pill” gained FDA approval, and its proponents promised that marriages would be more fulfilling if children were fewer.

Eight years later, with the sexual revolution in full swing, Pope Paul VI issued his prophetic encyclical, “Humanae vitae.” In the context of a succinct but profound theology of spousal love and responsible parenthood, the Holy Father reaffirmed the moral norm prohibiting contraception and instead promoted natural methods of fertility regulation as the path to happiness and holiness in marriage.

A decade later, at the beginning of his own pontificate, St. John Paul II strongly reaffirmed the Church’s teaching on this matter and deepened it further through his beautiful theology of the body.

Central to this teaching is the conviction that sexual intercourse is intended by God to be the most intimate sign of the mutual gift of self that a man and woman make to one another in marriage. It is designed to be, not a monologue, but a dialogue in which a husband and wife “say” to each other through the language of the body what they said aloud publicly on the altar on their wedding day: I accept you completely as the gift that God created you to be, and I give myself to you completely in return. And this mutual gift of self that is expressed in sexual union is not meant to end with the couple, but rather, makes them capable of the greatest possible gift: becoming co-creators with God in giving life to a new human person. The procreative potential of sex, far from simply serving to propagate the species, is for man and woman something sacramental, meant to mirror and make present God Himself.

In a similar way, through the blessing of procreation, God graces the love between husband and wife with the gift of a child who is literally the two of them in one flesh, a personification of their love and a permanent sign of their unity. And what is more, this new human being bears not only the image and likeness of his or her parents, but above all, the very image and likeness of God. So we see that the love-giving and life-giving meanings of sex are intimately linked, like two sides of the same coin, because they reflect the inner life of God who is love.

Perhaps we can now understand on a deeper level that the question of family planning is not peripheral to our faith. On the contrary, how we handle our mutual fertility in marriage is a central and serious issue in our walk with God. Every Sunday when we recite the creed at Mass, we profess our belief in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life. There is only one act that puts us in communion with God as the Lord and giver of life, and that act is the marital embrace. How beautiful that He who is the bond of love between the Father and the Son should be the one who can make our love for each other in marriage so real that it actually becomes another person, the two of us in one flesh. When it comes to marriage, sexuality and procreation, therefore, we are standing on holy ground: God is present here in a mysterious but real way, and like Moses who approached the burning bush on Mount Horeb, we remove the sandals from our feet in profound reverence.

Natural family planning (NFP) is an umbrella term for methods of fertility regulation that respect the inseparable connection, willed by God, between the love-giving and life-giving purposes of sex.

By learning to observe and interpret the biomarkers of fertility in a woman’s body, married couples can identify the days on which conception is most likely should they desire to conceive a child, and they can refrain from sexual relations on the days when conception is possible should they desire to avoid a pregnancy.

International studies have confirmed that when a couple is properly taught and the method is used correctly, NFP has an effectiveness rate of 98-99 percent.

St. John Paul II, that great champion of human love, knew that the Church’s teaching on sexuality and procreation is central to the holiness and the happiness of married couples. Years ago, in an address to young people, he spoke from the heart: “Do not be afraid of the love that God asks of you.” These demands — as you find them in the constant teaching of the Church — are precisely capable of making your love a true love.

There is no doubt that following the Church’s teaching on this matter can be difficult, even heroic, at times. But the love that we offer each other is the same love that we offer our Triune God. Our cup has overflowed with His generosity."

TODAY’S CATHOLIC
BY LISA EVERETT

T he continuing controversy over the HHS mandate has kept the issue of birth control in the national spotlight and raised questions in the minds of many people, including many Catholics, about why the Church opposes contraception at all. What does faith have to do with family planning? Many people sincerely wonder. Does God really care how many kids we have and what method of birth control we use? To begin to understand where the Church is coming from on this issue, we first need to see the “big picture,” from the perspective of both history and theology.

National NFP Awareness Week is a good time to do so.

For the vast majority of Christian history, all of the major Christian denominations, not just the Catholic Church, taught that contraception was seriously wrong. This opposition was not limited to the clergy, but was widely accepted by the Christian faithful. In fact, when Anthony Comstock, a devout New England Protestant, proposed to Congress in 1873 a federal statute that would criminalize the possession, distribution and dissemination of information about contraceptives, it passed with little debate.

