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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## Faith celebrated as students return to school across diocese

BY KAY COZAD AND TIM JOHNSON

It's back to school for grade school, high school, college and university students across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. As students return, their faith-life grows ever closer to Jesus through the opportunity to attend weekday Mass at churches, chapels and sometimes high school and university gymnasiums that are transformed into worship spaces.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has already begun pastoral visits — first at Sacred Heart School in Warsaw on Aug. 20 — and then celebrating the opening Mass at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne on Wednesday, Aug. 27, in the Hutzell Athletic Center.

The center was near full with University of Saint Francis staff, faculty, students and others as the Founders Day Convocation and Mass began. Sister of St. Francis Sister Gayle Rusbasan, campus minister assistant, welcomed all visitors — not just Catholics, but others of faith and those with no faith — to the Mass and encouraged all to visit the Campus Ministry space for faith and fellowship throughout the year.

Bishop Rhoades was joined by Father David Meinzen, chaplain of USF, as concelebrant of the Mass

that opened the fall semester of university classes. Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, who support the workings of the university, were present for the celebration of Mass as well. Bishop welcomed those in attendance noting that they gathered to bless the students and staff of USF both academically and spiritually.

His message to the university students spoke of the young man in the day's Gospel from Matthew who was looking for truth and meaning in his life.

Bishop Rhoades said, "In all our hearts, in the inmost depths of every person, there is always an echo of the question which the young man asked Jesus: 'Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' This question is one form of the question on every person's heart: 'What is the meaning of life? What is my ultimate aim and how do I attain it?'"

The bishop said it is another way of asking, "How do I enter the kingdom of God?"

"In your studies here at the University of Saint Francis, you will discuss and ponder many different questions in your classes, while studying, reading and writing papers," Bishop Rhoades told the university students.

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KAY COZAD

Staff, faculty, students and others gathered in University of Saint Francis' Hutzell Athletic Center for the Founders Day Convocation and Mass held on Aug. 27 to begin the new school year. Above, Father David Meinzen, chaplain of USF, chants the Gospel reading of the special Mass that was celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

## St. Bernard Church celebrates 150 years of faith

BY LAURIE KIEFABER

WABASH — Heat and humidity did not dissuade the more than 250 parishioners, priests and area faithful from attending the St. Bernard Church sesquicentennial Aug. 24.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the anniversary Mass along with a dozen priests during the church's 150th anniversary.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades told the congregation, "The city of Wabash is most famous in history for becoming the first electrically lighted city in the world. This event happened March 31, 1880. St. Bernard

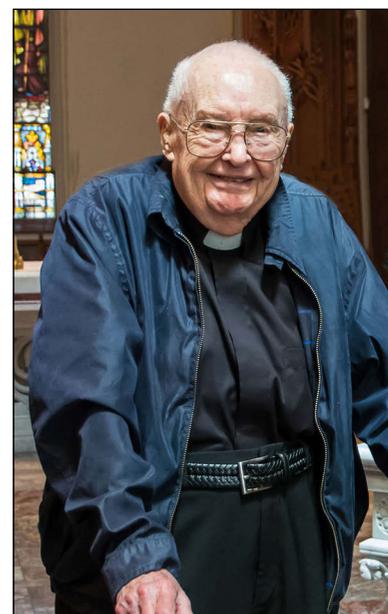
Parish was already in existence since it was established 16 years earlier, in 1864. That is what we celebrate with thanksgiving and joy today — not the electrical lighting of the city, but the spiritual light that has shone here in Wabash for 150 years — the light of Christ and the light of faith."

Bishop Rhoades also highlighted the church's immigrant beginnings, the Sisters of St. Joseph and laity who taught at the 92-year-old school and the large stained-glass rose window with scenes from Mary's life.

"Every time I come here I admire

WABASH, PAGE 20

## MASS TO HONOR JUBILARIAN PRIESTS



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate a Mass on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 12:05 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne honoring priest jubilarians' 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. One special jubilee milestone is that of Father Robert Traub who celebrates his 75<sup>th</sup> jubilee to the Priesthood this year. The faithful are encouraged to attend the Mass.

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

EDITOR: Tim Johnson

NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

## Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

FREELANCE WRITERS: Ann Carey, Michelle Castleman, Karen Clifford, Bonnie Elbersson, Denise Fedorow, Diane Freeby, Sister Margie Lavis, CSC, Jodi Magallanes, Joe Kozinski, Vince LaBarbera and Deb Wagner

## Business Department

BUSINESS MANAGER: Sean McBride

AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Mark Weber

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Bethany Belleville  
bbelleville@diocesefwsb.org

## Advertising Sales

Tess Steffen

tsteffen@diocesefwsb.org

(260) 456-2824

Web site: [www.todayscatholicnews.org](http://www.todayscatholicnews.org)

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MAIN OFFICE: 915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone (260) 456-2824. Fax: (260) 744-1473.

BUREAU OFFICE: 1328 Dragoon Trail, Mishawaka, IN 46544. Telephone (260) 456-2824. Fax (260) 744-1473.

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[editor@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:editor@diocesefwsb.org)

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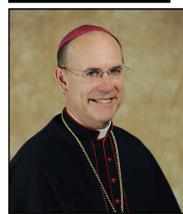
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# Solidarity with brothers and sisters persecuted in the Middle East



IN TRUTH  
AND  
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

Our hearts are moved by the terrible suffering of Christians and other innocent victims of violence in Iraq and Syria.

Several weeks ago, Pope Francis wrote to the Secretary General of the United Nations urging the international community to do all they can to stop and to prevent further systematic violence against these ethnic and religious minorities. He decried how "Christians and other religious minorities have been forced to flee from their homes and witness the destruction of their places of worship and religious patrimony."

Since January, about 1.2 million people have been displaced in Iraq as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria has taken control of large areas of those countries. Christians and other religious minorities have been singled out for attack, simply for their faith. They were given a choice: abandon their Christian faith and convert to Islam, pay an exorbitant "infidel tax," or die. Many have been killed. Over 100,000 have fled, refusing to renounce their Christian faith. What an example of faith and courage they are for us and for the world!

It is tragic to see the destruction of the Church in Iraq, where the faith has been lived and the Church has been alive since the early centuries of Christianity. The Islamic State militants overtook the city of Mosul and have captured many of the Christian villages and cities in the surrounding area. The Christians have fled, leaving their homes and businesses. They had to leave behind their possessions, often escaping with only the clothes on their backs. But they left with something more valuable and precious: their faith in Christ.

It is important that we stand in solidarity with these brothers and sisters in Christ through our prayers and financial support. Many of them are now living in community centers (churches, schools, parking lots) in the northern city of Irbil and in refugee camps elsewhere, like in Jordan, where they have been welcomed by King Abdullah and the Catholic community there. Our own Catholic Relief Services is among the organizations assisting the refugees with food, water, clothing, and shelter. CRS also is able to provide psychological and social support, trauma healing, education for the children, and help with longer-term resettlement.

On the weekend of September 6th and 7th, we will be taking up a Special Collection for the Middle East in all of our parishes. These funds will be used by CRS and other Catholic agencies working in partnership with the local Church to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs facing the peoples in Iraq, Syria, Gaza, and surrounding countries where refugees



CNS PHOTO/ SAHAR MANSOUR

**A demonstrator marches with crutches outside the U.S. consulate in Irbil, Iraq, Aug. 11. The pope's envoy to the region, Cardinal Fernando Filoni, said people still do not know what will become of terrorized Christians.**

have fled. Collection funds will also be used to support Church programs to aid persecuted Christians and to respond to rebuilding needs of Catholic dioceses in the impacted areas. Thank you for your support of this special collection.

We cannot abandon or ignore our suffering brothers and sisters. They need to know that we are with them and have not forgotten them. We need to pray for them and help them with their needs. We and the international community must not be silent in the face of the persecution and destruction that has taken place and continues to take place.

The contempt for human life and religious liberty displayed by the Islamic State must be opposed. Their barbaric acts of terrorism must be condemned in the most absolute terms. Such acts strike at the heart of human dignity and are an offense against all humanity. The Church teaches the right to use force for purposes of legitimate defense as well as the duty to protect and help innocent victims who are not able to defend themselves from acts of aggression. The atrocities committed by the Islamic State

must be condemned and their criminal activity stopped.

We saw the cruelty of ISIS in the murder of 40-year old American journalist James Foley two weeks ago. After two years of captivity, this Catholic man was brutally executed by decapitation. By all accounts, James Foley was a strong, loving, and courageous man of faith. Looking at the photo of him in the video before the execution, his eyes showed strength and resolve. I could not help think that this strength came from his faith. I read that in captivity, he showed courage and hope. He would pray the rosary on his fingers. His cruel death might seem like a defeat. I don't think so, not in the larger scheme. Our Lord's death and resurrection teaches us the victory of life and love. We pray that James Foley and so many other innocent victims of the Islamic State are received into the joy and peace of heaven.

We can be encouraged and inspired by the example of James Foley and the thousands of other Catholics who will not deny their faith, will not embrace hatred, and will not despair. Let us be spiritually close to them. Let us pray for those who are persecuted, those who are refugees, and for those who have died. Let us pray that our nation and the international community will stop the crimes against humanity being committed in the Middle East. And let us pray that the militants of ISIS will cease their terror campaign.

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

**'On the weekend of  
September 6 and 7, we  
will be taking up a Special  
Collection for the Middle  
East in all of our parishes.'**

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

# FAITH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He added, "I encourage you, during your years here, not to neglect the ultimate question, the most important question. It is the question the young man asked Jesus in today's Gospel. It touches on the only thing that will truly give us meaning in life — that will bring us real joy and peace. It's the question about life! You are very fortunate to attend a Catholic university where this question is not ignored and where there is the possibility of searching for truth on the wings of reason and faith."

"The Lord is calling us to live our lives intensely and fruitfully in this world," Bishop Rhoades said. "Through Baptism, He has called each of us to follow Him concretely, to love Him above all things, and to serve Him in our brothers and sisters. The rich young man, unfortunately, did not accept Jesus' invitation and he went away sad. He did not have the courage to leave behind his material goods in order to find the far greater good proposed by Jesus."

Bishop Rhoades encouraged the students not to be afraid to ask the question, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

He said, "The exciting possibility of unending happiness, the joy of being surrounded by God's love forever, gives full meaning to our existence here on earth. It directs our life plan and decisions to great things, knowing that we are called to eternity."

Bishop Rhoades recalled the words of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, who died in 1925 at the age of 24. "He said: 'I want to live and not simply exist!' On a photograph taken while mountain climbing, he wrote to a friend: 'To the heights!'" Bishop Rhoades noted. "He was referring to Christian perfection, to holiness, and to eternal life."

Bishop Rhoades referred to American journalist James Foley, a devout Catholic who was held captive for two years and then brutally murdered and beheaded in August by ISIS, the terrorist Islamic State.

"During his captivity, he looked up to the heights," Bishop Rhoades said. "He would pray the rosary on his fingers."

