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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Court declines to review rulings overturning same-sex marriage bans

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Rulings that overturned state bans on same-sex marriage in five states will be allowed to take effect, after the Supreme Court Oct. 6 declined to consider appeals of seven lower court rulings that such prohibitions are unconstitutional.

Another half-dozen states in the same appellate court jurisdictions also are likely to begin allowing such marriages. But the high court's refusal to hear the cases does not translate to a nationwide mandate for all states to follow them.

The action effectively allows same-sex marriages to begin in Indiana, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia and Wisconsin as soon as lower courts lift temporary stays that were imposed while appeals went to the Supreme Court.

Six other states within the same three federal circuit court jurisdictions would fall under those appellate rulings and likely also will begin allowing such marriages, bringing to 30 the number of states that allow

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CNS PHOTO/JONATHAN ERNST, REUTERS

Visitors stand in line for oral arguments on the first day of the term of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington Oct. 6. Rulings that overturned state bans on same-sex marriage in five states will be allowed to take effect, after the court declined to consider appeals of lower court rulings that such prohibitions are unconstitutional.

Bishop Rhoades leads pro-life rosary to begin National Respect for Life Month

BY CHRIS LUSHIS

SOUTH BEND — To commence Respect Life Month, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades led over 200 participants in a Rosary for Life outside the South Bend abortion clinic on the evening of Oct. 1. The event, which was organized by the diocesan Office of Family Life, emphasized the importance of being united in faith and grounded in prayer to bring about holy action in the world.

Bishop Rhoades highlighted the importance of praying the rosary together; reminding those present of the eternal hope in the triumph of Christ's Resurrection.

"It is a great joy to see so many of you here today," Bishop Rhoades



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

The faithful gathered with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Oct. 1 outside the South Bend abortion clinic to pray the rosary and mark the opening of Respect Life Month. The rosary was organized by the diocesan Office of Family Life.

said. "We are surrounding the abortion clinic with this pro-life circle: we have the Women's Care Center, the Life Center with the Blessed Sacrament present at the Divine Mercy Chapel, and the St. Joseph County Right to Life Office. This place is surrounded by prayer and people working for the cause of life. We will be victorious, and the Lord of Life will be victorious."

The Office of Family Life offered participants various ways to show support for mothers, children and families through the distribution of pro-life materials and by offering 100 roses to the women present, memorializing the lives that have been lost at the Women's Pavilion

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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 Lavonis, 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

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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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Opening family synod, pope warns bishops of hypocrisy, pride and greed

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Opening a two-week Synod of Bishops on the family, Pope Francis warned participants against the temptations of hypocrisy, pride and greed, urging them instead to serve the Church with “freedom, creativity and hard work.”

“We can thwart God’s dream if we fail to let ourselves be guided by the Holy Spirit,” the pope said Oct. 5, during Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica. “The Spirit gives us that wisdom which surpasses knowledge, and enables us to work generously with authentic freedom and humble creativity.”

Pope Francis’ homily drew on the day’s reading from the Gospel of Matthew (21:33-43), in which Jesus describes the people of God as a vineyard, farmed by tenants who betray its owner and seek to take it over for themselves.

Addressing his words to the 184 bishops and 69 others who would take part in the synod, the pope said Jesus aimed His parable at the “chief priests and the elders of the people, in other words the experts, the managers,” whose job it was to “nurture, tend and protect” God’s people.

“But Jesus tells us that those farmers took over the vineyard. Out of greed and pride they want to do with it as they will, and so they prevent God from realizing His dream for the people He has chosen,” the pope said.

“We are all sinners, and we too can be tempted to take over the vineyard, because of that greed which is always present in us human beings. God’s dream always clashes with the hypocrisy of some of His servants,” the pope said.

The synod is slated to discuss a range of “pastoral challenges of the family” in preparation for a larger world synod in October 2015, which will make recommendations to the pope.

“Synod assemblies are not meant to discuss beautiful and clever ideas, or to see who is more intelligent. They are meant to better nurture and tend the Lord’s vineyard, to help realize His dream, His loving plan for His people,” Pope Francis said.



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis celebrates a Mass to open the extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 5.

“In this case the Lord is asking us to care for the family, which has been from the beginning an integral part of His loving plan for humanity.”

One of the most discussed topics at the 2014 synod promises to be a controversial proposal by German Cardinal Walter Kasper that would make it easier for divorced and civilly remarried Catholics to receive Communion. Pope Francis has said the predicament of such Catholics exemplifies a general need for mercy in the Church today.

The pope alluded to that need for mercy when he said that “evil pastors lay intolerable burdens on the shoulders of others, which they themselves do not lift a finger to move,” a paraphrase of Jesus’ words against the hypocrisy of scribes and Pharisees in Matthew 23: 4.

Prior to celebrating Mass, Pope Francis stopped briefly in the basilica to venerate the relics of St. Therese of Lisieux and her parents, Blessed Zelie and Louis Martin, which will be in the Basilica of St. Mary Major for the duration of the synod.



CNS PHOTO/CNS PHOTO/MARCIN MAZUR

Pope Francis venerates the relics of Blessed Luigi and Maria Beltrame Quattrocchi as he arrives to celebrate a Mass to open the extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 5. The pope also venerated relics of Blessed Louis and Zelie Martin, parents of St. Therese of Lisieux.

Father Groeschel, beloved author, preacher, dies

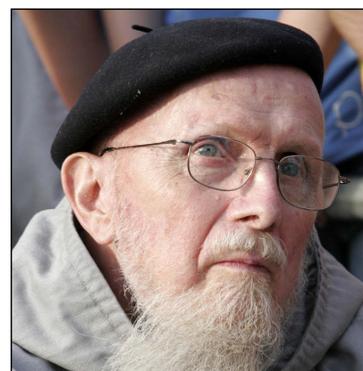
TOTOWA, N.J. (CNS) — Father Benedict J. Groeschel, who was a founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, a leading pro-life figure and popular author, retreat master and preacher, died Oct. 3 at St. Joseph’s Home for the elderly in Totowa after a long illness. He was 81.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated for Father Groeschel Oct. 10 at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, in Newark, New Jersey, followed by burial at

Most Blessed Sacrament Friary in Newark. The burial will be private.

Over the past decade, despite his decline in health, Father Groeschel “continued to serve the Church generously and with great fidelity,” according to his community.

In January 2004, Father Groeschel hovered near death after a car hit him in Orlando, Florida. After a yearlong recovery, he had to walk with a cane



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHERITZ

Father Benedict J. Groeschel, founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and a leading pro-life figure, is pictured in a 2008 photo. He died Oct. 3 at age 81 after a long illness.

and experienced weakness in one of his arms. But he was able to resume his schedule.

In 2012, following a minor

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same-sex couples to wed.

Within hours of the Supreme Court orders being released, the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals lifted the temporary stay on its rulings, which overturned same-sex marriage bans in Utah and Oklahoma. The other cases that now revert to lower court rulings are from the 4th Circuit and the 7th Circuit. Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring said county clerks could begin issuing licenses that same day.

In 89 pages of orders issued the first day of the court's 2014 term, the court rejected appeals in seven cases in which federal courts had said laws prohibiting same-sex marriage were unconstitutional. The cases included a mixture of state constitutional amendments and legislation that banned same-sex marriages, as well as appeals by couples who were married in other states and sought recognition of their unions by the states where they live. The court issued the orders without comment.

The justices' decision not to take up any of the cases came as a surprise to legal observers. The high court typically does not take up cases with nationwide implications unless there are conflicting lower court rulings. But in each of the seven marriage cases, both the winning and losing sides had asked the court to review the lower court decisions, to help clarify the overall situation.

When the Supreme Court justices consider whether to take a case, it takes four votes to put an appeal on the docket. Four justices dissented

from the 2013 rulings that overturned the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which defined marriage as between one man and one woman. After the U.S. v. Windsor ruling, attorneys general in some states declined to defend their bans on same-sex marriage, while others vigorously fought to keep them intact.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th, 6th, 9th and 11th circuits all have same-sex marriage cases on the docket. The Supreme Court's decision not to take up the cases gives the appellate courts little new information on which to base their rulings, so it's possible that a split between circuits could still develop.

While supporters of laws allowing same-sex marriage hailed the result of the court's decision to bypass the cases, some opponents called on Congress to act.

A statement from the chairman of two committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said they were disappointed that the court didn't take up the cases.

"All of these state laws were democratically enacted, including most by the direct vote of large majorities within just the last decade," said the Oct. 6 statement from Bishop Richard J. Malone of Buffalo, New York, chairman of the Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, and Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco, chairman of the Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage. "Millions of Americans had looked to the court with hope that these unjust judicial decisions might be reversed."

"The Supreme Court's action fails to resolve immediately the injustice of marriage redefinition, and therefore should be of grave concern to our entire nation," the bishops said.

While Catholic teaching opposes discrimination against homosexuals, the Church holds that homosexual acts are always immoral and that marriage can only be a union between one man and one woman.

In a teleconference Oct. 6, Ted Olsen, former U.S. solicitor general and now attorney for the Virginia couple who sued for the right to marry, said the court's decision not to take up any of the cases means a faster track to more states permitting same-sex marriages. Had the court accepted any of the seven cases, it would have meant a final ruling from the Supreme Court would likely come in the spring.

On the same teleconference, attorney Jon Davidson of Lambda Legal said the court's decision to pass this round might mean that although four justices would have voted to accept one or more cases, they didn't want to risk the uncertainty about whether there might be a fifth vote to overturn or uphold the lower courts. That outcome, said Davidson, might have meant same-sex marriage would become legal nationwide in one ruling.