The first break in the constant teaching of the Christian churches came in 1930, when the Anglican Church decided at its Lambeth Conference to permit the use of contraception among married couples for serious reasons. In the same year, Pope Pius XI issued the encyclical “Casti Connubii,” which reaffirmed the Church’s teaching on this matter and deepened it further through his beautiful theology of the body.

Central to this teaching is the conviction that sexual intercourse is intended by God to be the most intimate sign of the mutual gift of self that a man and woman make to one another in marriage. It is designed to be, not a monologue, but a dialogue in which a husband and wife “say” to each other through the language of the body what they said aloud publicly on the altar on their wedding day: I accept you completely as the gift that God created you to be, and I give myself to you completely in return. And this mutual gift of self that is expressed in sexual union is not meant to end with the couple, but rather, makes them capable of the greatest possible gift: becoming co-creators with God in giving life to a new human person. The procreative potential of sex, far from simply serving to propagate the species, is for man and woman something sacramental, meant to mirror and make present God Himself.

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Rekindle the light inside

W e each have a light inside of us that is kept aflame by the joy we find in our relationships, our hopes and our faith. But when a loved one dies our light may fade a bit, overcome by the darkness of grief. We may find ourselves in a state of shock or disbelief that our loved one is really one gone following the death. As time passes a deepened sense of sadness or perhaps even depression over the loss of relationship and hope for the future may set in. Life doesn't hold the relationship and hope for the future even depression over the loss of death. As time passes a deepened sense of shock or disbelief that our loved one is the darkness of grief.

Others in grief may rely on a trusted friend or two, especially if family members are not living in close proximity. When my husband Trent died suddenly in a car accident, my family did the

HOPE IN THE MOURNING

KAY KOZAD

As we spoke further they confirmed their mutual desire to remain close and share their grief in the months and even years ahead. My friend understands that this shared support must be ongoing to be effective on this journey they have only just begun.

ORDINARY TIME

I have found that during this time of mourning when we meet feel very alone in our grief. So it's during these times that we must reach out and not only ask for, but accept the support and loving care of others. When we reach out, which is of course difficult when in mourning, we may find there are so many types of support that can help us rekindle our light of life. Some are blessed with support from within their own family. I was heart warmed recently to learn from a friend whose sister was dying of cancer that she had been the constant companion of her young adult niece as they tended her morn.

At the visitation following her sister's death, my friend told me a little of the journey the two have been on, "I've tried to be there for her throughout this ordeal. I hope she's not getting sick of me," she said, turning her face replied. "Oh gosh, I don't know what I would have done without you. You have been my rock through all of this!"

Identical twins answer the call to Priesthood

A gnes Koenigsknecht had the look of an air-traffic controller, the one that strikes so many mothers of the bride. "We need one round table on the stage," she instructed on a Friday morning in June, the eve of the big day. Her legjon was in full force, a swirl of activity in the church hall: hiking tables, wheeling chairs, folding linens and slicing carrots. At 72-year-old and uncowed by the scene, while a nine-month-old nephew scooted about.

Agnes' mind was on logistics, the "controlled Faitful G" she had been anticipating. But it was clear she was enjoying every minute. "This is all part of the celebration," she told.

It was a double celebration for Agnes: not a daughter's wedding but the priestly ordination of her twin sons — identical twins with individual callings to the Priesthood.

She likes to stress that part to the people who express incredulity or ask who had the idea first, Todd or Gary. Agnes and her husband, Brian, checked in with each of the twins as high-school freshmen to inquire about their future plans.

In private conversations, both teens expressed an interest in Priesthood, unbeknownst to the other. The discovery of their mutual goal was a happy surprise — and an enduring blessing during eight years of seminary.

"It felt natural," said Father Gary, now 26. "It was very helpful to have a twin brother to spur each other on."