"When I looked at the film of his face before they slit off his head, I looked at his eyes," Bishop Rhoades noted. "I didn't see fear or hatred in those eyes. I saw firmness and courage. I can't imagine what was in his mind during those moments, but, the more I learn about him, the compassion and love that motivated him to cover the war and violence in Syria and Iraq, his deep faith, and his resolve in the face of danger,

**'Christ is calling each of you, like He called James Foley ...'**

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES



University of Saint Francis junior Ryan Taylor, left, sophomore LeeAnn Moeller, sophomore Samantha Rhodes and freshman Matthew Klein pray the Lord's Prayer together at the opening Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in Hutzell Athletic Center on the campus of the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, on Aug. 27.



PHOTOS BY KAY COZAD

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the opening Mass at the Founders Day Convocation and Mass in Hutzell Athletic Center on the campus of the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne on Aug. 27. In his homily he spoke to the students of the young man in the day's Gospel from Matthew who was looking for truth and meaning in his life.

the more I thought how as a college student at Marquette, he must have asked the Lord: 'What must I do to inherit eternal life?'"

During his time at Marquette University was when Foley experienced the call to serve others in need.

"He heard the call of the Lord 'Come, follow me,'" Bishop Rhoades said. "And he did. He did not go away sad. He was a man of joy and goodness. We may think about his life having come to a terrible and tragic end. But that end was just the beginning. He has gone to the heights! He had high goals, the goals that give joy and full meaning to our lives. Christ is calling each of you, like He called James Foley, to work with Him, to make constant

progress in faith and love, and to take up your responsibilities in order to build the civilization of love."

Following the Communion prayer, USF President Sister of St. Francis Sister M. Elise Kriss addressed the congregation with words of encouragement, achievement, inspiration and prayer. She thanked the students and staff for being members of the university community and hoped that they would all "pray for and support one another in the year ahead."

Deep reverence and some curiosity were present in the students participating in the Mass and convocation. Yeshua Villalobes, a Catholic freshman at USF, said the Mass "felt like a blessing for the new (school) year."

Trevon Carr, a first-year transfer, came to see what the Mass was all about after hearing about it from his coaches. And sophomore LeeAnn Moeller felt it was "a good way for the whole school to come together."

A picnic lunch was held for those in attendance following the Mass.



## PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Monday, Sept. 8, 12:30 p.m. — Meeting of USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, Washington, D.C.
- Thursday, Sept. 11, 12:05 p.m. — Priest Jubilarian Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, Sept. 11, 6 p.m. — Meeting of Diocesan Review Board, Holiday Inn, Warsaw
- Sunday, Sept. 14, 10:30 a.m. — Diaconate Ordination Mass, Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame
- Monday, Sept. 15, 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Monday, Sept. 15, 6 p.m. — Mass and Dinner for Christ Child Society, Saint Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, Sept. 17, 12 p.m. — Mass and Meeting of Catholic Community Foundation, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, Sept. 18, 12:30 p.m. — Meeting of Diocesan Finance Council, Holiday Inn, Warsaw
- Thursday, Sept. 18, 6 p.m. — 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass of Women's Care Center, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Warsaw
- Saturday, Sept. 20, 4 p.m. — Mass at Catholic Scouting Camporee, Moreau Seminary Chapel

## Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty Holy Hour across the diocese

- St. Charles Borromeo Church, 4916 Trier Rd, Fort Wayne, has a holy hour all Fridays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- Queen of Peace Church in Mishawaka has an hour and a half (3:30-5 p.m.) of Adoration and Exposition every Saturday prior to the Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. They dedicate this time in honor of private prayer for the Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.
- St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur, hosts Eucharistic Exposition on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:30-6 p.m. and on Thursday from 9-10 a.m. and 4:30-8 p.m. The parish asks participants to pray for the protection of marriage, religious freedom and unborn children.
- Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 Saint Joe Rd., Fort Wayne, hosts a holy hour for religious liberty beginning with a rosary at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday.
- St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton, offers Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty on Thursday, Sept. 4, after 8 a.m. morning Mass from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. with Evening Prayer at 6:30 p.m., Litany of the Eucharist and Benediction at 6:45 p.m. and Mass at 7 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 5 p.m. with Evening Prayer at 6:30 p.m., Litany of the Eucharist and Benediction at 6:45 p.m. and Mass at 7 p.m.

## Confirmation Mass schedule for fall 2014

### All Masses celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend — Sept. 21 at 11 a.m.
- Christ the King, South Bend — Oct. 2 at 7 p.m.
- St. Patrick, Fort Wayne — Oct. 10 at 6 p.m.
- St. Joseph, South Bend — Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.
- St. Joseph, South Bend
- Sacred Heart, Notre Dame
- St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend — Oct. 25 at 10 a.m.
- St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne — Nov. 4 at 7 p.m.
- St. Mary of the Annunciation, Bristol — Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.
- St. John the Evangelist, Goshen — Nov. 15 at 10 a.m.
- Corpus Christi, South Bend — Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m.
- Holy Cross, South Bend — Dec. 6 at 4 p.m.
- Holy Cross, South Bend
- St. Stanislaus, South Bend
- St. Jude, South Bend — Dec. 7 at 10 a.m.
- St. Jude, South Bend
- Sacred Heart, Lakeville

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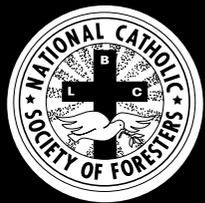
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# Catholic, Orthodox patriarchs visit Irbil to support displaced Iraqis

BY DOREEN ABI RAAD

BEIRUT (CNS) — A delegation of Catholic and Orthodox patriarchs visited Irbil, Iraq, to show their support and solidarity with the more than 100,000 Christians and minorities displaced in the country by the advance of Islamist militants.

Lebanese Cardinal Bechara Rai, patriarch of the Maronite Catholics, said the Aug. 20 trip was “a first step in the implementation of the statement issued by the patriarchs,” referring to a special summit Aug. 7 to address the crisis facing Christians in Iraq and Syria.

“The first and essential clause in the statement is our support for Christians who have left their homes because of the Islamic State and other terrorist organizations,” Cardinal Rai said.

Cardinal Rai left Beirut with Melkite Catholic Patriarch Gregoire III Laham, Syriac Catholic Patriarch Ignace Joseph III Younan and Syriac Orthodox Patriarch Ignatius Aphrem II.

Upon their arrival in Irbil, the capital of the Kurdish region of Iraq, the prelates were joined by Chaldean Catholic Patriarch Louis Sako of Baghdad and local officials, including Kurdistan’s Regional Interior Minister Karim Sinjari and Irbil Governor Nawzad Hadi.

The patriarchs visited refugees and prayed with them at three churches in Irbil hosting refugees from the Ninevah Plain. The refugees fled after being told by the Islamic State militants to convert to Islam, pay the Islamic jizya tax, or be killed. Many were robbed of their possessions before being forced to flee.

“We want all the Christians, Muslims, Yezidis, Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds to stay in Iraq and not to leave because this is our homeland, this is our culture, and civilization and we do not want to part with it,”



CNS PHOTO/MYCHEL AKL. COURTESY MARONITE PATRIARCHATE

**Lebanese Cardinal Bechara Rai, Maronite patriarch, who headed a delegation of Mideast patriarchs, blesses a baby Aug. 20 in Irbil, Iraq. The blessing took place in one of the churches housing the more than 100,000 Christians and minorities displaced in the country by the advance of Islamist militants.**

Cardinal Rai told reporters. “The ones who want to help us must work to stop injustice, help us end injustice and help our people regain their rights. This is what we want from the ones who want to help.”

Later, he told them: “We cannot stand idly by and watch as evil oppresses the people. We will carry our cause to the whole world.”

Lebanon’s National News Agency reported that the delegation received a promise from the Kurdish authorities that Christians will be protected “until the last drop of blood.”

The patriarchs stressed that their priority is for the safe return of all refugees and for Christians and minorities to be able to remain in their homeland.

“We demand that the displaced

be allowed to return to their land with dignity. We will not accept anything less than that,” Cardinal Rai said.

In a news conference before leaving Iraq, the patriarchs expressed support for human rights, including the right of Christians to remain in their homes.

“We cannot tolerate the tragedy we have witnessed here today,” said Orthodox Patriarch Ignatius. He urged U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to visit the regions to determine if the displaced Iraqis could continue to live this way.

Cardinal Rai said: “It is unacceptable to allow terrorist organizations to eliminate entire communities in the 21st century.”

“Do not think of emigrating; safeguard your roots,” the cardinal told Christians. “We are on your side and we will raise our voice to the international community to act against terrorism.”

He called for “the international community to mobilize” to thwart the threat of the Islamic State and other terrorist groups.”

Patriarch Sako said militias were not the solution.

“Self-defense is a holy right, but forming militias will ruin Iraq,” Patriarch Sako said. “State security forces should defend the people.”

During an Aug. 18 news conference aboard the papal plane, Pope Francis said his recent appeal to the U.N. to “take action to end the humanitarian tragedy now underway in Iraq” was one of a series of measures he had considered with Vatican officials, including his decision to send Cardinal Filoni to meet with the region’s church and government officials and refugees.

The same day, Cardinal Filoni and Patriarch Sako appealed to the international community to help to liberate villages controlled by the Islamic State terrorists and to provide the displaced with international protection.

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2:00-10:30 pm: Red Solo Cup Beer Tent

2:00-4:00 pm: St. Rose School Open House

4:00 pm: Ducky Derby Races

4:30 pm: Mass in school chapel

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# Pope names Philadelphia auxiliary bishop to head Toledo Diocese

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Francis has named an auxiliary bishop of Philadelphia, Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, to head the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio.

Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States, publicized the appointment Aug. 26.

Born June 11, 1959, and raised in the Philadelphia neighborhood of Manayunk, Bishop Thomas, 55, has been an auxiliary bishop in his hometown since 2006. He was ordained for the Philadelphia Archdiocese in 1985, after attending the local St. Charles Borromeo Seminary and obtaining his licentiate in sacred theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University.

He was named to what has been a vacant see since October, when Bishop Leonard P. Blair was named Archbishop of Hartford, Connecticut.

At a news conference in Toledo Aug. 26, Bishop Thomas expressed his gratitude to Pope Francis, to his predecessor in Toledo and to Father Charles Ritter, who has served as diocesan administrator since Bishop Blair left. He joked about having the same name as the late actor Danny Thomas, but said the important way to identify him-



CNS PHOTO/BOB ROLLER

**Pope Francis has named Auxiliary Bishop Daniel E. Thomas of Philadelphia, 55, to head the Diocese of Toledo, Ohio. He is pictured in a 2009 file photo in Baltimore. The appointment was announced Aug. 26.**

self is by "simply stating 'I am a Roman Catholic bishop,' I think should say it all."

In Philadelphia, Archbishop Charles J. Chaput said the

appointment "demonstrates the confidence our Holy Father has in Bishop Thomas' pastoral and administrative skills." He said that since he arrived in Philadelphia almost three years ago, he has "witnessed (Bishop Thomas') wisdom, intelligence, personal warmth and keen affection for the people of God."