The Family Research Council, which also opposes same-sex marriage, said in a statement from president Tony Perkins that the court's action is "in part, an indication that those on the court who desire to redefine natural marriage recognize the country will not accept a Roe v. Wade type decision on marriage."

Perkins called on Congress to advance a bill called the State Marriage Defense Act, "which is consistent with last year's Windsor ruling and ensures that the federal government in its definition of marriage respects the duly enacted marriage laws of the states."



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Oct. 12, 11:30 a.m. — Wedding Anniversary Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Monday, Oct. 13, 10 a.m. — Meeting of Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Monday, Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Cemetery Association, Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, Oct. 14, to Thursday, Oct. 16 — Priests' Continuing Formation Days, Potawatomi Inn, Pokagon State Park
- Thursday, Oct. 16, 6 p.m. — White Mass for Health Care Workers, Saint Pius X Church, Granger

Indiana bishops, Indiana Catholic Conference statements about SCOTUS marriage case decision

Bishops/Conference Statement

It is unfortunate that the U.S. Supreme Court did not take up the cases and respect the will of people of Indiana and other states. In its denial to hear the case, the Court of Appeals decision citing Indiana's marriage law as unconstitutional stands. While same-sex marriage may be legal in Indiana, the Church is not obligated to solemnize such ceremonies and will not change its teaching. The Church will continue to preach and teach the truth of marriage according to God's plan, encouraging all people to embrace the fullness of that truth, while upholding the dignity of all persons. We urge all involved in this issue to conduct themselves with mutual respect and civility in public discourse.

Indiana Catholic Conference Executive Director Glenn Tebbe:

All were surprised that the Court did not hear the cases. There is still a possibility that other appeals courts will rule differently and therefore the U.S. Supreme Court will have to resolve the issue.

The ruling does not change our teaching; no court can change our teaching. No law requires the Church to conduct same sex marriages. This issue, like many other cultural challenges, may only be resolved by witnessing and living in such a manner that others come to know the truth of marriage.

ROSARY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on Ironwood Circle. Bishop Rhoades also commented on the special day chosen to pray this rosary, the memorial of St. Thérèse of Lisieux.

"She was the 'Little Flower,' and these flowers, which represent unborn babies who have been aborted, also remind us of St. Thérèse as we ask for her strong and powerful intercession for life and that of our Blessed Mother as we pray this rosary together."

Bishop Rhoades led those present in reciting the glorious mysteries, offering a brief intention before each decade, including for all people who have experienced the pain of losing a family member or loved one, for all who struggle with addictions, for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to open hearts and minds to the Gospel of Life, for all mothers who have suffered and died at the hands of abortion providers, and that all mothers might come to know the beauty of their vocation.

To close the rosary, Bishop Rhoades prayed aloud words from St. John Paul II's encyclical "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life"), asking the Blessed Mother to "look upon and bestow all people with the love and grace to accept



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

A young person holds a balloon promoting a pro-life message that was distributed at the Rosary for Life in South Bend on Oct. 1.

the Gospel and have the courage to bear witness to it, in order to build a civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life."

Many families and students were present for this joyous occasion, highlighting the importance of community involvement in promoting the dignity of human life. Bishop Rhoades expressed his gratitude to those gathered together and remarked on the number of students in attendance.

"I am thrilled to see so many young people and students from Holy Cross College, Notre Dame, Saint Mary's, Marian High School, Saint Joseph High School, home-schools and public schools, novices and postulants of the Sisters of St. Francis and members of the Knights of Columbus," he noted. "Your presence here gives us all great hope for the triumph of the Gospel of Life in our country and in our world."

Holy Cross College students were invited by Bishop Rhoades to lead the opening and closing hymns for the congregation. Kieran Krenz, a Holy Cross freshman who sings in the choirs of both Holy Cross and the University of Notre Dame, remarked that the event was a "very good affirmation for those who are passionately striving toward the same goal of obtaining justice for the dignity of human beings."

Additionally, Michelle Roy, the Holy Cross College student presi-

dent of the Pro-Life Club, exclaimed that the rosary was a "great experience to come together with the local community and be able to pray with our bishop. As a small Catholic school it is truly special to be recognized by Bishop Rhoades and to see that he appreciates our efforts to defend life."

Lisa Everett, co-director for the Office of Family Life, offered her gratitude to Bishop Rhoades for suggesting the event and explained how it is a necessary component for building a culture of life. She said, "The four pillars of the bishop's pro-life outreach are education/evangelization, pastoral care, political advocacy and prayer. Some people may feel called to one specific pillar, but all four are necessary for the success of the pro-life movement, especially for those in the Church."

Bishop Rhoades concluded the evening by encouraging those present to make the most of the month of October, which is designated both as Respect Life Month and the Month of the Holy Rosary.

"What a beautiful thing it would be to make a resolution to pray the rosary every day during this month, or at least one decade each day," he said. "Our Lady certainly hears our prayers. Continue to pray and continue to work to serve the Gospel of Life in a variety of ways. May God bless all of you for your commitment to this holy cause."

Program supports healing of divorced Catholics

BY TIM JOHNSON

Divorced Catholics of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are finding hope in their journey through the Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide program. Sessions began in September and are offered in Fort Wayne at St. Vincent de Paul Parish and in the South Bend area at the St. John Paul II Center in Mishawaka.

Lisa Everett, a coordinator of the South Bend program, and the co-director of the Office of Family Life, said when she reviewed the Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide four years ago, "I was so impressed with how comprehensive and how Catholic it was, and knew that this would be a wonderful resource to offer through our office."

The Office of Family Life said the St. Vincent de Paul Parish program schedules the sessions twice a month and will offer the program from September through March. The Office of Family Life co-sponsors the program in Fort Wayne and contributed half of the purchase price for the program several years ago when the program began in the fall of 2011.

Everett said the program will likely be offered again at the St. John Paul II Center in Mishawaka in the spring. "Our office schedules the program for 12 consecutive weeks and therefore can offer it twice a year," she said.

Although the sessions have already begun in both Mishawaka and Fort Wayne, "people are welcome to join either program anytime," Everett said.

Julia Thill, a coordinator of the Fort Wayne program, has already seen positives in the participants in just a few sessions.

"The program offers an opportunity for those experiencing separation or divorce a relaxing place to receive comfort in their time of change," she noted. "Feedback is that the topics are relevant and are based on Catholic teachings."

For divorced Catholics there are many misconceptions about the Church.

"The most common misconception is that the divorced feel alone, and the Church doesn't care," Thill said. "The mercy and support of the Church, through pastoral support and the sacramental life is always there for those struggling, and they are not alone."

Participant Michelle said, "Honestly, I feel very 'branded' by the Church, now that I'm divorced — as if I am wearing a scarlet letter 'D.'"

She added, "Some people have no problem telling you what you should and shouldn't do, due to the fact that I'm a divorced Catholic."

Participant Cara also said she felt as if she were walking around with a scarlet letter after her divorce. She felt "judged by everyone for failing to live up to our Church's teachings about marriage. I was unsure if I was able to take Communion." She worried if she sought an annulment, her children from her 19-year marriage would become "void" or labeled "illegitimate."

"The sessions from the support group along with — believe it or not — the divorce has made me the strongest Catholic I have ever

been," Cara said. "Each session taught me about so many misconceptions or things I did not even know about our faith at all."

She learned her children would not be considered illegitimate if she gained an annulment and the children are her ex-husband's "gift" of their 19-year marriage.

Furthermore, she said, "The sessions also showed me a way to handle divorce respectfully with all parties involved. The support group also shed light on misconceptions I had about growing up in a divorced family. Each video has a few different characters so that you can find someone to relate to."

Jane, who is one of the leaders, and who received an annulment, said she was familiar with the Church teaching regarding divorced Catholics.

"The sessions hit home with the stages of grief and healing that are so vital in becoming whole again," she said. "This is a wonderful ministry that is very much needed in all communities. Our attendees are at all stages of the divorce process and it may take several years for some to heal. The sessions focus on the importance in trusting God and letting Him share our burden and grief."

Phil had attended a divorce support group at another parish several years ago, and said his divorce brought him into the Catholic Church. He divorced, decided to explore Catholicism, took part of the RCIA program and came into full communion with the Church. His pastor told him about annulments and he decided to sign up for the sessions.

Phil noted, "In the group I

learned a lot about Catholic views on family life, on the sacrament of Marriage, on the rationales behind annulments. It was all new to me, and it explained a lot to me about the failed marriage."

"Had I known all these things at the time," Phil said, "I think that my marriage — or the decision to marry — might have turned out much better."

David said he also had misconceptions about whether he should receive the Eucharist, but his pastor "made it clear that I should continue receiving and distributing the Eucharist."

The sessions have helped him realize that because he is no longer married, he still can put his "whole heart, mind and soul into Jesus."

"Now," David said, "I am married to Jesus Christ, going out of my way serving Him."

Phil noted, "(The sessions) put this whole chapter of my life into a new perspective — made it clear that devotion to Christ had to come first, before any other concerns."

Julia Thill noted the strength she sees in the sessions as a coordinator: "It is so good to see individuals return weeks in a row and build upon what they have learned from previous sessions. The individuals that attend multiple sessions, grow closer together and walk in more confident each time — they will get through this — they are not alone."

Session leaders and participants are recommending the program.