At 18, the twins from Fowler, Mich., made a big decision, setting out for college seminary in St. Paul, Minn. They made it after much prayer, with great maturity. Their twenties have been defined by intense growth: study, sacraments and service. Their work was embedded in a robust fraternity among fellow seminarians, including some who's-who twin hijinks. One involved drawing a mob above Father Todd's right eyebrow to eliminate the most clear-cut distinguisher of the two.

In this day and age, many Catholics and non Catholics alike are mystified by the Priesthood. The prospect of celibacy and obedience seem increasingly foreign, baffling even. But when you talk to Father Gary and Father Todd, there is no sense of angst or sacrifice. There is deep contentment bubbling into boyish joy. They can't stop grinning.

Above all, the twins exude freedom — the freedom that comes from answering your call from God, going all in and never looking back.

"They're both very intelligent," Bishop Earl Boyea, head of the Lansing diocese, told me. "They engage people very easily. There's a sincerity about them. They're not complicated." That may be what I appreciated most, and it flows from their rural upbringing, a lifestyle that is fully integrated. Everything is home grown at the Koenigsknechts' organic dairy farm, where Agnes gardens, bakes and fills the basement with canned foods.

She and Brian raised 10 kids in an old farmhouse that, absent a TV, conversation and prayer, is "the only thing that's been a comfort and a source of joy for them."

The fruits of their efforts were on full display June 14, when the twins received their holy orders. Agnes looked radiant in a layered ruffle dress that shimmered in the light, her silver hair neatly curled under. As Father Gary and Father Todd processed into St. Thomas Aquinas Church in East Lansing, Mich., backlit by a two-stained-glass mural of Jesus, I was overcome by the moment: the trumpets, the incense, the opening hymn, "Go Up to the Altar of God." Once they reached the sanctuary and looked out at their family, filling a block of front-and-center pews, the twins beamed. In a heartbeat, I felt a sense of Agnes' maternal pride.

"How do you feel?" I asked her after Mass.

"Beyond words," she said.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and editor of SisterStory.org, the official website of National Catholic Sisters Week.

READINGS

Saturday: 1Kgs 3:7-13Ps 119:57,72; 76,77,127-130Rom 8:28-30 Mt 13:44-52


Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22 Ps 79:8-9,11; 13,11-19

Wednesday: Jer 15:10-11Ps 59:2-17 Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Jer 18:1-6Ps 146:1b-6b Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Jer 26:1-9Ps 69:5,8-10 Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24Ps 69:15-16, 30:31-33 Mt 14:1-12

READINGS for the week of August 3

Sunday: S51-3-9Ps 46:8;9,15-18Rom 8:35,37-39; 1Cor 14:32-33

Monday: Jer 28:1-17Ps 119:29,43; 78-80,95, 102 Mt 24:22-36

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2,12-15, 18-22Ps 102:16-23, 29 Mt 14:22-36

Wednesday: Dt 7:9-10;13-14Ps 97:1-2,5-6; 9,29,16-19 Mt 17:1-9

Thursday: Jer 31:31-34Ps 51:12-15, 18-19 Mt 16:13-23

THE WEEKEND

Saturday: No 21, 3, 4, 7-8, 8, 10, 13, 15, 23, 29; 82-84Ps 92:1-6, 12Ps 97:1b, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20; 114-116 Ps 139:13-16, 36; 147:13, 14, 16; 148:1-4Jer 26:11-16, 24Ps 69:15-16, 30:31-33 Mt 14:1-12

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

2 Thess 2:1-3 , 6-7 (Ps) Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Hb 1:12 - 2:4Ps 98:13 Mt 17:14-20

Saturday: S51-3-9Ps 46:8;9,15-18Rom 8:35,37-39; 1Cor 14:32-33

Monday: Jer 28:1-17Ps 119:29,43; 78-80,95, 102Mt 24:22-36

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2,12-15, 18-22Ps 102:16-23, 29Mt 14:22-36

Wednesday: Dt 7:9-10;13-14Ps 97:1-2,5-6; 9,29,16-19Mt 17:1-9

Thursday: Jer 31:31-34Ps 51:12-15, 18-19 Mt 16:13-23

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

"There's a simplicity here."