"The Diocese of Toledo has been given a true gift in Bishop Thomas," the archbishop said. "I know he will serve them well as a faithful shepherd and spiritual father."

Bishop Thomas was ordained a priest by Cardinal John Krol in 1985 and ordained an auxiliary bishop by Cardinal Justin Rigali in 2006. The son of the late Francis and Ann Thomas grew up in Holy Family Parish. He graduated in 1977 from Roman Catholic High School before entering St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

Following his ordination as a priest, and studies at the Gregorian University, he worked in the Vatican's Congregation for Bishops for 15 years.

He returned to Philadelphia in 2005 as pastor of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Strafford before his ordination as bishop a year later. As an

auxiliary bishop, he was responsible for administrative oversight of the Department for Media Affairs, the Office for Clergy, the Office for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood and for Region II, a grouping of 57 parishes in Montgomery County and Northwest Philadelphia.

In addition to his priestly assignments, Bishop Thomas has served on various archdiocesan boards and remains a member of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' committees for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, the Ad Hoc Committee on Catechism, and the Committee on Divine Worship. He is also a member of the National Advisory Council for the Saint John Vianney Center in Downingtown, Pennsylvania, and

the Episcopal Advisory Board for the National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors.

Bishop Thomas will shepherd a diocese that is home to 124 parishes and 320,000 Catholics out of a total population of 1.46 million. Founded in 1910, the diocese covers 19 counties in northwest Ohio between Cleveland and Detroit, an area roughly four times larger than the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. It borders the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Matt Gambino in Philadelphia contributed to this story.org.

**Friday, September 12, 2014 Adults Only - Silent Auction**  
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### The World Apostolate of Fatima's Fort Wayne-South Bend Division invites everyone to their annual **BREAKFAST and CELEBRATION!**

**Saturday, October 4, 2014**  
*beginning at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception*

- 8:00 a.m.: First Saturday Devotions
- 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass - Father Glenn Kohrman, celebrant  
*Then a Marian Procession to the Grand Wayne Center*
- Guest speaker: Father James Bromwich of the Sons of St. Philip Neri
- Catered all-you-can-eat breakfast

*Pre-paid breakfast reservations required by Friday, September 19*

- Adults: \$10 • Children (4-12) \$5 • Children 3 and younger eat for free
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or email [schmitz0696@gmail.com](mailto:schmitz0696@gmail.com)





## Fall Fest!

**St. Mary of the Assumption  
DECATUR**

**Saturday & Sunday, Sept 20-21, 2014**  
*Saturday Events: 5:00-10:00 p.m.*

- **SILENT AUCTION: 5:00 PM** • **SUPER BINGO:**  
**(NEW LOCATION - PARISH HALL) 6:00 PM**
- **LIVE MUSIC: "JOE FIVE" PLAYING FROM**  
**7:00 TO 11:00 PM (MUST BE 21)**
- **FOOD CONCESSIONS • CARRIAGE RIDES**

**Fruits of God's Grace 2014**

*Sunday Events*

- **KID'S GAMES & ACTIVITIES 12:00 - 5:00 PM**
- **CHINESE AUCTION**
- **CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT: 1:00 PM**
- **FOOD CONCESSIONS • CARRIAGE RIDES**
- **CASH RAFFLE: 4:30 PM**

## Archbishop Coakley drops lawsuit after stolen consecrated host returned

OKLAHOMA CITY (CNS) — A stolen consecrated host that was at the center of a lawsuit filed by Archbishop Paul S. Coakley and intended for use at a planned Satanic “black mass” in Oklahoma City has been returned. According to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, an attorney representing the head of the satanic group presented the host to a Catholic priest the afternoon of Aug. 21. With the return of the host and an accompanying signed statement from the satanic group leader that the group no longer possesses a consecrated host, nor will they use a consecrated host in their rituals, the Oklahoma City archbishop agreed to dismiss the lawsuit. Archbishop Coakley filed suit Aug. 20 to get the host returned after the Satanic group’s leader made several public statements that its members planned “to defile and desecrate” it during a “black mass” Sept. 21 at the Civic Center Music Hall in Oklahoma City. “I am relieved that we have been able to secure the return of the sacred host, and that we have prevented its desecration as part of a planned Satanic ritual,” the archbishop said in a statement. “I remain concerned about the dark powers that this Satanic worship invites into our community and the spiritual danger that this poses to all who are involved in it, directly or indirectly.” In

early August, Archbishop Coakley asked Catholics to offer prayer and penance to prevent the Satanic group Dakhma of Angra Mainyu from holding a “black mass.”

## Cardinal Szoka, former Detroit archbishop and Vatican official, dies

DETROIT (CNS) — Cardinal Edmund C. Szoka, who rose from poor beginnings to reach the highest levels of service to the Church, died Aug. 20 at Providence Park Hospital in Novi. The cardinal, who was 86, died of natural causes. His death leaves the College of Cardinals with 210 members, 117 of whom are under 80 and therefore eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope. A funeral Mass for Cardinal Szoka was celebrated Aug. 26 at the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Detroit, with Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron of Detroit as the main celebrant. The late cardinal’s body was to be received at the cathedral the afternoon of Aug. 24, followed by several hours of visitation. An evening prayer service also was planned. Visitation was to resume at the cathedral Aug. 25, with an afternoon rosary and an evening vigil

service. While his accomplishments were often larger-than-life, Cardinal Szoka carried lessons learned growing up poor in hard-working Polish-American communities with him as he served as parish pastor, chancery official, founding bishop of a new diocese, archbishop of Detroit and in high Vatican posts. Then-Archbishop Szoka was installed to head the Detroit Archdiocese in 1981. He was named a cardinal in 1988, and was Detroit’s archbishop until 1990, when he began a 16-year tenure at the Vatican — serving under both Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI.

## Groups lash out at new opt-out rules for HHS mandate

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pro-life groups that have battled with the federal government since the first rules were issued on contraceptive coverage in 2012 derided the government’s latest rules allowing religious institutions — and potentially some for-profit companies — to opt out of the contraceptive mandate in the Affordable Care Act. “Once again HHS (the federal Department of Health

and Human Services) continues to violate the conscience rights of Americans while claiming just the opposite,” said an Aug. 22 statement from Charmaine Yoest, president and CEO of Americans United for Life. “Our own organization is a good example of the challenge posed: Americans United for Life is a public interest law firm that opposes life-ending drugs and devices required under the HHS mandate,” Yoest said. “Nevertheless, because we are not a faith-based group, we may be forced to purchase life-ending drugs and devices following the radical pro-abortion political agenda of this administration.” An Aug. 22 fact sheet from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services outlined the interim final regulations, issued after two Supreme Court actions: a June 30 ruling that under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, closely held companies may be exempted from the contraceptive coverage requirement as a religious right, and a July 3 temporary stay granted to Christian-run Wheaton College in Illinois from complying with the HHS mandate.

## Panic, hunger spread among quarantined West Africans in Ebola areas

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (CNS) — Hunger and panic are spreading among people unable to work because of restrictions aimed at containing the spread of Ebola in Liberia and Sierra Leone, say Church workers in West Africa. In Liberia’s capital, Monrovia, Church groups “are trying to get food and distribute it to families who have asked us to help, but movement is heavily restricted and there is little we can do,” Salesian Father Jorge Crisafulli, provincial superior in West Africa, said in an Aug. 22 telephone interview from Accra, Ghana. Neighborhoods in Monrovia have been sealed off under terms of the government-imposed state of emergency. The World Health Organization has estimated that more than 2,600 people in West Africa have been infected with Ebola since March. More than 1,400 people have died from the virus. Food prices in Liberia are “rising steeply and people are hungry,” Father Crisafulli said, noting that “markets in the city that are usually bustling are now empty and no trading is happening.” People are unable to get to work and, “while they still have to buy food, they have no money because they can’t work,” he said. “There is great fear of spread of disease where there are large groups of people,” he said.

# Are you celebrating your 25th, 50th or 60th Wedding Jubilee in 2014?

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate two Wedding Jubilee Masses

In South Bend, the Mass will take place at the Cathedral of St. Matthew, Sunday, October 5, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. with a reception to follow at St. Matthew School.

In Fort Wayne, the Mass will take place at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Sunday, October 12, 2014 at 11:30 a.m. with a reception to follow at St. Mary’s at Jefferson and Lafayette.



Office of Family Life  
1328 West Dagoon Trail  
Mishawaka, IN 46544  
or call  
(574) 234-0687  
or email

haustgen@diocesefwsb.org

YES...We are celebrating our  25th Jubilee  50th Jubilee  60th Jubilee

We will attend Mass in  South Bend  Fort Wayne Attend Reception?  YES  NO

Number of family members attending reception with us  Marriage Date

Name  Address

City  Phone  Parish

Email

R.S.V.P. no later than September 26, 2014 for South Bend and October 3, 2014 for Fort Wayne.

## Parishioners invited to sign up for ARISE

Dr. Laura Kolmar, director of Pastoral Services for RENEW International, will meet with parish team members, small community leaders and other interested parishioners throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend from Sept. 15-18 to conduct training for the fifth season of ARISE Together in Christ in the diocese. ARISE offers a Scripturally-based spiritual renewal experience in small groups and is open to all parishioners.

Season 5 of ARISE, entitled "We Are the Good News!" takes place during the fall and includes six faith-sharing sessions. The first session reflects on the invitation from Jesus to "Come and see" what He has to offer and how Catholics are called to invite others to encounter Jesus as well. Kolmar's formation workshop will provide a theological overview of the themes of the season, which is founded on a Catholic understanding of evangelization. During the workshop, participants will also be asked to look back over the experience of ARISE. They will share the ways in which they have experienced Christ as individuals and as a community.

Formation workshop dates and locations include the following:

- Sept. 15, 6-8 p.m., St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne
- Sept. 16, 6-8 p.m., St. Therese, Little Flower, South Bend
- Sept. 17, 6-8 p.m., Knights of Columbus Hall, Warsaw
- Sept. 18, 6-8 p.m., St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne

Leaders of small faith-sharing communities have already shared some of the blessings of this experience so far. One facilitator from Blessed Sacrament Parish in Albion commented, "The deep connections that were made through faith sharing were comforting to all in the group and caused life altering experiences for many. We saw Christ's presence in others and felt that the Holy Spirit guided us as we traveled the path of faith sharing with our groups."

Another leader at Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend provided this perspective: "Our ARISE groups are growing so much. One group collected money and gave it to the grade school principal for individual student needs (coats, boots, hats, etc.) Several other groups are donating time to cook and serve a meal once a month at the local homeless shelter. The Spirit is a-moving!"

Dr. Laura Kolmar, the RENEW International representative serving the diocese, encourages parishioners to still consider participating in the ARISE Together in Christ process as it is never too late to join a small group or to form a new small group.