Jane said, "I would strongly

recommend this program to all separated or divorced Catholics. I only wish I would have had this program when I was going through my divorce. The bottom line is you are not alone and this group offers a safe, loving and non-judgmental haven for all attendees."

Cara noted, "I believe that persons thinking about divorce, separating or already divorced persons should all come to this group. Yes, it is hard to tell others our story — whether we are the one who left or was left — but you would be quite surprised how much your story may be just like someone else's. It is amazing how much healing God can bring to your soul when you have an alliance between you, Him and His people. You never know when, what you have to say, no matter how big or small, may change a life."

And Phil offered this encouragement to divorced Catholics considering attending the sessions: "Do it. Whether you are comfortable with your divorced life or are reeling in the aftermath, do it. It will bring comfort, support, insights and healing."

For information about the South Bend program, call Helen Austgen at 574-234-0687 or haustgen@diocesefwsb.org. In Fort Wayne contact Julia Thill at 260-489-3537 ext. 208 or jthill@saintv.org.



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October is the Month of the Rosary

BY TIM JOHNSON

The rosary is one of the most-loved prayers in Catholic devotions. "Simple yet profound, it still remains, at the dawn of this third millennium, a prayer of great significance, destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness," wrote St. John Paul II in his 2002 apostolic letter on the rosary, "Rosarium Virginis Mariae."

October has long been dedicated to the rosary. The memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary falls on Oct. 7. The feast was introduced by Pope St. Pius V (1504-1572) in the year 1571 to commemorate the miraculous victory of the Christian forces over the main fleet of the Ottoman Empire in the Battle of Lepanto on Oct. 7, 1571. The victory of the "Holy League" prevented the expansion of the Ottoman Empire further into the European side of the Mediterranean. Father Matthew R. Mauriello, a contributor to Catholic.net, writes the pope attributed more to the "arms" of the rosary than the power of cannons and the valor of the soldiers who fought there.

Pope Leo XIII, who wrote 11 encyclicals on the rosary during his papacy from 1878-1903, promulgated the entire month of October as the Month of the Rosary.

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend celebrated the over-10,000 individual consecrations to Jesus through Mary on the feast of the Assumption of Mary in August. Over 2,000 gathered at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception to honor this consecration and then participate in a Marian procession to Headwaters Park in Fort Wayne to celebrate the Festival of Faith. Others made their consecration at their parishes or in private. The daily rosary was an important prayer in this consecration.

Although the rosary is clearly Marian in character, it is at heart a Christocentric prayer. Pope John Paul II wrote in his 2002 apostolic letter.

"In the sobriety of its elements, it has all the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety," he wrote. "With the rosary, the Christian people sits at the school of Mary and are led to contemplate the beauty on the face of Christ and to experience the depths of His love. Through the rosary the faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the

very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer."

Pope John Paul II said the rosary offers a path of contemplation. "It represents a most effective means of fostering among the faithful that commitment to the contemplation of the Christian mystery which I have proposed in the Apostolic Letter 'Novo Millennio Ineunte' as a genuine 'training in holiness,'" the pope wrote.

Pope John Paul II encouraged the rosary as a prayer used for peace. He wrote: "At the start of a millennium which began with the terrifying attacks of 11 September 2001, a millennium which witnesses every day innumerable parts of the world fresh scenes of bloodshed and violence, to rediscover the rosary means to immerse oneself in contemplation of the mystery of Christ who 'is our peace,' since He made 'the two of us one, and broke down the dividing wall of hostility' — Eph 2:14. Consequently, one cannot recite the rosary without feeling caught up in a clear commitment to advancing peace, especially in the land of Jesus, still so sorely afflicted and so close to the heart of every Christian."

As the extraordinary Synod of Bishops currently meets at the Vatican and focuses on the family, Pope John Paul's words in "Rosarium Virginis Mariae" are most applicable today concerning the need for families to pray the rosary.

"A similar need for commitment and prayer arises in relation to another critical contemporary issue: the family, the primary cell of society, increasingly menaced by forces of disintegration on both the ideological and practical planes, so as to make us fear for the future of this fundamental and indispensable institution and, with it, for the future of society as a whole," Pope John Paul reflected. "The revival of the rosary in Christian families, within the context of a broader pastoral ministry to the family, will be an effective aid to countering the devastating effects of

this crisis typical of our age."

Many parishes, schools and prayer groups pray the rosary. The website, comepraytherosary.org, allows Catholics worldwide to join together in praying the rosary or to pray the rosary individually. Site visitors may select their preference of mysteries of the rosary to be prayed — the joyful, luminous, sorrowful or glorious mysteries.

Helen Klotz, a parishioner of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, would like all the faithful to pledge a daily rosary. Her dream, she told *Today's Catholic*, is that 10 percent of the faithful from the diocese and 10



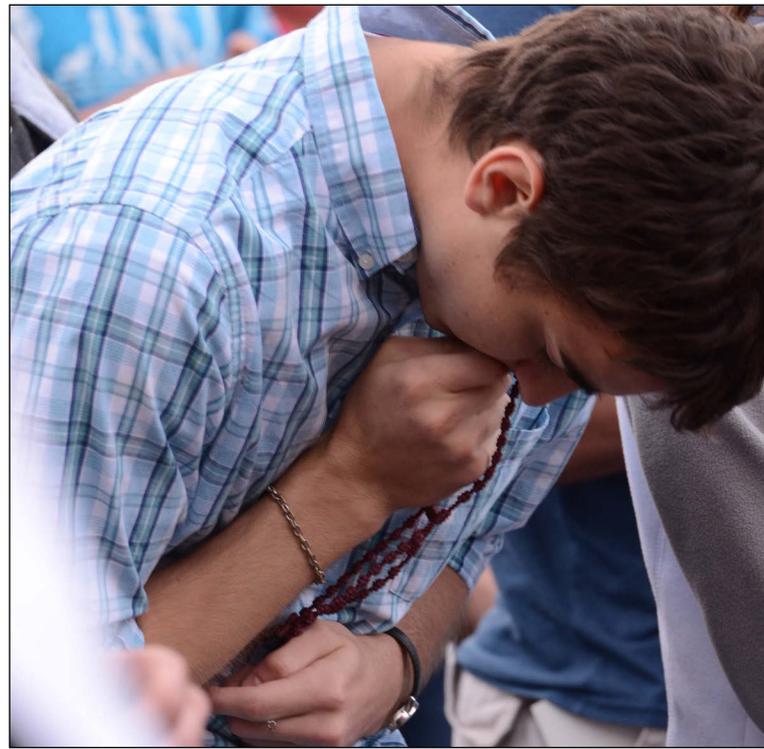
percent of Catholics worldwide pledge One Rosary a Day for Peace.

More on how to pray the rosary can be found at todayscatholicnews.org

"We pledge our money to the Church," she said. "Now is it time to pledge our rosaries for world peace?" "A Pledge a Daily Rosary for World Peace," Klotz said, "just might help us to feel safer in the crazy world we live in today."

Pledge cards are already in place at the St. Jude Adoration Chapel in Fort Wayne, and Klotz hopes that many other parishes across the diocese will take up the cause.

Last week, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the opening of Respect Life Month by leading a rosary with several of the faithful from South Bend outside the abortion clinic there.



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

The faithful, with rosary in hand, pray outside the abortion clinic in South Bend on Oct. 1 to begin the celebration of Respect Life Month.



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Doctors' obstetrics, gynecology practices respect human dignity

BY ALLISON CIRAULO

For Dr. David Parker and Dr. Christopher Stroud, the practice of obstetrics and gynecology is a matter of respecting human dignity. As Catholics, this means that they use scientifically and morally sound methods to treat gynecological maladies and do not prescribe contraceptives, place IUDs, perform tubal ligations, or refer for in vitro fertilization or abortion.

Both OB/GYNs specialize in NaProTECHNOLOGY (natural procreative technology, or NPT), a women's health science that is used to treat infertility, recurrent miscarriage, abnormal bleeding, premenstrual syndrome, recurrent ovarian cysts and pelvic pain.

The foundation of NPT is the Creighton Model FertilityCare System, a method of charting fertility symptoms that assists couples in either avoiding or achieving pregnancy. The pattern of these symptoms can also serve to indicate abnormalities in a woman's health.

In contrast to mainstream fertility treatments, NPT "attempts to respect the sexual and reproductive integrity of the person by looking for the underlying causes of disease and restoring the normal physiologic function of a woman's menstrual and fertility cycle," Parker says.

Medical applications of NPT are often sufficient to bring about this goal, but in some cases surgical intervention is necessary. Parker and Stroud are also trained in a minimally invasive, robot-assisted surgery protocol that aims primarily to reconstruct the uterus, fallopian tubes and ovaries.

According to research conducted at the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction in Omaha, where NPT was developed by Catholic physician Thomas Hilgers, NPT methods have a higher overall success rate in helping women to achieve pregnancy than mainstream methods such as intrauterine insemination and in vitro fertilization.

The Church teaches the latter methods violate the unitive and



DR. DAVID PARKER



DR. CHRISTOPHER STROUD

procreative purposes intrinsic to Christian marriage by removing the conception of a child from its natural place within the conjugal act.

Parker, who began practicing with Saint Joseph OB/GYN Specialists and Midwifery in Mishawaka in the fall of 2013, believes that in addition to the moral and scientific advantages, NPT also enhances the communication between the physician and patient.

"Because the woman becomes very educated on the unique aspects of her cycle, medical consultations become collaborative and insightful," he says. "We offer NaProTECHNOLOGY because every woman, whether she is struggling with a gynecologic issue or just interested in her reproductive health, can benefit from using this system."