"This is not the time to open debates,

"Some people have a problem with

"Others in grief may rely on a

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"They're both very intelligent,"
Renegade researchers and the future of biomedical research

Producing human embryos in the laboratory for research purposes makes some people uneasy. Even those who tolerate the creation of embryos in test tubes so that infertility couples might have children will often have reservations about the creation of embryos to serve as experimental research material or to destroy them for their cellular parts.

Twenty years ago, when a deeply divided government panel recommended allowing such research experiments on human embryos for the first time, even Bill Clinton summarily rejected the idea. Two years later, Representative Nancy Pelosi concurred in the Congressional Record: “We should not be involved in the creation of embryos for research. I completely agree with my colleagues on that score.” The proposal to engender human embryos by cloning has similarly drawn strong opposition from Americans for many years. Yet society’s views are shifting. Clinton, Pelosi and many others have reversed their views in recent years. Scientists and politicians now seem ready to draw first lines — and then erase them — as expediency demands.

Last week, with little fanfare, the journal Nature published a paper from a major research laboratory describing a study that would have been largely unthinkable when the embryo research debate first began in the early 1990s. Dr. Shoudhart Mitalipov and his colleagues at Oregon Health and Science University described the creation of multiple human embryos in the laboratory for research purposes. Two of the embryos were produced by in vitro fertilization (IVF), and four more were generated by nuclear transfer or cloning, the same technique used to produce Dolly the sheep. All six of the human embryos were engineered for the purpose of “disaggregating” them for their embryonic stem cells to enable further study and detailed comparisons of their genetic and epigenetic patterns. If those human embryos derived by IVF or by cloning had not been destroyed but instead implanted into their mothers, pregnancies could reasonably have been expected to ensue.

Human embryos, our own progeny, surely deserve better than being reduced to a kind of raw material, a commodity to be used for research and commercial purposes. Embryos, of course, are strikingly unfamiliar to us. They lack hands and feet and voices. Even their brains have not yet developed. They look nothing like what we imagine a human being. But they are as human as you and I; they’re simply younger, smaller and more vulnerable. Embryos may not register with us on first glance; we may need to make a concerted effort to avoid disconnecting them from what we once were ourselves, given that each of us is precisely an embryo who has grown up.

Human embryos ought to be accorded the same respect that every human being deserves, as a matter of basic human rights. Human dignity demands nothing less. Respect for our own progeny, then, will have the obvious consequence that human embryos should not be generated in the laboratory for premeditated destruction, nor for cellular cambialization by scientists.

Dr. Mitalipov’s laboratory, of course, is not the first to carry out human embryo-destructive research. But if he and his 25 co-authors on the paper are able routinely to create human life merely to extinguish it for research ends — and are able to chronicle their exploits in professional journals without engendering so much as an ethical hiccup from the scientific community — perhaps it really is time to ask whether our corporate practice of science

making sense of bioethics

Father Tad Pacholczyk, Ph.D.

earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

HOPE

continued from page 16

best they could to support me from long distance. But I was struggling alone. So I found solace in the care of my dearest friend who offered her friendship even in the wee hours of the morning.

I can still recall vividly the day I was struck anew by a deep sadness over all that I had lost with Trent’s death. As a torrent of tears burst forth from the pain in my heart and I prayed for consolation my doorbell rang. There stood my friend — the answer to my prayer. As we drank tea together and she sat witness to my grief, I was uplifted by the sharing of her strength.

Another manner of support comes in the form of a group setting. In our fast-paced culture today grief groups have become a means of seeking and receiving support. Because our loved ones live at a distance and friends must get back to their normal lives shortly after a death, a support group can become a safe and healing harbor. Not only can members tell their story of pain and sadness and know they will be heard, but with an intimate understanding of their journey, other members can offer consolation and a sense of camaraderie.

I have been gratified to witness thecompanionship of many of the widows in several support groups blossom into treasured long-term friendships. Several still meet socially in groups, while others travel and dine out in pairs. They rekindle each other’s lights when needed as they move courageously into the future.