Dr. Kolmar remarked, "Pope Francis challenges us to live our Gospel faith through our actions every day as committed missionary disciples of Jesus Christ. Come and join ARISE as we discover ways to become the Good News for our parishes and the world!"

For more information regarding ARISE Together in Christ, please contact the diocesan coordinator, Allison Sturm at [asturm@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:asturm@diocesefwsb.org), or call 260-399-1452.

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## SJHS CLASS OF '54 CELEBRATES 60TH REUNION



PROVIDED BY SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL

The first graduating class from Saint Joseph High School gathered for their 60th reunion recently. The Class of '54 toured the new building, celebrated Mass in the Saint Joseph Chapel and concluded their weekend with dinner in downtown South Bend.

## Kathy Tebbe retires

FORT WAYNE — The Office of Stewardship and Development for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend bids a fond farewell to Kathy Tebbe who retired Aug. 29. Tebbe has worked as director of operations since 2000. During her tenure she has been involved in the planning and coordinating of the annual Bishop's Appeal dinner that opens the Annual Bishop's Appeal campaign each year, grant research for parishes, report writing and correspondence for the office.

Tebbe looks forward to her retirement and plans to enjoy more family time. "That was my inspiration — to be able to enjoy time with my family," says Tebbe. She remarked that her granddaughter has recently moved back to Fort Wayne and she is thrilled to have more quality time with her and her family. Tebbe also looks forward to some rest and relaxation, more time for prayer and exercise and "whatever God wants to put in front of me."

Harry Verhiley, Secretariat of the Office of Stewardship and Development, says, "We've had 15 years together. Kathy is awesome. We'll miss her dearly. She has done great work and has been steady and selfless all through the 15 years."

Tebbe says of her years at the diocese, "It was a wonderful opportunity. I enjoyed being able to work

for the diocese. I had a wonderful boss with Harry (Verhiley). He was an inspiration and a wonderful person to work with."

A retirement luncheon was held in Tebbe's honor on Aug. 25 at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, where Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presented her with an icon of the Blessed Mother.

Kathy Voirol will take up operations upon Tebbe's retirement, having transferred from her position in accounts receivable and circulation with *Today's Catholic* newspaper.

## Elder Awareness Day to focus on issues of aging

HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center in Huntington presents "Elder Awareness Day" on Friday, Sept. 12, in an effort to raise public awareness to the social and psychological issues of aging.

The keynote speaker for the event is author, award winning filmmaker, speaker, trainer and consultant James Gambone, PhD., who will share his wisdom and knowledge about the aging process and the importance of developing intergenerational relationships, when caring for the elderly.

The featured artist for the day is storyteller Emily J. Guerrero. She provides a one-woman play called "Monarchs and Matriarchs," a story that speaks to the value of intergenerational relationships. There will also be two breakout sessions during the day.

Manchester University professor Cheri Krueckeberg will present "Honoring Aging Bodies and

Minds," while grief counselor and educator Lili Carroll will present "Grief and Growing Older Gracefully."

The program runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 12 at Victory Noll Center. The cost is \$35 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch, and also a copy of James Gambone's booklet "Generations."

Victory Noll Center is located at 1900 W. Park Dr. in Huntington.

## Enrichment, support program offered for divorced Catholic adults

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Church, Fort Wayne is hosting a 12-session spiritual enrichment and support program for Catholic adults who have experienced divorce. The group will meet on the first and third Thursdays of month from 7-9 p.m. in the East Meeting Room and will run from September through March.

The program is based on the DVD series *The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide*, which features noted experts Dr. Ray Guarendi, Christopher West and Father Donald Calloway.

For more information, contact Julia Thill, pastoral associate, at 260-489-3537 ext. 208, or [jthill@saintv.org](mailto:jthill@saintv.org). This program is co-sponsored by the diocesan Office of Family Life.

## FLEMING MAKES LIFE PLEDGE TO CONFRATERNITY OF PENITENTS



PROVIDED BY THE CONFRATERNITY OF PENITENTS

Aimie Fleming of Champaign, Illinois, made her Life Pledge to the Rule and Constitutions of the Confraternity of Penitents on Sunday, Aug. 24, at Our Lady of the Angels Oratory at St. Andrew Church in Fort Wayne. Above, from left, Jim Nugent and Madeline Pecora Nugent, both life-pledged members of the Confraternity of Penitents from Fort Wayne are shown with Father Jacob Meyer, Fleming and Lucy Fernandez of Bloomington. Members, approximately 200 worldwide, are living a modern adaptation of the original rule given by St. Francis of Assisi to the laity of his time. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has determined the canonical status of the confraternity as a private association of the faith with his commendation. Approximately 16 members and inquirers of the confraternity live in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. For information see [penitents.org](http://penitents.org) or call 260-739-6882.

# SACRED HEART SCHOOL: WHERE G

## Bishop's first visit of school year to Sacred Heart, Warsaw

BY DENISE FEDOROW

WARSAW — Students, staff and administrators at Sacred Heart School in Warsaw kicked off their school year with a visit from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. The students had only been back to class about a week, but for some, like the preschoolers, it was mere hours when Bishop Rhoades visited on Aug. 20.

Bishop Rhoades celebrated 8 a.m. Mass with students, faculty and parishioners prior to his school visit.

He told those assembled for Mass, "I'm so happy to be with you to celebrate Mass and visit your school — this is my first school visit of the academic year, and I've heard so many wonderful things about Sacred Heart School."

During the bishop's homily he referred to the first reading from Ezekiel where they heard about some bad shepherds.

"They only cared about themselves — they were selfish," Bishop Rhoades said. "The prophet Ezekiel gave a warning to those bad shepherds; he said God is sending a good shepherd to lead the people — Jesus — who goes out after the lost sheep."

The bishop said Jesus then chose Twelve Apostles, who became the first bishops, and that succession has gone on for over 2,000 years. Bishop Rhoades said as bishop he is responsible to "lead all the people of our diocese to be closer to Jesus. I like to travel to meet my 'sheep.'"

He shared the parable in the Gospel about the generous landowner who gave each worker a full day's pay even if they only worked an hour. "Jesus is teaching us how God is so generous," Bishop Rhoades said, "even though we may not deserve it. God gives us so many gifts, so many graces that we don't deserve — that's how much He loves us."

Bishop Rhoades said that "one of the great things about being in a Catholic school is every day you hear about God, pray, listen to His word, learn how to be generous at school and with others who are poor and in need. You all pray together in class and come to Mass several times a week."

At the end of Mass, students presented Bishop Rhoades and Superintendent of Catholic Schools Marsha Jordan with a spiritual bouquet with notes attached showing what types of prayers would be offered on their behalf.

Bishop Rhoades told the students, "This is the best gift I could receive — the gift of prayer."

Bishop Rhoades and the superintendent then visited the school, but not before a quick stop at Principal James Faroh's office to get "clipped" — part of the PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) program where students get rewarded for making good choices by getting clipped with a decorated clothespin that they can later trade in for gifts.

Bishop Rhoades and Jordan visited each classroom. They were later joined by Carl Loesch, Secretariat for Catholic Education. Bishop Rhoades asked the students ques-



PHOTOS BY DENISE FEDOROW

**Sacred Heart kindergarten teacher Monica Smith presents Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades with a card signed by all the students when he visited their classroom on Aug. 20. The students are learning the sign of the cross and every time they hear a siren go off from the nearby fire or police station they stop and say a prayer.**

tions, including what they were learning in religion class, and also allowed the students to ask him questions.

Bishop's first stop was sixth grade where students asked questions such as: "Is doing Mass at the coliseum hard?" The bishop answered, "No, I look forward to that every year."

"Can a bishop become a cardinal or do you have to go back to college?" He explained that very few bishops become cardinals and those that do usually are from a large diocese and are appointed by the pope.

Ben Brennan and Carly Click presented the guests with gifts. Brennan shared that his grandfather made the stained glass butterflies, which represent rebirth.

There were typical questions asked in each class about the bishop's "hats" — his mitre and zucchetto and why he takes them on and off. Other questions included, "Is it hard to be bishop?" "Is it fun to be bishop?" "What did he do to get his clip?" "Has he ever met the pope?"

Bishop Rhoades replied that he met Pope John Paul II and was ordained by the recently-named saint. He has not yet met Pope Francis, although he will be meeting with him in November — on the bishop's birthday.

Principal Faroh told the students that the bishop, whose portrait was hanging in the hallway next to the pope's, was visiting so

some thought the pope would come, too. Each classroom had its own patron saint and each class either presented the bishop and guests with a gift, a song or a prayer. Third graders had recently made rosaries and Bishop Rhoades blessed the class's rosaries.

Following the class visits, Bishop Rhoades, Jordan and Loesch joined the faculty for a special luncheon provided by the Home and School Association (HASA).

## Sacred Heart School

Sacred Heart School was built in 1957 — two additions were ultimately added to the building to bring it to its present state. Last year a new security system was installed and a kitchen-remodeling project is underway. The school serves preschool (ages 3, 4 and 5) through sixth grade and the current enrollment is 190.

Principal James Faroh was appointed Sacred Heart's principal six years ago and he has 27 years experience as principal in both public and parochial schools, but the majority of his career has been at Catholic schools.

He said he most enjoys "being a spiritual and academic leader working for successful spiritual formation and academic growth of the students. It's a joy and constant motivation to keep improving."



The entrance to Sacred Heart Elementary and Sacred

Heart School. Thirty-one full and part-time staff members "work together for the betterment of students" at Sacred Heart, integrating Catholic teaching through the curriculum, as well as in clubs, activities and sports.

"Catholicism is regarded as the 'umbrella' over everything we do at Sacred Heart School," Faroh said.

## Special Programs

Faroh shared about the special programs in place at Sacred Heart. "We are implementing the STREAM philosophy with project based learning while integrating the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) plus religion and the arts," Faroh said. "This learning philosophy has been Sacred Heart's academic vision in the past as well."

The school also has a "Going Above and Beyond" program to help every student achieve to the maximum of his or her ability. Students are assessed throughout the year and the "data drives instruction." Sacred Heart also offers a conversational Spanish course and Peace Be With You — a diocesan-wide program to teach students in fourth grade to respect each other in a Christ-like manner. "We hope they carry this and all training received at Sacred Heart and keep it in their hearts and minds to be a success in life," Faroh said.

Sacred Heart has "Casual Day for a Cause" where students can bring in \$1 or more to wear casual clothes instead of their

# GOD AND EDUCATION LEAD THE WAY



PROVIDED BY SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Sacred Heart Church is shown above. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades visited there on Aug. 20.



A smiling Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades accepts a gift from the prekindergarten class at Sacred Heart Elementary in Warsaw. The cross in the picture is made up of the students' photos. Teacher Mili Polk (to the bishop's right) presents a bouquet of roses to Superintendent of Catholic Schools Marsha Jordan and told her their classroom's patron saint is St. Rose of Lima. Also shown is Principal James Faroh, left.

uniform that day and each month a different charity is chosen to be the recipient. Some past causes have been Juvenile Diabetes, American Cancer Society, Veterans causes and St. Jude's Hospital.