While Parker's and Stroud's practices are not unique, the physicians are certainly exceptional among their peers.

Stroud has been an OB/GYN for nearly 20 years, but switched to a Creighton/NPT model just three years ago after he and his wife, Marianne, entered the Catholic Church. Conversations with Dr. Patrick Holly, an NPT physician with Lutheran Medical Group in Fort Wayne, helped lead Stroud to the conclusion that certain aspects of his practice were incompatible with Catholic teachings.

It was also becoming difficult for Stroud to attend the patients of his colleagues, given their considerable differences in approach. Six months ago, Stroud made the decision to leave Parkview Physicians Group and start an independent practice.

Stroud's new practice, the Fertility and Midwifery Care Center on the Dupont Hospital campus in Fort Wayne, opened last month.

With the help of his wife, a certified nurse-midwife, and another part-time midwife, he is able to dedicate more time to patients struggling with fertility problems in addition to attending obstetrics patients.

Marianne Stroud says that they have seen great success using the Creighton model. "People who have not been able to have a child for five, six or as many as 10 years are able to get pregnant," she says.

"While traditional methods load the woman with medication and force the body into being ready to receive a baby and then do IVF, we really focus first on asking, 'Why are you infertile?' Once underlying problems are addressed, women get pregnant on their own," she adds.

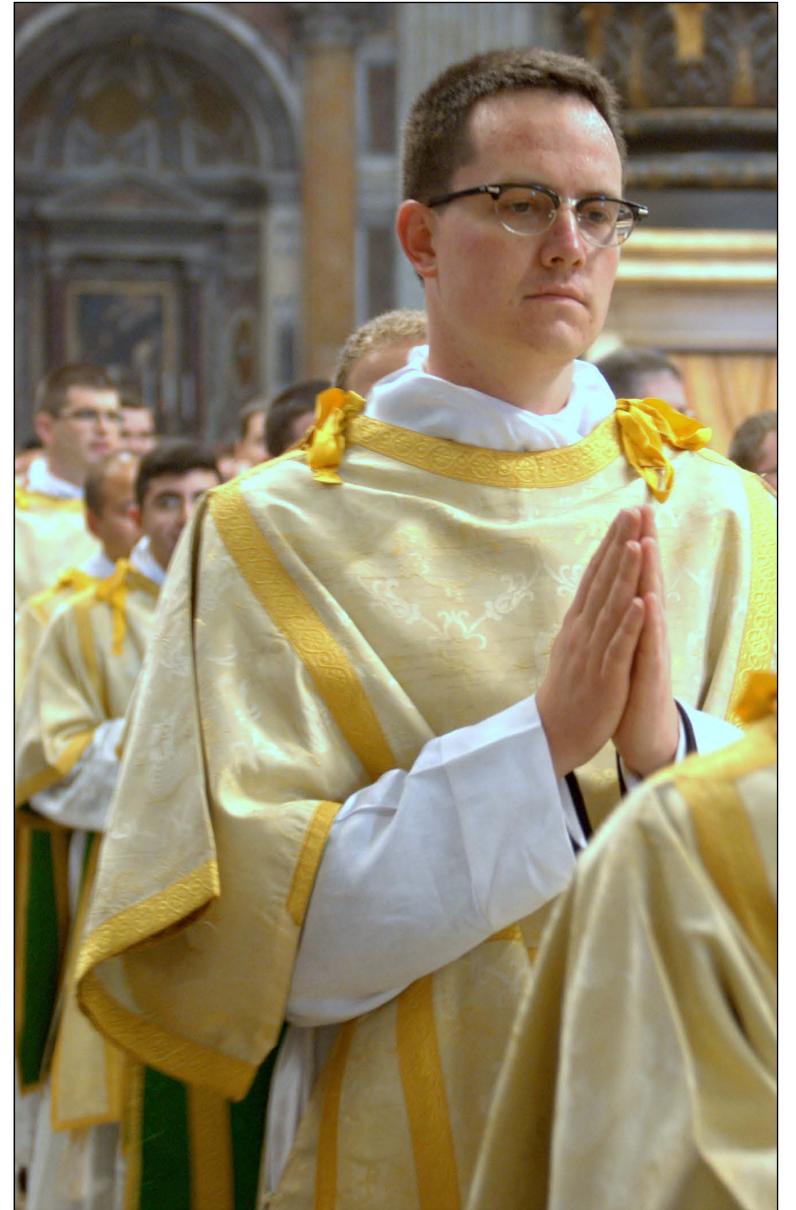
One of the things that most captivates the women and couples whom Stroud attends, she says, is his bedside manner and concern for both the physical and spiritual well-being of his patients.

"We always pray for the patient before a surgery," she says. "I can't tell you how many people will write notes back to us after the surgery to say, 'That was the most important thing you did all day.'"

Another way in which Stroud seeks to uphold the dignity of his patients is through his commitment to helping them achieve a natural childbirth. To this end, he avoids inducing labor whenever possible and encourages his patients to eat, drink and move around during labor. "The opportunity to let your body show you what it can do is tremendous," says Marianne Stroud. "A lot of women don't get the chance to really see what they're capable of."

Dr. Stroud will be speaking on the topic of natural hospital birth with author Cynthia Gabriel on Saturday, Oct. 18, from noon until 6 p.m. in the Joan B. McNagy Auditorium on the Ivy Tech Community College Campus in Fort Wayne. The program is designed for medical practitioners as well as patients and will include breakout sessions targeted to each audience. For more information and to register, visit: www.birthmatters.com/ural-hospital-birth.

ROYCE GREGERSON ORDAINED TO THE DIACONATE IN ROME



PROVIDED BY KAREN WALTER

Seminarian Royce Gregerson, a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne, solemnly stands in the Papal Basilica of St. Peter at the Altar of the Chair in Rome during his diaconate ordination on Oct. 2. Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, vested Deacon Gregerson. Several friends and family members traveled to Rome to witness the event. Deacon Gregerson resides currently at the Pontifical North American College in Rome where he has begun studies for a Licentiate of Sacred Theology at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas.

OBIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

stroke and other health complications, he officially retired from public life and was welcomed by the Little Sisters of the Poor in Totowa.

Father Groeschel had published a number of books on spirituality and pastoral counseling and founded the Trinity Retreat, a center for prayer and study for clergy. He taught at Fordham University, Iona College and Maryknoll Seminary.

At the time of his death, he was writing a memoir to be published by Our Sunday Visitor called "The Life of a Struggling Soul." He also wrote numerous articles for various periodicals including *First Things* and *Priest Magazine*.

In the 1970s, he headed the Office of Spiritual Development in the Archdiocese of New York. For more than 30 years he was a regular on various programs on the Eternal World Television Network. He was host of EWTN's "Sunday Night Prime" television for many years.

His outreach to the poor was legendary — for decades he

distributed food to hundreds of needy people in the South Bronx.

He also was the founder of St. Francis House in Brooklyn, New York, for older adolescents. In 1985, he and Chris Bell founded Good Counsel Homes for young pregnant women in need.

Born Robert Peter Groeschel July 23, 1933, in Jersey City, New Jersey, he was the eldest of six children. He graduated from high school in 1951 and 10 days later entered the novitiate of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of the Province of St. Joseph in Huntington, Indiana.

The following year, he professed temporary vows and took

the name Benedict Joseph, after the Franciscan saint, St. Benedict Joseph Labre.

He professed his final vows in 1954 and was ordained a priest in 1959.

During his early years as a priest, he was invited to conduct a retreat for the Missionaries of Charity in India, which was the beginning of Father Groeschel's long relationship with that community and his deep friendship with its founder, Blessed Teresa of Kolkata.

In 1987, Father Groeschel and seven other friars left the Capuchins to form a new religious community, the Franciscan

Friars of the Renewal, based in the South Bronx and dedicated to the service to the poor. The community now numbers 115 members. A similar community for women, the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal also was formed; it currently has 35 members.

Father Groeschel is survived by two sisters, Marjule Drury of Caldwell, New Jersey, and Robin Groeschel of Glendive, Montana, and one brother, Garry Groeschel of St. Petersburg, Florida, and nine nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his brothers Ned and Mark.

Safe Harbor Widow Support Group to host retreat

FORT WAYNE — Safe Harbor Widow Support Group will host a fall retreat for widows on Friday, Oct. 25, from 8-11:30 a.m. at the Msgr. Kuzmich Life Center, the building nearest St. Vincent de Paul Church at 1502 E. Wallen Rd. The retreat will begin with 8 a.m. Mass at the church followed by a continental breakfast at 9 a.m. in the Life Center. Kay Cozad, grief educator, will speak on the topic, "Not a Dash, But a Journey." Registration is required by Oct. 22 by calling Judy at 260-489-4875 or emailing judymockenhaupt@hotmail.com. Free will donations will be accepted.

Students, families invited to Fall Campus Visit Day

FORT WAYNE — High school students and their families are invited to visit the University of Saint Francis to learn more about its campus, courses, clubs and culture of learning at Fall Campus Visit Day on Saturday, Oct. 18, beginning at 9 a.m. at the North Campus at 2702 Spring St., Fort Wayne.

During the event, visitors can choose from a variety of breakout sessions on specific study interests, and meet students and professors in those majors. Students yet unclear on a course of study can also attend a session to understand the availability of programs, standards for acceptance and begin the process of selecting a study area that might be right for them.