I have learned that there are many who wish to bring us consolation in our darkest moments of grief. These are the ones that blow our light back into flame — the flame of life. I believe Schweitzer’s sentiment begs acknowledgement of our collective humanity. We are never truly alone. We can reach out and accept support when needed and perhaps even offer it in return someday. Schweitzer concludes his wise thought, “Each of us owes deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this light.”

Take a moment now to remember with gratitude those who have lovingly rekindled your light.

Kay Coadz 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 kcoadz@diasceswstb.org.
Sister of Providence to celebrate 50-year jubilee

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS — Sister Mary Mundy, the former Sister Jolene, will celebrate her 50 years with the congregation, and has ties to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Her Fort Wayne ministries include teaching at St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne.

Sister Mundy, a native of Huntington, currently ministers as a pastoral associate at Holy Rosary Church, Evansville.

Father Lawrence Cyr celebrates 70th jubilee

CARTHAGENA, Ohio — Father Lawrence S. Cyr celebrated his 70th jubilee as priest of the Society of the Precious Blood at the St. Charles Center monastery at Carthagena, Ohio, on July 1.

Father Cyr spent his early childhood in Mishawaka, the ninth of 13 children, two of whom enjoyed religious vocations as well. He celebrated his 96th birthday in March.

Father Cyr was ordained to the Priesthood on Dec. 10, 1944, and celebrated his first Mass at St. Joseph Church in Mishawaka on Dec. 17 of that year. He has served in Detroit, Mich., Dayton, Ohio, at the major seminary at Carthagena, Sacred Heart College in Wichita and at Sacred Heart Parish in Coleman, Texas. He studied theology at the University of Dayton and in Rome. Father Cyr retired in 2003 at age 85 due to ill health. He currently resides at the St. Charles Center at Carthagena and celebrates daily Mass there.

USF men’s basketball announces promotion

FORT WAYNE — University of Saint Francis men’s Head Basketball Coach Chad LaCross has announced that staff member Luke Cummings has been promoted.

“Promoting Luke to the associate head coach title is a testament to his hard work, loyalty and commitment to our program,” LaCross said about Cummings. “The decision to promote Luke was an easy one for me. The quality of work and the high level of recruiting he brings to our program are invaluable. He has an outstanding drive and passion to help our student-athletes achieve success in the classroom and on the court. I am extremely fortunate to have a coach with Luke’s knowledge and understanding of the game on my staff.”

Cummings, 34, returns for his fifth season as a member of the USF staff in 2014-15. Cummings, who also serves as athletics recruiting director and assistant athletic director, has helped USF to a National Championship game appearance, an appearance in the National Elite Eight, the school’s first MCC Conference tournament title, and the Cougars’ best start in school history. Previously, he served as head coach of the basketball programs at East Noble High School and Adams Central High School.

Cummings is a Kokomo High School graduate and earned an undergraduate degree at IU-Kokomo. He recently received a master’s degree in educational leadership from IPFW. Cummings took on the primary duties of assistant athletic director, marketing/promotions in the summer of 2011.

He is married to the former Kari Ellenberger, and the couple resides in Fort Wayne with their four children — Elliott, Oliver, Henry and Vivienne.

5K to raise funds for friars’ seminarian tuition

FORT WAYNE — Local members and friends of Worldwide Seminarian Support will conduct their third annual 5K on the University of Saint Francis Campus in Fort Wayne on Saturday, July 26, at 8:30 a.m. Registration for the race begins at 7:30 a.m.

The event will help raise funds toward the $40,000 needed for Franciscan Brothers Minor seminarian tuition. In keeping with the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi, these brown-robed Franciscan Brothers Minor usually walk barefoot. However for this 5K walk/run, Father David Mary Engo, as well as the friars and the Franciscan Sisters Minor, will all wear new, donated running shoes.

After the race these shoes will be auctioned off in the USF North Campus auditorium.

Participants can register online at www.seminariansupport.org, or on the day of the race beginning at 7:30 a.m. Donations may be made securely online as well.