The school has an annual culture fair and Accelerated Reader celebrations. Clubs include, LEGOS, Green Team Ecology Club, drama, chess, tumbling and twirling, Scouting and robotics, which is new this year. There's the Sacred Hearts Singers Choir. Athletics for grades 4-6 includes soccer, volleyball, basketball, cheerleading and track.

"Sacred Heart is a total package, combining spiritual formation with academics success. The faculty and staff collaborate for the betterment of the students," Faroh said. "Our pastor (Father Phil DeVolder) is a strong spiritual leader, we have a strong HASA (Home and School Association) and school board and an impressive amount of sports, clubs and activities for students. We integrate technology into the curriculum. And we offer scholarships."

"This was a great school before I came. It's still a great school and it will continue to be a great school. I say this with confidence because I see all the necessary components — dedicated hardworking staff, hardworking students, a very supportive pastor, very involved parents and very supportive parish



PROVIDED BY SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Father Philip DeVolder, pastor of Sacred Heart, Warsaw, observes a classroom visit.

community — it's wonderful!"

The motto for Sacred Heart School is "Where God and education lead the way." Faroh remarked when he first came and heard the motto he thought, "Wow — that is a perfect motto. Sacred Heart is a tremendously special school — a true blessing from God."



This sign welcomes visitors to Sacred Heart School in Warsaw and also displays the school's motto "Where God and education lead the way."

## Sacred Heart School

established 1957  
135 N. Harrison St., Warsaw, Indiana 46580  
574-267-5874

Principal: James L. Faroh  
Pastor: Father Philip DeVolder  
Student population: 190 students in grades preschool - 6  
Website: [www.sacredheart-warsaw.org](http://www.sacredheart-warsaw.org)

# Father Fred Pasche retires as pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Angola

BY TIM JOHNSON

ANGOLA — When one asks Conventual Franciscan Father Fred Pasche what he likes best about St. Anthony of Padua Parish, he responds with a hearty, "Everything."

The pastor of the Angola parish for 17 years and who is celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> jubilee as a Conventual Franciscan priest this year, will be retiring as pastor and has been appointed to St. Joseph University Parish in Terre Haute as an associate for at least one year.

Father Pasche's 17 years at St. Anthony Parish hold many fond memories. He saw the parish flourish under the Christ Renews His Parish.

He told *Today's Catholic* the parish is "so completely different from when I came. The people have just been tremendous in the way they responded."

"When I came here, I had no intention of building a church," he



FATHER FRED PASCHE

said. "But that certainly went by the way. We built a church and paid for it in two years."

"When we started the fund drive (five to six years ago) it started bringing the people together," Father Pasche noted of the 700 families of the parish. "And during that time we went into Christ Renews His Parish. That really kept the people fired up."

That spirit of the people remains strong and the parishioners are will-

ing "to do whatever to keep things moving," Father Pasche said.

When Father Pasche arrived at the parish in 1997, the congregation worshipped in a Butler building built in the late 1950s that was meant to be a temporary church. A parish center had been built before Father Pasche arrived and many St. Anthony parishioners thought a new church was needed.

The first meeting to discuss the possibility of building a new church attracted over 50 people. "It just took off from there," Father Pasche noted.

Angola is the home to Trine University and the university's Newman Fellowship meets at the parish for Mass and Adoration. The students have taken on roles in the parish as well as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist and lectors.

"It's been good, it's been a good relationship," Father Pasche said.

In the summer months the population of St. Anthony of Padua grows much larger with "lake" visitors. Some have moved to "the lake" permanently and made St. Anthony their parish home.

Father Pasche's sister and brother-in-law from nearby Michigan are members of the parish, as well as his niece and her family.

Father Pasche said administering the sacraments and "really touching people" sacramentally is his favorite aspect of the Priesthood. He called it "heartwarming" to have a couple of Mass servers that he baptized now taking a role in the Mass and parish.

Father Pasche was born and raised in Lansing, Michigan. He grew up in a parish that was staffed

by Conventual Franciscans from Mount St. Francis in southern Indiana. He headed to the seminary in southern Indiana after the eighth grade, following in the footsteps of an older brother who attended the school for two-and-a-half years but then returned to Lansing after his younger brother arrived.

Father Pasche has served in parishes in Kentucky, Minnesota, Ohio, Michigan and now Indiana.

He told *Today's Catholic* that he made a New Year's resolution that he would play golf once a week, but he has only played four or five times this summer.

St. Anthony Parish has been the longest assignment of his 50 years of Priesthood. "It's been a good one. That makes it all the harder to move," Father Pasche noted.

## Diocesan priests continue ministries even in retirement

BY KAY COZAD

### ABA helps fund priests' retirements

FORT WAYNE — As the ecclesiastical community in the diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend expands with an increase in the numbers of seminarians studying for the Priesthood, there are several elder priests who are retiring from parish administrative service. But their untiring service to God and man has not ended in retirement.

Many retired priests have enjoyed being present to celebrate Masses at parishes when their priests are on vacation or have no administrator. They offer support in ministries that are as unique as they themselves are.

Father Paul Bueter, retired diocesan priest, says, "The reason I wanted to retire is so I could do more priestly work — celebrate the sacraments and getting to know the people and talking with them." Ordained in 1959, Father Bueter has served in several diocesan parishes as well as in Latin America.

Retired since 2009, Father Bueter shares a home and its expenses near St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne

with his sister, an arrangement that works out well for them both. Father Bueter finds pleasure and fulfillment in staying busy in his service. It is a great joy for him to work with the preschool students at St. Jude School who he reads to and assists with other activities on a regular basis. "I like the kids," he says, "It's fun for me."

Living just a block and a half from Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community allows Father Bueter the opportunity to visit with other retired priests, celebrate Mass and enjoy a weekly lunch with them as well.

Father Ken Sarrazine, one of the retired priests who resides at Saint Anne Home, agrees that celebrating Mass and lunching together "is a good way of keeping contact with fellow priests in the area." Ordained in 1962, Father Sarrazine has served as associate or pastor in nine parishes in the diocese and says he enjoyed every one of them. Now in his second year of retirement he is active in service at Saint Anne Home assisting the residents with their unique needs.

"My role here is to help those, especially those who are new here, to feel at home," says the priest. "They all need to know they have value. It's a privilege to see the

smiles break out!"

Father Sarrazine visits with the residents as well as his fellow priests on a daily basis and enjoys celebrating Mass. He says, "I can be as busy here serving God and serving His people as I'm willing to be. ... To me, every day is a brand new day and I just look forward to whatever comes."

Father Bueter agrees and says, "Sometimes I think, 'You've got to slow down.' But not today! Not today! ... As long as I have the energy and health I'm going to use it. I've too much life in me!"

Harry Verhiley, Secretariat of the Office of Stewardship and Development and diocesan coordinator of the Annual Bishop's Appeal reports that these beloved priests of the diocese are supported in their retirement in part with funds from the annual Bishop's Appeal.

"The Annual Bishop's Appeal contributes to the promise of retirement for priests, who have given a lifetime of untiring witness to the faith. Yet, even in retirement, our retired priests continue to serve our diocese in parishes, schools, nursing homes and various other ways," he says. Their love of God and the Church is an inspiration to all.



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# Psalm 91 prayer cards inspire prayer across country

BY KATHY KERSHNER

**SOUTH BEND** — Genevieve Szynski's family believes that "the family that prays together ... wants everyone to pray together." Or so her prayer card crusade would lead one to believe.

A personal prayer devotion turned ministry, Genevieve has been praying Psalm 91 every day for well over 30 years. It began soon after hearing the soulful testimony of a fellow prayer-group member giving an account of an encounter with death. Faced with the terror of an advancing tornado, "she knelt down, got her Bible and started reading the 91st Psalm, and it never touched her house. It went right around her."

"Wow," marveled Szynski, contemplating the power of Psalm 91 to protect her and her loved ones, "so I've been reading the 91st Psalm every day since."

She described, with fervor, the feeling of the protective power of the Lord working in her life as a result of her devotion. From near-misses on the highway to emerging unscathed from a collision that demolished her car, "and a lot of little bitty things that have happened, I knew that the Lord was with me all the time."

The joy of such trust might have been enough for 87-year-old Szynski, but it would seem that the Lord has commissioned her to share the Psalm with the world. "I was praying my 91st

Psalm and the Lord put it on my heart to have the Psalm printed and to pass it on to others," she proclaims. Not knowing the first thing of modern technology, design or printing, she called on her daughter Bridget Beutter for help. "She told me in January, I had one year to do it!" Beutter relates.

Originally, Szynski thought to make only enough to share with her five children and 16 grandchildren. The card would be a Christmas present. They were each to be given two, one for the home and one for the car, and each was to promise her to pray it every day — once at home for security and protection and once in the car for safety during travel. But soon 42 prayer cards turned into 1,000 when Szynski learned that her son and granddaughter intended to support the survivors of the Boston Marathon Bombing by attending this year's race — on the one-year anniversary of the tragic event.

So son, Chris, and granddaughter, Sarah, along with Genevieve caught a plane and soon found themselves distributing the cards to as many as would accept them in the streets of Boston. Her offerings were all met with acceptance and gratitude. Since then she has come to believe that the Psalm should be distributed far and wide. Packets of 25 each have been sent for distribution to residents of nursing homes in Florida, friends in the Virgin Islands as well as victims of the wildfires in San Diego.

But wherever Genevieve is,



KATHY KERSHNER

**Genevieve Szynski, in her home in South Bend, prays the 91st Psalm from a prayer card she had printed for distribution. "I pray it every day, for my sons, my daughter, my grandkids and I also pray for our country." She encourages everyone to read and pray the Psalm every day for protection.**

is territory to be evangelized. "If we meet somebody and we think they need the 91st Psalm," she explains, "we take one out and give it to them." No one has ever refused.

"I find it fascinating that someone mom's age is ministering to people," daughter Bridget Beutter confides. But it seems that this ministry is calling other generations of the family to the task. Granddaughter Olivia Szynski is also a devotee of

Psalm 91 and a card-distributing member of the ministry.

A recent graduate of Indiana University, South Bend, 22-year-old Szynski's concentration of study in the criminal justice system makes her friends and teachers obvious candidates for the Psalm 91 prayer card. Many of her teachers have performed difficult and dangerous work within the criminal justice system and she feels strongly that "just giving it to them and having them think

about asking for protection" is an extremely worthwhile thing to do. "Because a lot of people just want to start their day and don't think to ask God to keep them safe throughout their day. I feel that giving them this prayer card really helps a lot," she shared.

Given an opportunity to witness to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Genevieve offers, "All I can say is pray and read the 91st Psalm for protection, ... and pray for our country, definitely pray for our country, I think we really need it."

Genevieve would like to share her prayer cards with anyone who would like to have one. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Genevieve Szynski, P.O. Box 164, South Bend, IN 46624 and she will send a prayer card. Any testimonies to the protective power of Psalm 91 in the lives of those who have prayed it would also be welcome at psalm91stories@yahoo.com or "like" her on facebook by searching Psalm Stories, South Bend, Indiana.