Tours will acquaint them with the logistics of the campus. Lunch and a mini-fair will allow visitors to experience the university's culinary

AROUND THE DIOCESE

BISHOP RHOADES CELEBRATES MASS AT IPFW



CINDY BLACK

University students from the IPFW Newman Catholic Fellowship group at Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne joined Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades who celebrated Mass on campus Sept. 30. Father Daniel Whelan, chaplain, stands to the left of Bishop Rhoades. Emily VanFossen, far left, is the campus ministry coordinator. Weekly Mass is celebrated on Tuesdays at 12 noon in the Walb Student Union, Room 222.

service and mingle with student representatives of clubs, athletics, the alumni office and the study abroad program.

To register for Fall Campus Visit Day at the University of Saint Francis, email the visit coordinator at admiss@sf.edu, visit sf.edu/admissions or call 260-399-8000.

St. Elizabeth students volunteer at Community Harvest Food Bank

FORT WAYNE — St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School eighth graders visited Community Harvest Food Bank on Oct. 1. The 56 eighth graders,

along with their homeroom teachers Jodi Jump and Deb Brough, and 10 parent chaperones, were given a tour and overview of the large facility on Tillman Road by Programs Manager Tammy Klimek and Community Harvest Food Bank's Darlene Mack.

The students spent the morning sorting food and shelving food items.

A number of the students also helped to bag large amounts of the nine tons of uncooked macaroni that had recently been delivered.

This is an annual service project for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton eighth graders. "The really cool part of today's service project is that it is connected to next winter's Construction project," said Jump. "The students get to see the place where all the canned goods will go, and how this warehouse will help people in their need for food." Construction is a project in which the students will collect canned goods and create unusual structures out of the canned goods for display to the public. At the end of the Construction project, the students donate all of the canned goods to Community Harvest Food Bank.

German students, teachers visit high school

SOUTH BEND — For two weeks Saint Joseph High School had the honor of hosting 12 students and two teachers from Germany. The students were here as part of an exchange program with The German American Partnership Program (GAPP), a nonprofit high school exchange program between schools in Germany and the United States.

The students attended classes at Saint Joe, and visited various sites in the area including the Studebaker Museum, Amish Acres, Chicago and the chocolate factory.

In June, Saint Joseph High School sent seven students and two teachers to Deggendorf, Germany, where they stayed with families, attended school and did some traveling around Bavaria including a visit to Munich.

Catholic Apostle Build project builds Habitat home

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne has realized a dream that was nearly five years in the making. The seeds were planted back in 2009 with the first Catholic Apostle Build for Habitat for Humanity and by 2012 St. Vincent de Paul parishioners announced that they wanted to do the next build.

The Catholic Apostle Build received the blessing and approval of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, and the parish moved forward with the commitment. Participants soon found that raising funds to buy materials with which to build the house proved to be the most challenging part of the process.

With a call out to area parishes and schools the build received the help they needed. Several parishes assisted by providing laborers, especially if the parish had a building expansion of their own underway and fundraising already tapped. Students from Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers high schools held dress down days where fellow students could wear blue jeans for the



VICKIE WELCH

St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, and volunteers from other parishes in Fort Wayne are in the process of building a home through the Catholic Apostle Build service project of Habitat for Humanity. The northwest Fort Wayne home was built for Alex and Alena Bakhtov and their four children.

day if they donated money to the Catholic Apostle Build.

Vickie Welch, coordinator of this Catholic Habitat build, left no fundraising stone unturned and received

donations from several parishes in Fort Wayne including Queen of Angels, Most Precious Blood, St. Joseph on Brooklyn Avenue, St. Jude and St. Peter.

St. Charles Borromeo School conducted a fundraiser among its various grades and St. Vincent de Paul Parish and School raised the most for the build with the Knights of Columbus holding a breakfast and the American Heritage Girls having a garage sale to help with the fundraising. The Catholic Apostle Build also received in-kind donations such as windows, and cabinets from Grabill Cabinets.

The fundraising goal was \$60,000, and they came so close to meeting that goal that Habitat for Humanity used a grant they had available to them to make up the difference between the funds needed and the money raised.

The Catholic Apostle Build is an "opportunity for Catholics to work together as the hands and feet of Christ right here in our own community," says Welch.

The home was built for Alex and Alena Bakhtov and their four children. Originally from the Ukraine, Alex has lived in Fort Wayne for the past four years and works as a machinist at Trelleborg. He also helped with the building of his new home. Habitat for Humanity requires people who are seeking

assistance be employed and donate 300 hours of sweat equity to the building of their house.

Over 100 volunteers contributed to the Bakhtov home. High schools students from Bishop Luers, Bishop Dwenger, Northrup and Carroll, who were in need of service hours, were a tremendous help during the summer. Retired people and the elderly were perhaps the most frequent volunteers during the week. Students and adults who worked during the week often helped out on weekends.

The house is located in Fuller's Landing, a community of Habitat for Humanity homes built in northwest Fort Wayne. In addition to Catholic Apostle Build, there are the homes built by Lutheran volunteers and those who attend a Jewish synagogue in this interfaith neighborhood community.

SueAnn Till, from St. Vincent de Paul Parish, had not volunteered for Habitat for Humanity prior to this build. She came to the building site as a volunteer and had a hard time leaving — her one-hour commitment on that first day has grown to

Life of newly beatified New Jersey sister called 'recipe for holiness'

BY BETH GRIFFIN

NEWARK, N.J. (CNS) — More than 2,200 people packed the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark Oct. 4 to celebrate the first beatification liturgy in the United States.

Sister Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth from Bayonne, was given the title "blessed" in a joyful ceremony conducted in three languages — English, Latin and Slovak.

Blessed Miriam Teresa died in 1927 at age 26. Pope Francis paved the way for her beatification in December 2013 when he accepted that, through her intercession, Michael Mencer, a young New Jersey boy, was cured in 1963 of blindness caused by macular degeneration.

Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, was the principal celebrant of the liturgy. He was joined by Archbishop John J. Myers of Newark; Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States; Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson; Bishop Kurt Burnette of Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic; Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington; and six other bishops and more than 100 priest concelebrants.

The 20-minute processional included Mencer, now 58, and his family, members of Blessed Miriam Teresa's family and hundreds of Sisters of Charity.

Blessed Miriam Teresa was born in Bayonne in 1901 to Slovakian



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHEMITZ

Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes, prays in front of a portrait of Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich during her beatification Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J., Oct. 4. Blessed Miriam Teresa, a Sister of Charity of St. Elizabeth who died at age 26 in 1927, is the first candidate for sainthood to be beatified in the U.S.

immigrant parents. She was baptized and confirmed in the Byzantine Catholic rite. The young woman graduated with honors from high school and college, cared for her ailing parents until their deaths, and taught Latin and English in a high school run by the Sisters of Charity.

Although she hoped to join a contemplative order, Blessed Miriam Teresa was rejected because her poor eyesight made it impossible for her to sew vestments the nuns made

to support themselves. She entered the Sisters of Charity in 1925.

At her Benedictine confessor's request, Blessed Miriam Teresa anonymously wrote a series of articles on religious life, which he presented as talks to her fellow novices. Her health declined dramatically and she was allowed to make her final vows early, in anticipation of death.

After the young sister's death May 8, 1927, her writings were published as a book, "Greater

Perfection." Father Benedict Bradley, the confessor, wrote: "I thought that one day she would be ranked among the saints of God and I felt it was incumbent upon me to utilize whatever might contribute to an appreciation of her merits after her death."

Confidantes said Blessed Miriam Teresa described having a vision of Mary during college and an encounter with St. Therese of Lisieux while in the novitiate.

In 1945, the bishop of Paterson opened an examination into Blessed Miriam Teresa's life and virtues; the Sisters of Charity established a prayer league in her honor; and, in 1954, the Paterson Diocese opened her cause.

In 1963, a sister in her community gave young Michael Mencer a small round prayer card with a strand of Blessed Miriam Teresa's hair to bring home to his mother. The boy was rapidly losing his vision to juvenile macular degeneration and could no longer see what was in front of him.

As described by the lanky adult Mencer after the beatification Mass, he pulled the card out of his pocket on the walk home from school and was surprised to be able to clearly see the slender strand of hair. At home, he said it took a few minutes

for his mother, a nurse, to understand he could see. "I have scars on my head from riding my bike into trees, but she kept me patched up," he laughed, fingering his balding scalp.

Subsequent examinations by multiple ophthalmologists determined Mencer's cure was medically inexplicable. Today, the middle-aged man wears glasses only for reading.

Sister Barbara Connell, a Sister of Charity and one of Blessed Miriam Teresa's promoters, told Catholic News Service the event was exhilarating. "I have difficulty wiping the smile off my face. You work so hard for something, it becomes part of your life and today it is a reality: She is declared blessed."

Sister Connell said she hopes the beatification will help spread Blessed Miriam Teresa's message that all people are called to holiness, wherever they are in their state in life. "If we do God's will as we believe He wants us to do it that day, that is a recipe for holiness and that was Miriam Teresa's recipe," she said.

Archbishop Myers said the beatification was in the United States, because "in recent years, there has been an effort by the Vatican to bring these important liturgies to the actual countries where the saints are from."