The Run for Faith is organized and operated by volunteers, and costs of the event are completely underwritten by sponsorships.
McElhaney-Hart
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715 North Jefferson
Huntington

(260) 356-3320

www.mcelhaneyhartfuneralhome.com

TV MASSES FOR AUGUST

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<th>2014</th>
<th>Feast Day</th>
<th>Fort Wayne 10:30 a.m. WFFT-TV, Ch. 55</th>
<th>South Bend 10:30 a.m. WNDU-TV, Ch. 16</th>
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<tr>
<td>August 3</td>
<td>18th Sunday in Ordinuare Time</td>
<td>Father Robert D’Souza, St. Jude Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Father Neil Wack, CSC Christ the King Fort Wayne</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 10</td>
<td>19th Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
<td>Father Jacob Meyer St. Charles Borromeo Fort Wayne</td>
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<td>August 17</td>
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<td>August 24</td>
<td>21st Sunday in Ordinary Time</td>
<td>Father Edward Erpelding Parkview Chaplain Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Father Tony Steinacker St. John the Evangelist Goshen</td>
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<td>August 31</td>
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<td>Father Andrew Budzinski St. Vincent de Paul Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Father Christopher Lapp St. Matthew Cathedral South Bend</td>
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</tbody>
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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: fogan@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.

Bishop Luers alumni golf outing

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers alumni will meet for golf on Saturday, Sept. 6, at Brookwood golf course for a 1 p.m., shotgun start Florida Scramble. Four-person teams with dinner and prizes at 7 p.m. Tickets are $55 per person or $20 for no golf. To register, sponsor a hole or volunteer, contact Melissa Hire at mhire@bishopluers.org or Sarah Shank at sshank@bishopluers.org or call 260-456-1261 ext. 3040. All proceeds go to tuition assistance.

**Miracle Miles 5K run/walk planned**

Fort Wayne — Registration is now open for the Seton Miracle Miles 5K run/walk to be held Saturday, Aug. 2, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 10700 Aboite Center Rd. All proceeds will go to the St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen and The Franciscan Center. Race day registration begins at 7 a.m., race at 8 a.m. Register online at SetonMiracleMiles.com. For information contact Kristen Spoltzman at setonmiraclemiles@gmail.com.

Queen of Angels plans garage sale

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will have a garage sale Friday, July 25, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, July 26, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the activities center.

Knights plan fish fry

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, Aug. 1, from 5-7 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $4 for children 12 and under.

Rummage sale

Kendallville — Immaculate Conception Parish, corner of Oak and Diamond streets, will have a rummage sale Friday, Aug. 1, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 2, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. $3 bag sale starts at 3 p.m. Friday. Bag sale is $1.50 on Saturday.

Theology on Tap offers summer series

Granger — Theology on Tap will be held Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Villa Macri, 225 Toscana Blvd. Various topics will include: July 29 — Divine Intervention: Miracles — John Capavina; Aug. 5 — Putting on the Armor of God through Works of Mercy — Mary Ann Wilson; Aug. 12 — Discernment of Spirits: Distinguishing Allergy from Enemy — Father Brian Dunke; Aug. 19 — Summer cookout. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/tot.

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**REST IN PEACE**

Bristol

Mary Kay McComish, 72, St. Mary of the Annunciation

Decatur

James E. Schultz, 67, St. Mary of the Assumption

Fort Wayne

Emilio W. Dusio, 78, Our Lady of Good Hope

Mary E. Klinger, 95, St. Theresa

Janet M. Fruhling, 59, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Rebecca A. Rodgers, 57, St. Vincent de Paul

Mary T. Scully, 85, St. Vincent de Paul

Seth M. Magers, 23, Most Precious Blood

Donald A. Staples, 67, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Cynthia A. Storba, 73, St. Charles Borromeo

Samantha E. Miller, 49, St. Joseph

Justin Charles Seyfert, 23, St. Vincent de Paul

Adam Berger, 86, St. Patrick

Russel R. McClure, 77, St. Mary

Mary Rita Stump, 73, St. Jude

Betty J. Beardsley, 86, St. Jude

Helen C. Rodenbeck, 85, St. Jude

Rose M. Ryan, 81, St. Patrick

Harry Lee Yarde, 74, St. Vincent de Paul

Richard D. Carpenter, 80, St. Mary

Bernadette Marie Kline, 90, Most Precious Blood

Bette Nessbaum Swanson, 97, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Granger