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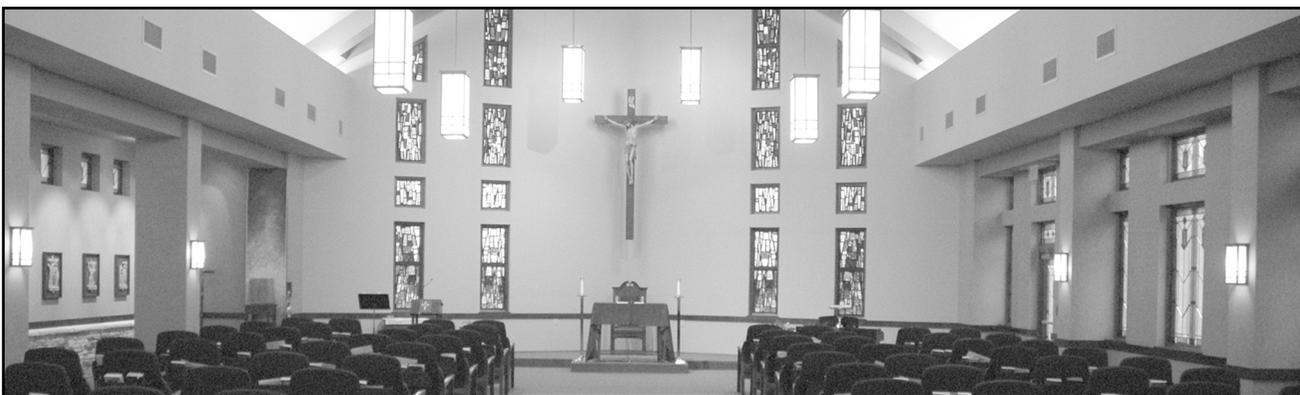
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## 'It didn't make sense, but faith did'

No one deserves to die like this. And no parents or family members should have to deal with the reality that the heinous and barbaric way in which their loved one is taken from them is temporarily available for a worldwide audience to view on YouTube.

Though we could turn this into another debate about the pros and cons of technology and social media, we will save that discussion for another day.

For us, it is more important today to celebrate the life of a journalist who developed a passion for travelling to the world's trouble spots trying to expose the suffering of innocent people and shining a light where there is so much darkness.

And to remember a person who wasn't afraid to share how the Catholic faith taught to him at a young age was a lifeline for

him, especially when he was held captive.

James Foley, 40, a freelance journalist who graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee, was killed on Aug. 19 by members of the Islamic State in retaliation for U.S. airstrikes on the militants' strongholds in northern Iraq.

By all accounts, Foley developed a heart for social justice while attending Marquette. That passion eventually led the photojournalist overseas. In 2011, he was kidnapped on a Libyan battlefield and held captive in Tripoli for 44 days.

Foley found strength during that dark time thanks to the prayers he learned as a young man.

"I began to pray the rosary.

It was what my mother and grandmother would have prayed," he wrote in a piece published in *Marquette Magazine* after his release. "I said 10 Hail Marys

## GUEST EDITORIAL

MIKE KROKOS

between each Our Father. It took a long time, almost an hour to count 100 Hail Marys off on my knuckles. And it helped to keep my mind focused."

"Clare (a fellow captive) and I prayed together out loud. It felt energizing to speak our weaknesses and hopes together, as if in a conversation with God, rather than silently and alone."

A phone conversation he later had with his mother, Diane Foley,

KROKOS, PAGE 13

## Disciples strengthened through the Church



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 18:15-20

The Book of Ezekiel is the source of the first biblical reading for this weekend. Ezekiel's name was "apropos." It was in effect a prayer, being translated as "May God make (him) strong." Ezekiel needed strength to be a prophet in a time of great tension for his people.

Seeing the misfortunes that had come upon God's people, Ezekiel never would have asked, "Why does God let this happen?" but rather, "Why do people sin and therefore bring such chaos and meanness into life?"

While accusing the nation of sin, Ezekiel also reassures that, despite all, God will protect the people.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans supplies the second reading. An educated Jew, fully versed in the teachings of Judaism, Paul knew the Commandments well. While he saw a special vocation in his outreach to gentiles, he knew that God had revealed the truth through the Hebrew people. The Commandments were from God.

Paul set the Commandments in context. Properly, people obey God because they love God. Therefore, people should treat others well, according to the Commandments, because they love others.

For its last reading, the Church

this weekend offers a passage from the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus teaches the disciples to admonish anyone among them who somehow is at fault.

The Lord gives a progression of steps. First, a Christian should call a wayward brother or sister to task. Then, this step failing, the Christian should seek the aid of others in calling the wayward to task. Finally, this step also failing, the disciple should tell the Church.

If the wayward will not reform, the Church should dismiss the wayward. A pattern is given as to how this must occur. Behind it all, is the fact of the Church and of the fact of the Church's authority and its place as the repository of all that the Lord has taught and given.

Quite clearly, this reading is about the Church. The Lord anticipates a believing, organized community guided by the Apostles on the basis of all that the Lord taught.

Being a follower of Jesus is serious matter. No disciple utterly can live as he or she chooses. Each must resemble Christ, obedient always to the perfection of God's law. God's law was revealed, a gesture of God's love for us, that we might have life.

The Church has the right to judge a member's behavior, even a member's sincerity, indicated by this Gospel revelation. The Church is not simply a convenient, occasional gathering in which people think and act on their own.

### Reflection

Ezekiel's name in essence was a prayer — asking for God's strength. Ezekiel knew his limitations and also the challenges that he would face as a prophet. He knew that he needed God's strength.

For weeks, we have heard advice about being good disciples. To be genuine disciples, we too will need strength from God.

We also need direction. The Gospel reading reveals to us that satisfaction for this need in our lives comes in, and through, the Church. Just over 50 years ago, Pope Pius XII published a marvelous encyclical about the Church, "Mystici Corporis." This encyclical significantly inspired the Second Vatican Council, that came after Pius XII's papacy.

The Church, according to "Mystici Corporis," was founded by God and blessed by God, but it is composed of limited, at times sinful, humans.

When members sin, through the Church, they may be reconciled with God, if they humbly choose to be. The Church acts in the name of Jesus, conveying to us divine truth, God's law, but also clarifying the difference between right and wrong.

This guidance is not intrusive or oppressive. It is God's gift, God's support, God's care for us. Given this guidance, disciples are strengthened.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Ez 33:7-9 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 Rom 13:8-10 Mt 18:15-20

**Monday:** Mi 5:1-4a Ps 13:6abc Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

**Tuesday:** 1 Cor 6:1-11 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Lk 6:12-19

**Wednesday:** 1 Cor 7:25-31 Ps 45:11-12, 14-17 Lk 6:20-26

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13 Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14b, 23-24 Lk 6:27-38

**Friday:** 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27 Ps 84:3-6, 8, 12 Lk 6:39-42

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 10:14-22 Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 Lk 6:43-49

## On faith and life, a wrong turn by the Senate

"Congress has never passed legislation with the specific purpose of *reducing* Americans' religious freedom. It should not consider doing so now."

So said a broad interfaith coalition of religious leaders to Congress last month, after the Supreme Court issued its decision in the *Hobby Lobby* case. Members of the Green family, who own this chain of hobby and craft stores, won their case in court. The Obama administration could not force them to violate their faith and provide employer coverage for drugs and devices that they see as attacking a human being at his or her earliest stage of development.

These religious leaders knew there might be a backlash from members of Congress whose own "reproductive rights" agenda is more important to them than religious freedom for other Americans. The leaders felt a need to remind our lawmakers that the freedom to live by one's faith is Americans' first and most fundamental freedom, that Congress has always sought to protect people's conscience from being trampled when those in power disagree with their beliefs.

Events soon proved they were right to be concerned. Two weeks after they pleaded with Congress to maintain our religious freedom, a majority of the Senate — including our own Senator Joe Donnelly of Indiana — voted to move forward with legislation to take that freedom away.

Supporters call this bill the "Protect Women's Health From Corporate Interference Act" (S. 2578). They say it will reverse the *Hobby Lobby* decision, so for-profit corporations cannot withhold contraceptive coverage from their female employees on religious grounds.

In reality the bill is much more sweeping. It states that when the federal government, by law or regulation, decides to mandate *any* item in health plans nationwide, *no one* will have a right to object that it violates their religious freedom. The government's mandate will override "any other provision of federal law" that stands in the way — whether that law protects for-profit employers, non-profit charitable organizations like the Little Sisters of the Poor, religious educational institutions like the University of Notre Dame, insurers, employees, or individual women purchasing a health plan for their families on our state health exchange. Just as con-

traceptives have been mandated as a "preventive service" to avert unintended pregnancies, coverage for all abortions, including late-term abortions, could be mandated to avoid unwanted live births — and any federal law protecting conscience rights on abortion would be null and void, not just for "corporations" but for everyone involved.

For the Green family and for many other believers, this dispute was already about abortion. The Greens objected to only four of the 20 birth control methods the Administration has mandated, because they believe these methods can take the life of a new human being after fertilization. In their eyes, and in the teaching of the Catholic Church as well, taking human life at that early stage is an abortion. But under this bill, this or a future Administration could decide that even surgical abortion is just another "specific item" that no employer health plan can refuse to support.

Some have claimed that the current HHS mandate is about a "right" to contraception, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs. But as the University of Notre Dame said in its complaint to a federal court last year, any such alleged right "does not authorize the Government to require Notre Dame to facilitate and appear to endorse practices that Catholic doctrine considers morally wrong."

Last month the Senate narrowly failed to achieve the 60 votes needed to take up S. 2578. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid invoked a procedural rule to ensure that it can be brought up again, any time after the Senate resumes its session in September. In the meantime, I hope Senator Donnelly and others who voted for this extreme legislation will realize how radically it departs from our nation's traditions on respect for the conscientious beliefs of all Americans. We need more respect for religious freedom in our nation, not less.

**Bishop Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., D.D.**

*Archdiocese of Indianapolis*

**Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, S.L.D.**

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*Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana*

### READINGS for the week of Sept. 14

**Sunday:** Nm 21:4b-9 Ps 78:1b-2, 34-38 Phil 2:6-11 Jn 3:13-17

**Monday:** 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33 Ps 40:7-10, 17 Jn 19:25-27

**Tuesday:** 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 7:11-17

**Wednesday:** 1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13 Ps 33:2-5, 12, 22 Lk 7:31-35

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 15:1-11 Ps 118:1b-2, 16-17, 28 Lk 7:36-50

**Friday:** 1 Cor 15:12-20 Ps 17:1b-d, 6-7, 8b, 15 Lk 8:1-3

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49 Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14 Lk 8:4-15

The Sunday Gospel reflection for Sept. 14 can be found online at [todayscatholicnews.org](http://todayscatholicnews.org). Look for Msgr. Campion under columnists.