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Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ coming home to Fort Wayne:

Advancing foundation service through partnership with Catholic Charities

BY MEG DISTLER

FORT WAYNE — The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Sisters are organizing several events called “PHJCs Coming Home” in several cities over the next few years with the purpose of reconnecting with the people in those areas in which Poor Handmaids have ministered. “PHJCs Coming Home to Fort Wayne-Hessen Cassel,” the second of the PHJCs Coming Home weekends, will be held on Oct. 24-26 in Fort Wayne, with several scheduled events. (See sidebar)

The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ have served the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend since 1868 with a rich heritage in education, childcare, healthcare and other ministries. They continue to minister in the diocese through their two ministries — St. Joseph Community Health Foundation and HealthVisions Fort Wayne.

For over 140 years, the Poor Handmaids have operated or ministered at St. Joseph Medical Center in Fort Wayne. In 1998, they sold the hospital and put a portion of the sale's proceeds into their reorganized St. Joseph Community Health Foundation to maintain a ministry focused on continuing the PHJC legacy of helping those in need access healthcare and attain wellness. This strategy has enabled the foundation ministry to provide over \$15.2 million through 999 grants to 182 Allen County community partners.

At that same time, they also used a portion of sale proceeds to establish HealthVisions Midwest, a community-based health improvement ministry with a location in Fort Wayne. The core principle of HealthVisions Fort Wayne is to build strong neighborhoods, through community partnerships using existing resources.

The St. Joseph Community Health Foundation has partnered actively with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend since 2000 to insure services have been available for pregnant teens, refugees and immigrants as well as those without adequate health insurance to enable them to access care and/or improve their health and wellness. The partners have worked together as advocates for the refugees and immigrants at numerous local and statewide forums.

Both the foundation and Catholic Charities have operated



Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ started St. Joseph Hospital in 1869 and continued to serve there until 2013.

complimentary medical interpretation programs servicing different aspects of the healthcare treatment continuum for refugees from 2010 through 2012, as well. The foundation has also focused on supporting Catholic Charities and a few other complimentary organizations with training, support and funding for trained medical interpreters and healthcare navigators to assist non-English speaking refugees and immigrants learn to use local resources to manage their health and wellness.

In 2008, Catholic Charities asked the foundation to assist them in applying for additional government grants and contracts to care for the large numbers of unanticipated refugees arriving in the community. The foundation helped to raise over \$2.7 million in additional funding for refugee services.

For over 140 years, the Poor Handmaids have operated or ministered at St. Joseph Medical Center in Fort Wayne.

The foundation used the government grants to supplement their own funding to open the Community Resource Center for Refugees, later known as Catherine Kasper Place. From 2008 through 2012, there were nearly 25,000 visits annually to the center by local refugees to gain assistance from Catholic Charities and 10 other local agencies who hosted programming and services there.

The foundation has worked with Catholic Charities very specifically to assure that newly arriving refugees have healthcare coordinators working with them to navigate their required health assessments, immunizations and any follow up care identi-



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MEG DISTLER, ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY HEALTH FOUNDATION

In this February 2008 archive photo Meg Distler, executive director of the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, left, Sister Carole Langhauser, PHJC, vice president of Mission Integration at St. Joseph Hospital and trustee of the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, Nyein Chan, Catholic Charities' resettlement director, and Lisa Young, assistant executive director of Catholic Charities, review strategies to support Burmese refugees.

fied in the initial health exam. In 2001, the foundation supported Catholic Charities with a grant to provide medical interpretation, translation and transportation to an estimated 400 non-English speaking Hispanics, Bosnians and Burmese. In 2008, a grant was provided to hire a nurse as the healthcare coordinator along with an assistant as a large number of arriving Burmese refugees struggled with complex health issues.

A second major strategy the two organizations have co-supported since 2003 is Catholic Charities' Hispanic Health Advocate Program. Through this program, the health advocate, who is also a trained medical interpreter, accompanies approximately 250 Spanish-speaking clients with limited English language skills to their health related appointments annually, primarily to provide interpreting services.

Finally, the foundation and Catholic Charities are currently collaborating to establish a wide

range of job development programming for refugees. Today, Catholic Charities assists refugees in finding employment and understanding the basics of how to adjust to the American work place. For their refugee clients looking for longer term vocational training, Catholic Charities refers their clients to the foundation's Ivy Tech Refugee Scholars, which offers full scholarships to refugees who have been in the country less than five years to attain their Certified Nursing Assistant certification and for those interested in manufacturing, the CNC operator's license.

This collaboration between Catholic Charities and the Poor Handmaids' legacy ministry, the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, has benefitted all of the refugees resettled here in Fort Wayne since 2001. The Poor Handmaids, since 2001, have offered 29 grants from the foundation to Catholic Charities to advance this work.

Coming Home to Fort Wayne-Hessen Cassel

— The second of the PHJCs Coming Home weekends, on Oct. 24-26

Events scheduled include:

- Saturday, Oct. 25, at 2 p.m. a reunion will be held for former Poor Handmaids and Ancilla Domini High School alumnae at the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory in downtown Fort Wayne. At 5 p.m., a Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, will celebrate the Poor Handmaid presence and ministry in the Fort Wayne area. Mass will be followed by a 6 p.m. reception at the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory.

- Sunday, Oct. 26, at 10:30 a.m., Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph Parish, Hessen Cassel, with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades as celebrant. Brunch will follow at St. Joseph Parish hall. Hessen Cassel is the first ministry the Poor Handmaids started after arriving in the United States in 1868. The public is invited to the Mass and the free reception.

- In addition, “Get to Know A Sister” Vocation Days will be held at some Fort Wayne area schools and a Theology on Tap-style event is planned. For more information and to register for these events, visit www.poor-handmaids.org/coming-home.

HABITAT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

over 150 volunteer hours.

Till quickly learned that there is a specific building process to every Habitat home. While some parts of the process are left to professional plumbers, electricians, masonry and drywall installers, there is plenty for experienced and inexperienced

volunteers to do. Till first helped by cleaning up the build site and transporting materials. Then, she found herself pounding nails to help with the framing.

Painting is her favorite task and her area of expertise; so when she was finished painting the interior walls at the Catholic build, she supervised and taught others painting techniques at the neighboring builds. Everyone helps out with a neighboring build whenever there is a need.

Till appreciates the camaraderie

of the Habitat for Humanity. Prayer and the reading of Scripture begin every day at the job site. Everyone is welcome to help be it for just an hour or days at a time.

She says that she "feels a responsibility to give the (Bakhtov) family a quality home, not only in money donated but in professionally done (craftsmanship)." When asked if she would volunteer for Habitat for Humanity again, Till exclaims, "Absolutely!"

ELKHART STUDENTS COLLECT FOOD



PROVIDED BY ANNE RICE

In honor of the feast of St. Vincent de Paul on Sept. 27, the students at St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart collected food for the St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry during their school Mass on Sept. 26. Fifth-grade students helped carry the donations out of church after Mass. Pictured with the students are Father Jason Freiburger, pastor, Tami Delucenay, director of religious education, and school principal John Wiggans.



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7:00 am	Women's Care Center Anne Koehl	Diocesan Special Ministries Mary Glowaski	St. Mary
8:00 am	Bishop Luers High School	Christ Child Society Ann Arnold	Bishop Dwenger High School
9:00 am	Our Lady of Good Hope	University of St. Francis	Franciscan Center Tony & Sally Ley
10:00 am	Immaculate Conception Fr. Derrick Sneyd	Tippmann Hour All Pledges <u>Doubled</u>	NW Ohio Hour Fr. Dave Cirata, Deacon Joe Timbrook
11:00 am	St. Therese Fr. Lawrence Teteh	St. Joseph – Hessen Cassel Fr. Bill Kummer	St. Aloysius Msgr. Bernard Galic
Noon	St. Joseph – Brooklyn Fr. Tim Wrozek	St. Jude	St. Vincent Fr. Dan Scheidt
1:00 pm	St. John – New Haven Fr. Bill Sullivan	Queen of Angels Fr. Ajay Tiru	Most Precious Blood Fr. Joe Gaughan
2:00 pm	St. Mary's – Decatur Fr. Dave Voors	St. Anthony of Padua Fr. Bob Shower, Fr. Bernie Zajdel	St. Charles Borromeo Msgr. John Suelzer, Fr. Jacob
3:00 pm	The Huntington Hour Fr. John Pfister, Fr. Ron Rieder	TBT	TBT
4:00 pm	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Fr. Ben Muhlenkamp, Deacon Kitchens	World Apostolate of Fatima Fr. George Gabet	St. Patrick – Fort Wayne Fr. Thu Pham
5:00 pm	Allen County Right To Life Cathie Humbarger	Franciscan Brothers & Sisters Minor Fr. David Mary Engo	Catholic Medical Guild Dr. Tom McGovern
6:00 pm	Chaplain Hour Fr. Ed Erpelding, Fr. Bob D'Souza,	High School Sports Hour	Rekindle The Fire

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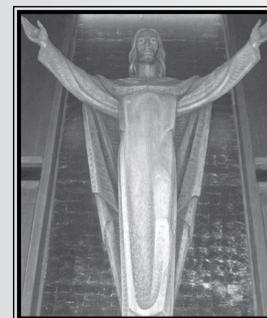
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Pre-marital abstinence: Good medical advice for your adolescent

Many parents are not excited about discussing “the birds and the bees” with their unpredictable adolescent children. Unfortunately, our social media-driven culture ostracizes parents from their teenagers, convincing both that friends, celebrities and pop-culture know more about sex than one’s parents.

Our vulnerable and malleable teens get their information from these biased sources instead of their parents. The mainstream media’s view on sex is also influencing school-based sex education and your physician’s version of sex education as well. Primary care physicians (family physicians, pediatricians, gynecologists) are ingrained with a sexual freedom ideology; most doctors assume that sexual activity begins as early as nine to

10 years old and discuss “safe sex” practices at these early ages primarily to prevent any unwanted pregnancies and STI (sexually transmitted infections).