Darrell L. Wiltgen, 67, St. Pius X

Joceline R. Hoffman, 86, St. Pius X

South Bend

Mary Knight Leffers, 96, St. Mary

Delbert P. Karst, 88, St. Peter and Paul

Kendallville

Joe V. House, 76, Immaculate Conception

Mishawaka

Harriet Loughlin, 95, St. Monica

Tomas, Ostrowski, 66, St. Bavo

Henry S. Pankow, 69, St. Bavo

Natalie Wolf Danielsson, 90, St. Joseph

Catherine M. Klinedinst, 91, St. Monica

Monroeville

Alden Edward Johanss, 84, St. Rose

New Haven

Evelyn Minick, 84, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Brother Albin Kuzminski, CSC, 85, St. Joseph Chapel

Sister M. Cecilia Ann Kelly, CSC, 86, Our Lady of Loretto

Roanoke

Joan Richards, 87, St. Joseph

Rome City

Margaret A. Arney, 77, St. Gaspar

South Bend

Kimberly Mae Bader-Gozolka, 54, St. Stanislaus Kostka

Josephine Gonalski, 78, St. Matthew

Michael L. Gillam, 55, St. Adalbert

Robert Kazumi

Gutermuth, 41, Christ the King

Wayne M. Critchlow, 39, St. Matthew

Patrick J. Bryan, 70, St. Patrick

Mary L. Wilfing, 84, Little Flower

**THE CROSSWORD**

July 20 and 27, 2014

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

**Catholic Cemetery**

**FULL-TIME POSITION**

The Catholic Cemetery, 3500 Lake Avenue, in Fort Wayne has an immediate Job Opening for a full-time Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent. Responsibilities, among others, include handling general office responsibilities, assist management and sales team, and proficiency in record-keeping, computer entries, document preparation, schedule arranging, dealing with public and others, office organization, operations, and procedures, and related activities. Must have ability to handle multiple tasks and work well under pressure. A valid driver’s license is required. A background check will be performed. Must also have knowledge of QuickBooks Pro and Microsoft Office software. Strong accounting and bookkeeping skills required. Because of the nature of the work, Applicant must be a practicing Catholic sensitive to the mission of a Catholic cemetery. Usual hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. Good benefits and salary commensurate with experience. Obtain an Application for Employment from our website, www.catholic-cemetery.org and mail, with your Resume and salary requirements, to: SUPERINTENDENT

CATHOLIC CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

3500 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46805-5572

or email: talter@catholic-cemetery.org

(No phone calls, please)
FESTIVAL of Faith

Friday and Saturday, August 15 & 16, 2014

at HEADWATERS PARK

330 South Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, 46802

Beginning with a 6:00 p.m. Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who, following Mass, will lead a Marian procession from the Cathedral to Headwaters Park.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Friday, August 15

- Marian Mass at the Cathedral  6:00 p.m.
- Procession from Cathedral to Headwaters Park  7:00 - 7:15 p.m.
  - Opening Ceremony  8:15 p.m.
- Bill Werling & “Breakaway Band” (live music-square/line dancing)  8:30- 10:30 p.m.
  Food and Beverages available  8:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 16

- Pancake and Sausage Breakfast; Bingo  10:00 a.m.
- “Festival of Faith” 5K Run  10:00 a.m.*
  - Rosary and Confessions  11:00 a.m.
  - K of C Shroud of Turin replica, with video on display all day  12:00 p.m.
- Table displays of non-profit groups promoting their mission and charitable works  12:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Special Guest Speaker Dr. Ray Guarendi: “Laughter: the Sanity of Family”  1:00 p.m.*
  - Children’s Games with the Franciscan Friars, rides, give aways  2:00 p.m.
  - Concert by Fort Wayne Area Community Band  2:30 p.m.
- Pie bake off (bring your favorite pie to be judged by Franciscan Friars)  3:30 p.m.
  - Guest Speaker Father David Mary Engo  3:30-4:30 p.m.*
  - Live Entertainment  7:00 p.m.

*for more information visit www.kofcfestival.com

Everyone Welcome, Please Join Us!