# Debunking the debunker

*Editor's note: Unfortunately, an advertisement appeared in the Aug. 24, 2014 issue of Today's Catholic promoting a lecture at Saint Mary's College by Reza Aslan. The following offers information that provides a good perspective on the speaker and his book.*

When I saw that Reza Aslan's portrait of "Jesus, Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth," had risen to No. 1 on the *New York Times* bestseller list, I must confess, I was both disappointed and puzzled. For the reductionistic and debunking approach that Aslan employs has been tried by dozens of commentators for at least the past 300 years, and the debunkers have been themselves debunked over and over again by serious scholars of the historical Jesus.

Here is how the method works: a scholar focuses on one aspect of Jesus' life, finds all of the Gospel passages that emphasize that aspect and declares them historically reliable, and then casually characterizes the rest of the Gospels as the non-historical musings of the evangelists and their communities. So in the course of the last three centuries, Jesus has been presented as, exclusively, an eschatological prophet, an itinerant preacher of the kingdom, a wonder-worker, a magician, a social revolutionary, an avatar of enlightened ethics, a cynic philosopher, etc.

To be sure, evidence can be culled from the Gospels for all of these identities, but the problem is that these portraits invariably fail to present "Jesus in full," the strange, beguiling, elusive and richly complex figure that emerges from a thorough reading of the New Testament.

The Jesus that Aslan wants to present is the "zealot," which is to say, the Jewish insurrectionist intent upon challenging the Temple establishment in Jerusalem and, above all, the Roman military power that dominated the land of Israel. His principle justification for this reading is that religiously motivated revolutionaries were indeed thick on the ground in the Palestine of Jesus' time; that Jesus claimed to be ushering in a new Kingdom of God; and that He ended up dying the death typically meted out to rabble-rousers who posed a threat to Roman authority. Jesus, he argues, fits neatly into the pattern set by Menahem, the heroic defender of Masada, Judas the Galilean, Simon son of Giora, Simon bar Kochba and any number of other revolutionaries who claimed Messianic identity and who, in the end, were ground under by the Romans. On this reading, Jesus indeed died on a Roman cross, but He didn't rise from the dead; instead, His body was probably left on the cross to be devoured by dogs or the birds of the air.

Now questions immediately crowd the mind. What about Jesus' extraordinary stress on non-violence and love of enemies (hardly the stern stuff we would expect from a zealot)? Oh, it was made up by the later Christian community that was trying to curry favor with Roman society. What about Jesus' explicit claim that His kingdom was "not of this world?" Oh, those were words placed in his mouth by John the evangelist. What about his practically constant reference to prayer, the spiritual life and trust in divine providence? Oh, that was pious invention. What about the stories of his outreach to the Woman at the Well, the man born blind, and Zacchaeus? What about the healing of Bartimaeus, the raising of Lazarus, and the raising of the daughter of Jairus, actions having precious little to do with anti-Roman activism? By now, you can guess the answer, and I trust you see the problem: huge swaths of the Gospel and the early Christian witness have to be cut away in order to accommodate the portrait that Aslan paints.

The most massive difficulty with Aslan's interpretation is that it cannot begin to account for the stubborn fact that no one except specialist historians remembers Judas the Galilean, Menahem or Simon bar Kochba — but everyone remembers Jesus of Nazareth. The clearest indication possible that someone was not the Messiah of Israel would have been his death at the hands of Israel's enemies, for the Messiah was supposed to be a liberator and conqueror. And this is precisely why those failed revolutionaries were so quickly forgotten. But Christianity emerged as none other than a Messianic movement. Paul said, over and over again, *Iesous Christos*, simply his Greek rendering of *Ieshouah Maschiach* (Jesus the Messiah). How could he and the other early evangelists have declared the Messianic identity of a crucified criminal unless they knew that, despite his ignominious death, he had indeed conquered the enemies of Israel? And how could they have come to that conclusion apart from the resurrection of that crucified criminal from the dead? It turns out that the most convincing explanation, on historical grounds, of the emergence and endurance of the Christian movement is the very thing that Aslan and likeminded interpreters write off as a later concoction of the community.

I would like to say just a bit more about this last point. As I've indicated, the favorite strategy of the Jesus reductionists is to claim that much of the Gospel material was invented, made up out of whole cloth by the developing Christian communities. Time and again, they insist that, since the earliest Gospel was written 40 years after the time of Jesus, it couldn't possibly

## WORD ON FIRE



FATHER ROBERT BARRON

contain more than a smattering of historically reliable material. But this is so much nonsense. Would we automatically reject as non-historical a book about the Kennedy assassination, published in 2003? Wouldn't we naturally assume that the author had consulted historical records as well as numerous eyewitnesses to the events of Nov. 22, 1963? Those who knew Jesus, who listened to His words and saw His great deeds, who witnessed His death and resurrection didn't disappear en masse in 30 AD, leaving the Gospel writers with nothing to work with but their theologically informed imaginations. To give just one example: tradition holds (and there is no serious reason to doubt it) that Mark, the first evangelist, was a friend and companion of St. Peter, during the time of the great apostle's sojourn in Rome. His Gospel was therefore grounded in the reminiscences of someone who knew Jesus intimately and who saw the Lord after His resurrection. There is absolutely no reason to doubt that the Gospel of Mark, though it was written 40 years after the time of Jesus, is filled with reliable history.

There are far, far better accounts of the historical Jesus than the book under consideration. I would recommend studies by E.P. Sanders, James Dunn, Richard Bauckham, Ben Witherington III or N.T. Wright. What they will show you is that the real Jesus remains far more interesting and compelling than the superficial caricature offered by Reza Aslan.

**Father Robert Barron** is the founder of the global ministry, Word on Fire, and the rector/president of Mundelein Seminary. He is the creator of the award-winning documentary series, "Catholicism" and "Catholicism: The New Evangelization." Learn more at [www.WordonFire.org](http://www.WordonFire.org).

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for September 7, 2014

Matthew 18:15-20

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: about agreements and disagreements. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SINS	FAULT	ALONE
LISTENS	ONE OR TWO	ALONG
WITNESSES	REFUSES	THE CHURCH
GENTILE	COLLECTOR	I SAY
WHATEVER	ON EARTH	BOUND
HEAVEN	LOOSE	AGREE
FATHER	GATHERED	IN MY NAME

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## KROKOS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

while he was still in captivity, confirmed something else he felt: that prayers were being offered by countless others for him and his fellow captors' safe release.

"I replayed that call hundreds of times in my head — my mother's voice, the names of my friends, her knowledge of our situation, her absolute belief in the power of prayer. She told me my friends had gathered to do anything they could to help. I knew I wasn't alone," Foley wrote.

If you think about it, we've all been there. Or know someone who's been there.

A broken relationship. The loss of a job. A life-threatening illness affecting us or someone we love. When we or someone we know reaches the lowest of lows in life, how often do we feel alone?

Foley faced the challenge a second time after he was kidnapped in November 2012 while covering the civil war in Syria. His family earlier last week released a letter they said James wrote to them while in captivity. A fellow captive memorized the letter and shared it with the Foley family when he was released in June.

It reads in part: "I know you are thinking of me and praying for me. And I am so thankful. I feel you all especially when I pray. I pray for

you to stay strong and to believe. I really feel I can touch you even in this darkness when I pray.

What the journalist's life lessons taught him — and so many of us who doubt — is that through the power of prayer and the love of so many we are never alone.

We cannot deny James Foley's tragic death shows us there is grave evil in this world. But as Bishop Peter A. Libasci of Manchester, New Hampshire, said during a memorial Mass celebrated on Aug. 24, we must learn from his life.

"Jim went back (into the war zone) again that we might open our eyes," Bishop Libasci said at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish in Rochester, New Hampshire, his family's parish. "That we might indeed know how precious is this gift. May almighty God grant peace to James and to all our fragile world."

We continue to offer our prayers for Foley's family, and we remember these words the journalist shared to close his reflection about his time in captivity in Libya in 2011: "If nothing else, prayer was the glue that enabled my freedom, an inner freedom first and later the miracle of being released during a war in which the regime had no real incentive to free us. It didn't make sense, but faith did."

**Mike Krokos** is the editor of *The Criterion*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Reprinted with permission from *The Criterion*.

# Sports

**BISHOP DWENGER CUTS RIBBON ON NEW GYM** Bishop Dwenger High School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony of the newly renovated gymnasium on Friday, Aug. 22. The student body, faculty, staff, parents, alumni, donors and supporters gathered for this event immediately following the first All-School Mass, which was celebrated in the gym. The Mass celebrated the feast day of the school's patroness — Mary, Queen of all Saints.

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## CYO football league welcomes new team

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) kicked off Week 1 football action at Havenhurst Field Aug. 24. But even more exciting than the onset of the 2014 season was the fact that the opening game of the day was extra special as history was made and Catholic alumni in Fort Wayne had a new team for which to cheer. In their very first outing, the Central Catholic Irish got off to an impressive start as they took the field and claimed their very first victory with a 24-6 win over a talented squad from St. Vincent.

Head coach and No. 1 cheerleader for the newly formed varsity team, Dave Westendorf, was thrilled with the smooth culmination after long and detailed months spent creating the all-new program, "It was so exciting to get to this point and actually play a game and it was an honor to represent the legacy of Central Catholic High School in this way. The crowd was outstanding and it was very cool for the kids."

The initial discussions took place at the coaches meeting just before last season. However, all involved felt the timing was not right to make it happen for 2013. Many programs in the league continued to struggle with their roster numbers and the turn out for the younger teams was low in several situations. So, the topic was brought up again in March of 2014

and it was then that the ball got rolling. The concept was voted in and while a permanent team was the intent, the program was granted a 3-5 year trial.

An eight-person committee was then formed, consisting of athletic directors from each of the four schools — St. John, New Haven, St. Jude, Queen of Angels and Most Precious Blood — along with one other member from each school. The committee met nearly every two weeks for the next several months discussing everything from coach selection, uniform and equipment decisions, money matters and all the behind the scene logistics that go along with a new program.

Coach Sam Talarico, who has been amazing support from St. Charles, actually suggested the team's label and the committee embraced it as a perfect way to honor the legacy of Central Catholic High School and all it once represented. Purple and Vegas gold were selected as the colors for the unit, while Irish would naturally be the mascot.

"From day one, we have stressed to the boys that they are no longer, 'St. Jude' or the 'Raiders' but one equal team of Central Catholic Irish," Westendorf detailed. "We have worked hard in team building sessions during the preseason encouraging the team to meet three new players from another school at each practice. And we sent the same message to the parents as we visited each school indi-

vidually — explaining the concept, how it would all work and answering questions with a goal of getting everyone on board," the 20-year CYO veteran added.

Prayers were answered and efforts paid off as 73 young men (grades 5-8) turned out for the first conditioning practice in July and significant donations came in from the Fabini Foundation and long-time CYO treasurer's widow, Sue Hydt, to help with the start up.

The larger numbers bring on a whole new mindset and new luxuries for coaches who have listed less than 20 on their rosters in the past. "We are able to have a full scrimmage. And players are challenged to good, healthy competition knowing we are at least two-deep in every position," Westendorf explained.