If this isn’t alarming to parents, it should be. The time of the parent assuming your child’s physician has similar morals in mind when meeting with your pre-teen is long gone. Our current medical culture embraces the “risk reduction” strategy by endorsing liberal sexual behavior and relying on technology (condoms, artificial birth control, abortion, free STI testing) to reduce negative outcomes for the individual (unwanted pregnancy, STIs, cervical cancer).

Our faith and reason as Catholic Christians endorses a “risk avoidance” strategy against teenage pregnancy, STIs and sexual abuse.

THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. KATE HEIMANN

Our methodology attempts to change behavior (sexual promiscuity), which lies at the heart of these troubling epidemics and ultimately, improve the quality of life not just for each individual but for the society at large. Our mission must promote a message of chastity until marriage so that our adolescents can discover a truly beautiful sexual inti-

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God is our security



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

28th Sunday on Ordinary Time Mt 22:1-14

The first part of the Book of Isaiah provides this weekend’s first reading at Mass.

Understanding the cultural, social, political and economic context surrounding the composition of biblical texts always helps to capture their meaning.

As a general rule, times rarely were good for the chosen people. Now and then, better times, however, would come.

In good days or bad, as a general rule, the prophets saw little religious fervor for which they could rejoice, and invariably the prophets saw this absence of devotion to God as the root of trouble in the world. It was not the result of divine revenge.

So, the prophets urged the people always to be true to God and suspicious of paganism.

When this writing was written, times were not all that bad, but dark clouds lay on the horizon. The people, generally speaking, were lukewarm in honoring God, and Isaiah loudly protested that their lapse in religion invited their doom.

Isaiah also insists that if the people are faithful to God, all will be right. Peace and security will reign. Prosperity will prevail. The holy city of Jerusalem, God’s city, and the royal capital, will be seen throughout the world as the

center of a great nation.

The second reading is from the Epistle to the Philippians. This passage from Philippians was written while Paul was in prison. On several occasions that are recorded in Acts or in the Pauline epistles, Paul was imprisoned, having been arrested for preaching the Gospel, rebuking the establishment or simply disturbing the peace.

Being jailed, humiliated and abused were Paul’s plight. Nevertheless, he said that his faith in God never lessened, nor did his commitment to proclaiming the Gospel. Nothing else mattered, not even his comfort or personal well-being. God gave Christ to the world. Paul felt that he had to extend this gift far and wide.

St. Matthew’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. The reading is a parable, with three parts.

In the first part, a “king,” who represents God, invites guests to a wedding banquet for his son. These people reject the invitation. The king invites guests again. Again, the invitation is ignored. Then, in the second part, the king invites outcasts and strangers to the feast. They come. In the third part, however, the king sees a guest at the banquet improperly dressed. He orders this guest to be thrown out.

The king’s servants represent the prophets. The prospective guests who spurn the invitation represent the people of Israel. The outcasts and strangers represent the aliens and the sinful.

The message is that God’s mercy extends to everyone. Even so, God drags no one into the kingdom of heaven. Even repentant sinners must reform to be worthy of heaven.

Reflection

These readings call us to several basic facts. The first is that God never fails in mercy. He does not disavow the promise, spoken long ago through the prophets, and then finally by Christ, to guide people to everlasting life by revealing to them the laws of righteousness and by strengthening their resolve to be good.

The second fact is simple, and constant throughout history, but hard for humans to accept. The fact is that humans sin. The effects of original sin weaken humans, distorts their perceptions, renders them myopic and afraid. Instead of turning to God for security, they exaggerate their own powers.

Conversion requires a frank realization of the need for God. He alone shows the way. He alone provides strength. He alone is the reward.

In this realization, humans come to the same firm conviction that drove St. Paul. Nothing matters other than to be with God. Everything other than God is fickle and impermanent, leading not to joy but ultimately to grief and despair.

READINGS

Sunday: Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-6 Phil 4:12-14, 19-20 Mt 22:1-14

Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31 - 5:1 Ps 113:1b-5a, 6-7 Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6 Ps 119:41, 43-45, 47-48 Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Eph 1:1-10 Ps 98:1-6 Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Eph 1:11-14 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13 Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b Ps 145:10-13, 17-18 Lk 10:1-9

Another presidential war

It is distressing how little attention the media have paid to the persecution of Christians and other religious minorities by the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. The campaign has been so widespread, cruel and brutal that Pope Francis has taken the unusual step of leaving open the possibility of a military intervention of some kind.

The recent beheadings of two American journalists, captured on video and posted by the Islamic State on the Internet, have dramatically changed public opinion in the United States. Americans now want to become involved, even if it means sending our armed forces back to a part of the world we just recently left.

The shift in public opinion has been led — or followed — by a shift in President Barack Obama’s approach. On Sept. 10, he announced a counterterrorism campaign against the Islamic State. Like the president and most Americans, I am in favor of forceful and effective action.

But President Obama, like many of his predecessors, also thinks it is solely his decision to make on our behalf. He announced that he has decided to “conduct a systematic campaign of airstrikes against these terrorists.” He has already ordered 150 bombings in Iraq. Now, he said, “I will not hesitate to take action against (the Islamic State) in Syria, as well as Iraq.”

The action the president proposed was grave enough that he was moved to reflect on his own warrant for taking it. “I have the authority to address the threat,” he said. “As commander in chief, my highest priority is the security of the American people.” He added that he would “welcome congressional support” — not because it was necessary, but “in order to show the world that Americans are united.”

That is not the approach the framers laid down in our Constitution. Article II makes the president the commander in chief of the armed forces, in charge of waging war once it has begun. But Article I entrusts the power to declare war to Congress. There were good reasons for this.

First, as James Madison presciently observed, presidents will be more “interested in war” and more “prone to it” than



INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

JOHN GARVEY

Congress. For that very reason the framers put Congress in charge — to make the process of deciding slow, deliberative and difficult. “It should,” Oliver Ellsworth of Connecticut said, “be more easy to get out of war, than into it.”

Second, the burden of war falls on ordinary people, who serve in the armed forces and pay taxes to support the effort. The framers created the House of Representatives as the voice of the people, elected directly by them every two years. They must have a say in committing the nation to an undertaking that affects them so seriously. That is why the Constitution also specifies that all bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House, and gives Congress the power to raise and support armies, and to provide and maintain a navy.

American presidents eager to expand their power, and members of Congress looking to shirk responsibility, have made the mistake of ignoring these principles before. The lesson of Vietnam is not that we should not fight, but that presidents should not begin wars unilaterally and then dare Congress to pull the plug on them afterward.

At the conclusion of that war, Congress enacted the War Powers Resolution. It says, in language that precisely covers this case, that if the president introduces our armed forces “into the ... airspace ... of a foreign nation, while equipped for combat,” he must get Congress’ permission within 60 days or else terminate his efforts.

The legitimacy of the process matters here. President Obama should seek permission from Congress for this war. And Congress should give it to him.

John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America.

Gratitude expressed for Holy Land collection

Dear Bishop Rhoades,

We are very grateful for your check of \$88,841.89 for the 2014 Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land.

Your generosity will directly help the Christians in the Holy Land itself and in adjoining countries like Syria. We thank you in the name of all the Christians and in the name of the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from all over the world who come to pray at the shrines made holy by Jesus and His mother. Without your financial help the friars would not be able to care for the needy and all the shrines.

Again, thank you personally for supporting the collection. Please continue your prayers for the suffering Christians in the Middle East. May you and your people be richly blessed for your generosity.

Respectfully and gratefully,
Father Larry Dunham, OFM
Commissary of the Holy Land

Wanted: A Synod of affirmation

Pope Francis has called a special session of the Synod of Bishops, which will meet from Oct. 5-19 and prepare the agenda for the ordinary session of the Synod that is scheduled for the fall of 2015; both sessions will focus on the family. In my view, the Synod should focus on two related themes: marriage culture is in crisis throughout the world; the answer to that crisis is the Christian view of marriage as a covenant between man and woman in a communion of love, fidelity and fruitfulness.

To focus the conversation elsewhere is to ignore a hard fact and a great opportunity.

The collapse of marriage culture throughout the world is indisputable. More and more marriages end in divorce, even as increasing numbers of couples simply ignore marriage, cohabit and procreate. The effort to redefine "marriage" as what we know it isn't, and to enforce that redefinition by coercive state power, is well advanced in the West. The contraceptive mentality has seriously damaged the marriage culture, as have well intentioned but ultimately flawed efforts to make divorce easier. The sexual free-fire zone of the West is a place where young people find it very hard to commit to a lifelong relationship that inevitably involves sacrificing one's "autonomy." And just as the Christian understanding of marriage is beginning to gain traction in Africa, where it is experienced as a liberating dimension of the Gospel, European theologians from dying local churches are trying to empty marriage of its covenantal character, reducing it to another form of contract.

Rome, we have a problem.

Pope Francis understands the crisis of marriage culture in its multiple dimensions, just as he understands that the family, which begins in marriage, is a troubled institution in the post-modern world; that's why he's summoned two Synods on the topic of the family. And that's why the Synod, fully aware of the gravity of the situation, should begin, continue and end on a positive note, offering the world a pearl of great price: the Christian understanding and experience of marriage.