Another huge advantage, Westendorf is surrounded by a wealth of experience on his coaching staff including offensive coordinator, Casey Kolkman, defensive coach Steve Henry and Jeff Weddle (special teams). Chris Reidy, Matt Peters and Mark Litchfield round out the sideline lineup, while Mike Weissert will take charge of the younger unit.

Westendorf summarized, "While our goal this first year is to build a strong foundation for the future of the program, this team is not just about football. This is about young men becoming part of a Catholic community link that will last a lifetime — something very important they may not "get" at this age, but will someday."

Among other big changes this season, Holy Cross Lutheran team is no longer in the CYO league. The league now consists of five teams. Two games will be played each weekend for the 10-week season with the fifth team rotating a bye week. Also gone are long-time coaches Mike Gigli and Jim Carroll with their retirement in 2013.

The CYO welcomes Andre Goodwell and Chris Bough to the all-star lineup of coaches. In the second game of the day, the two met as St. John, Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SJFW) downed St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth/St. Therese/St. Aloysius (JAT) by a score of 18-6. Due to the holiday, games last weekend were played at Bishop Dwenger High School on Saturday morning, Aug. 30. JAT had the bye; SJFW faced St. Vincent in the first match up, while Central Catholic went after their next foe, St. Charles.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

**Franciscan Fest**

Fort Wayne — Franciscan Fest will be Sunday, Sept. 14, from 1-5 p.m. at Our Lady of the Angels Oratory, 2610 New Haven Ave. The Confraternity of Penitents renovation fund capital campaign will benefit from a live and silent auction, 50/50 raffle, dodge ball with Franciscan Brothers Minor and hog roast. Tickets are \$12 per person or \$30 per family. Reservations are requested to Sandy at 260-433-1236.

**White Mass planned**

Fort Wayne — A White Mass for all medical workers and their families will be celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m., at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. A banquet sponsored by the Catholic Medical Guild will follow at St. Mary's Oechtering Hall for \$15 a person. RSVP to www.fortwaynecma.com for the banquet. Banquet speaker will be Matthew Hanley of the NCBE speaking on "Ideological Medicine: Serving Aims, Not Humanity."

**Fall Fest planned**

Decatur — St. Mary of the Assumption Parish will have a Fall Fest Friday, Sept. 19, from 5-10 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 20, from noon to 5 p.m. in the parish hall. Events include silent auction, food, games, raffle, corn hole, carriage rides and live music by Joe Five from 7-11 p.m.

**St. Charles plans Cardinal Fest**

Fort Wayne — St. Charles Parish will have Cardinal Fest, Sept. 20-21. Saturday will begin at 3 p.m. with indoor and outdoor games, food and music by Mindseye till 11 p.m. Sunday offers a walk/run at 1:30 p.m. Visit www.cardinalfest.com for information.

**Class of 1952 plans reunion**

Fort Wayne — The Central Catholic High School class of 1952 will celebrate a 62-year reunion at Pine Valley Country club on Saturday, Sept. 13, from

3-8 p.m. Reservations, contact Ned Boylan at 260-755-5299 or email nedgolflefty@comcast.net.

**Life Center offers Masses and Adoration**

South Bend — Masses are held at the Life Center on Ironwood Circle each Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. with Dominican Father Anthony Giambrone. Adoration is Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m.

**St. Vincent de Paul Societies garage sale**

Fort Wayne — The St. Vincent de Paul Societies of St. Henry and Sacred Heart Parishes will have a garage sale Friday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. Henry rectory, 3029 E. Paulding Rd.

**Knights plan fish fry**

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

**Blessed Mother Birthday party planned**

Knox — The Shrine of World Rosary of Peace will have a guest speaker, Father Ted Nordquist, on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. (CST). Bring lawn chairs. Food and refreshments provided.

**Craft bazaar accepting vendors**

Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger Craft Bazaar is accepting registrations for vendors and crafters for the Nov. 8 event. Tables will rent for \$40. Registration information is available at www.bishopdwenger.com or by calling 260-482-1022.

**Craft show vendors needed**

Fort Wayne — Crafters are needed for the Rosary Society of Most Precious Blood Church, 1515 Barthold St., craft show Saturday, Nov. 1. Tables and electricity available for a nominal fee. Contact Teresa at 260-385-4565 for information.

**Spaghetti dinner planned**

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, Sept. 11, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$2.50 for children 5-12. Proceeds benefit the Gibault School for Boys and Girls.

**Theology on Tap begins third Thursdays**

Fort Wayne — "Hope in a World of Unrest" — Theology on Tap, will begin Thursday, Sept. 18, at 6:30 p.m. at Calhoun Street Soups, Salads and Spirits.

**ACT/SAT prep course offered**

Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger High School will offer an ACT/SAT prep course Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. beginning Tuesday, Sept. 23, and ending Thursday, Nov. 06. The 14 sessions will include test familiarity, pacing, strategies, as well as English, math and science concepts. The class fee is \$225 and includes both an ACT text and SAT text for the course. The class is open to any high school student in the surrounding areas.

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Maria Walesiewicz, 89, St. Adalbert

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Lois E. Kaniewski, 90, St. Pius X

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**Huntington**

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Loretta C. Zygulski, 90, St. Stanislaus

Sonja Miranda Maria Van Buskirk, St. Vincent de Paul

Harvey Ronald Snyder, St. Mary

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Donald P. Ebling, 80, St. Joseph

Robert R. Turk Sr., 78, Holy Family

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**Notre Dame**

Brother Clement A. Burger, CSC, 72, Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel

Richard A. Klosowski, 67, Holy Family

Thomas R. Paholski, 62, Holy Cross

For information and registration, call Bishop Dwenger High School at 260-496-4700 or click on www.bishopdwenger.com for registration forms.

**Knights plan spaghetti dinner**

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a spaghetti dinner on Wednesday, Sept. 17, from 5-6:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit St. Jude tuition assistance.

**Queen of Angels athletic association plans BBQ cook-off**

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will have a BBQ cook-off and bake-off Saturday, Sept. 6, from 5-9 p.m. Amateur grillers and bakers wanted. No entry fee. Food entered in competition will be sold to benefit the Queen of Angels Athletic Association. Visit www.fwbq.com or call 260-422-5996 for details.



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# WABASH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the magnificent stained-glass windows, particularly those of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the choir, maybe the most beautiful in the diocese," he said. "St. Bernard, your patron saint, had great devotion to the Mother of God. Your devotion to her continues that of earlier parishioners who adorned this church with these beautiful windows."

Bishop Rhoades also encouraged attendees to remember the past with gratitude, but also to move forward.

"We reflect on the parish's mission to build up the Body of Christ here in Wabash: to continue to spread the faith, to ensure the strong Catholic upbringing of our children and young people, to reach out with love to those who are not practicing the faith, to serve the sick and the poor, to console the suffering and to help one another to grow in holiness," he said. "I wish to encourage you in your mission of evangelization. A truly vibrant parish is one that reaches out to others and is not turned in on itself."

After the Mass, many of those present pondered the day's events.

"It was wonderful! It was like a homecoming for me," said Sister Patricia O'Bryan, a Sister of St. Joseph. Sister O'Bryan was principal of St. Bernard School for four years, taught 13 years there and now lives in the Greensburg area.

Emily France, who attended St. Bernard School, and is now children's choir director and cantor, enjoyed reuniting with Sister O'Bryan.

"She was my music teacher, principal later and first-grade teacher," France said. "She was always a huge inspiration in my life; she literally introduced me to Jesus. That part of the day was very emotional for me, to see someone who had made such an impact in my life."

Mike Davis, who was on the sesquicentennial planning committee, said parishioners began discussing the big celebration Jan. 13. He was pleased with the result.

"I worry about the younger generation," he added. "Events like this bring their faith back."

Dick White, who is often an altar server, also saw the implications on youth.

"(The 150-year anniversary) is a witness to our faith and we're lasting," he said. "A lot of other churches come and go in 150 years."



PHOTOS BY LAURIE KIEFABER

St. Bernard Church parishioners and faithful release 150 balloons after the feast of St. Bernard Mass Aug. 20, which began the celebration for the sesquicentennial.



Former pastor Father William Kummer holds St. Bernard parishioner Joe Ross, with Joe's mother, Larissa Ross during the lunch celebrating the sesquicentennial of St. Bernard Church Aug. 24. Seated below them are Sandra Celmer, former parish secretary, and her husband Henry.

... The servers and younger kids, hopefully they'll be there in the coming years."

Parish secretary Ann Unger felt at peace when the day was over.

"It was a perfect, joy-filled day," she said.

Ron Trautvetter, a parishioner of seven years with his wife, Kay, of Marion, enjoyed the celebration and felt called to service.

"I was impressed with the bishop because he went to Vernon Manor Home for Children (in Wabash before coming to Mass)," he said. "He challenged us to be like Mother Teresa and take care of the poor and needy in our area."

About 150 parishioners attended

the feast of St. Bernard Mass Aug. 20, which kicked off the parish's sesquicentennial. During the Mass, Father Sextus Don, pastor, also reflected on the church legacy.

"We have the privilege to be part of this celebration," he said. "But this faith community must go on. We have to be an example to (the children of the parish). ... Our faith in Jesus Christ must continue."

He also talked about the coming of Christ.

"There are two comings of Christ," Father Don said. "His first coming into history and the second coming (in the future). But the middle coming of Christ comes to us today (through reading the Bible)."



Below, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, center, celebrates the Mass for the sesquicentennial of St. Bernard Church Aug. 24. Standing with him, from left, are Father Polycarp Fernando, Father Andrew Curry, Father Ben Muhlenkamp, Father Adam Schmitt, Father William Kummer, Msgr. John Suelzer, Father Tim Wrozek, Father Sextus Don, pastor of St. Bernard Parish, Father Henry Byekwaso, Father Adam Mauman, Father Danney Pinto and Father Sebastian Twinomugabi.



Father Sextus Don blesses the time capsule to be stored unopened in the church for the next 50 years during the feast of St. Bernard Aug. 20 at St. Bernard Church in Wabash. Looking on, from left, are servers Joe Leland, Chris Orpurt and Rachel Orpurt.

Father Don also blessed the time capsule, which will be stored in the church and opened at the bicentennial celebration.

Many of the priests attending the sesquicentennial had church connections. Father Ben Muhlenkamp served the parish when Father Don was recovering from a heart attack earlier this year. Fathers Tim Wrozek and William Kummer were former pastors. Msgr. John

Suelzer and Father Adam Schmitt were associate pastors. Father Henry Byekwaso often serves as pastor when Father Don visits his home country of Sri Lanka after Christmas. Fathers Polycarp Fernando, Danney Pinto, Andrew Curry and Sebastian Twinomugabi have helped with hearing Confessions. Father Adam Mauman is pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church in Peru.

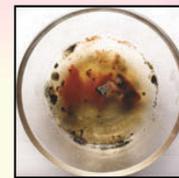
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