The Synod discussion, in other words, should take the crisis of marriage and the family as a given and then lift up Christian marriages, lived faithfully and fruitfully, as the answer to that crisis. The Synod should begin with what is good and true and beautiful about Christian marriage and Christian family life, and show, by living examples, how that truth, goodness and beauty respond to the deepest longings of the human heart for solidarity, fidelity and fruitful love.

It's quite obvious that the Church faces real pastoral challenges in dealing with broken marriages and their results. But to begin the discussion of marriage and the family in the 21st century *there* is to begin at the wrong end of things. For it is only within the truth-about-marriage, which was given to the Church by the Lord Himself, that compassionate and truthful solutions to those pastoral problems can be found.

The Synod might also do well to reflect on another piece of good news: the Church has far more tools with which to try and help fix what's broken in 21st-



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

century marriage culture than it did 40 years ago. John Paul II's Theology of the Body has given Catholicism the world's most compelling account of sexuality and its relationship to marriage: a vision of the nobility of human love that is far more attractive than anything on offer in *Playboy* and *Cosmopolitan*, not to mention what's being taught about "marriage" by jihadists. And John Paul's teaching is having an impact — it's hard to find a college or university campus today that doesn't have a Theology of the Body study group, often self-organized by students.

We've also come a long way since "marriage preparation" involved choosing music and quarreling with the pastor about rice throwing on the church steps. Couple-to-couple marriage prep is a major development in an alert diocese and parish, and a great expression of Pope Francis's call that all Catholics understand themselves as missionary disciples.

So, message-to-Synod: think positive.

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

active counterparts. Pornography abusers admit to disordered sexual intimacy or experiences that happened during their teenage years as a factor driving their addiction. Data shows that those who engage in pre-marital sex have a significantly higher rate of divorce. The decisions that our teenagers are making don't just affect their adolescence, but also damage their future relationships.

Our best medical advice should be abstinence until marriage. If you are concerned that your child's physician may not feel this way, be prepared for these "sexual awareness" conversations to happen not just in the doctor's office but in their classrooms as well.

Our Catholic faith, supported by reason, should encourage us to be the primary educators of children — if we do not play an active role in the character and moral development our teens, the world will happily and quickly do so for us.

Dr. Kate Heimann, D.O., is a family physician with obstetrics. She serves as vice-president of the Catholic Medical Association of the Dr. Jerome Lejeune Guild of Northeast Indiana.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for October 12, 2014

Matthew 22:1-14

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: a strange wedding feast. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	KINDGOM	A KING
WEDDING	INVITED	PREPARED
BUSINESS	MISTREATED	ENRAGED
TROOPS	MURDERERS	BURNED
STREETS	GATHERED	FOUND
GUESTS	FRIEND	BIND
DARKNESS	TEETH	MANY

NOT WORTHY

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

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DOCTOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

macy and identity as God intended it to be between a man and woman.

How do we engage our pre-teens and adolescents amidst an overwhelming social (and even medical) influence? It begins with us, as parents and as a family. We need to understand our faith's rich study of the human body and sexuality founded in God's unfailing love for us. Resources like "Theology of the Body" (for parents, teens, young adults) are a great place to start. If we are not ready to answer their questions and provide a solid foundation for sexual purity and modesty, then our teens will be easily persuaded by the misguided "safe sex" culture.

God never intended that our faith be separated from reason. Research is demonstrating the detrimental effects of early sexual activity on the young adult, often with lifelong adverse consequences. To name a few, earlier onset of sexual activity leads to more partners prior to marriage. Multiple partners leads to more STI exposure. HPV (Human

Papilloma Virus) is rampant amongst our sexually active teens. Although it can be cleared by the body's immune system in adulthood, many women will develop cervical cancer because of HPV. Gonorrhea and Chlamydia make up nearly 30 percent of STIs in teens, and, if untreated, they cause a severe pelvic infection (PID) and jeopardize a woman's future fertility by scarring her reproductive organs.

With new legislation, our pre-teens, as young as nine years old, have been reported to have accessed free STI testing and "the morning after pill" without parental consent. This victory of the "risk reduction" ideology exposes our teens to the dangers of birth control and abortion. The WHO (World Health Organization) has labeled COCs (combined oral contraceptives) as Class I carcinogens. "Induced termination" (abortion) has been linked to breast cancer, as well as psychological damage leading to depression and PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder). Adolescents with multiple sexual partners are found to be involved in other high risk behaviors, such as underage drinking, illegal drug use and are cited to be victims of sexual/physical abuse at a higher rate than their not-sexually

Saint of the week:



Marguerite D'Youville

1701 - 1771
feast - October 16

Marie Marguerite Dufrost de Lajemmerais was born in Quebec province and married a scoundrel who illegally traded liquor for furs with the Indians. He died in 1730, leaving her in debt with two young sons (four other children had died). After securing their future by running a general store, she began to nurse poor women in her home. This led to her administering Montreal's only hospital and founding the Sisters of Charity of Montreal. During the French and Indian Wars, her Grey Nuns nursed everyone, earning much respect. Canada's first native saint, Marguerite was canonized in 1990; both her sons became priests. And, at her 1959 beatification, Pope John XXIII called her "the mother of universal charity."

Sports

ICCL SOCCER HIGHLIGHTS In ICCL varsity boys' soccer competition on Oct. 4, Mishawaka Catholic and St. Matthew tied 2-2. St. Adalbert beat Christ the King, 2-0, with goals by Francisco Tavarez and Moises Lobatos. St. Joseph, South Bend, beat St. Anthony, 5-1, and Christ the King beat St. Matthew, 6-0. In girls' varsity action, St. Anthony beat Holy Cross, 5-0. Christ the King beat Mishawaka Catholic, 3-1. Madison Veldman, Caroline Edmonds and Gretta Cohoon all scored for the Kings. St. Michael beat St. Joseph, South Bend, 3-2. St. Matthew and Holy Family tied 1-1. The St. Matthew goal was scored by Andrea Romo in the first half. The Holy Family was goal scored by Lauren Sanders in the second half.

Most Precious Blood volleyball advance skills

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Even though they haven't chalked up many "W's" in the win column, the Most Precious Blood (MPB) volleyball team is getting better every day. "I am so pleased with how far we've come," praised Coach Amber Warnick. In her mix of seventh and eighth graders, Warnick has some brand new players, one with club experience and some veteran players she coached a year ago, for a total of 11 in all, five eighth and six seventh.

"It's a great group of girls and they all get along so well. We

also have good leadership. Even when things get tough, they never let each other get down," continued Warnick, who started playing as a youngster herself at MPB and continued her volleyball career at both Bishop Luers High School and the University of Saint Francis.

While the team has a goal of winning, their ultimate goal this season is to learn and perform the basic skills of the game.

"At this level, it is my job to get the girls ready to play in high school. My goal is to help them

learn to perform skills properly and at a certain level and become proficient at them," she added.

The young mother of two summarized, "This group

is always working hard to learn what we are teaching them. They are very eager and coachable. I push them pretty hard and they still dig their heels in to do better. I love the sport and I love helping young kids grow in their game. It's a bonus

that I'm able to give back to my parish in this capacity."



CYO's St. John, St. Joseph building teamwork efforts

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The St. John, Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SJFW) football team may not have large numbers with just 21 on their roster, but head coach Andre Goodwell and his staff are working hard to teach their team about teamwork.

"We want them to work together as a family and to always protect each other on the field, looking out for one another. So far we are working hard. We are a good team, striving to get better every day, with a bright future," Goodwell explained.

The Eagles opened their season on Sunday, Aug. 24, with an 18-6 win over St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth/St. Therese/St. Aloysius (JAT). "We had a balanced team effort from the offense, defense and special teams. We were led on offense by good blocking from the offensive line and by the strong running of Lashon Bright (two touchdowns) and Justin

Gaston (one touchdown). The defense played lights out with contributions from Jack Sweeney and Joe Derrick. There were also three interceptions — one from Justin Gaston, Norm Knapke and Nick Birkmeier," Goodwell detailed.

The Eagles are young with 11 of their 21 players being seventh graders. "We will continue to push each other and work hard in practice every day. We have one team goal: to be CYO and diocesan champions, one game at a time," Goodwell concluded.

Despite having just 15 players eligible in their next outing against JAT on Sunday, Sept. 28, SJFW came out on top, 14-6, in a hard-fought battle. Conditioning, fighting through both physical and mental fatigue and practice regime played a huge factor in the win as most of the team had to play both ways. The Eagles offense was led by quarterback Knapke and had a strong performance by Gaston who scored both touchdowns. The defense also

had a very impressive performance with two interceptions from Will Derrick and Gaston.

In Week 7 action, the Eagles improved to 5-1 with a win over St. Vincent to maintain their second place spot amidst their CYO foes.

In the other game of Week 7 play, the St. Charles Cardinals took their record to 6-0 with a hard-fought 32-14 victory over the Central Catholic (CC) Fighting Irish. The Cardinals' signal caller Blake Scheer threw for 125 yards and three touchdowns. Charlie Howe hauled in two of the touchdowns and Jared Lee caught the other touchdown pass. TJ Tippmann and Hayden Ellinger added rushing touchdowns for the Cards.

St. Charles led, 20-0, at half, but CC seized the momentum and cut the lead to 20-14. The Cards gained control back on a 55-yard kickoff return by Patrick O'Keefe. In the win, Joe Tippmann held down the line for the undefeated CYO powerhouses.

Unbeaten Panthers match up against St. Matthew Blazers

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — The unmistakable chill of autumn graced the players and fans at Marian High School's Otolowski Field as the only thing standing in the way of an unblemished regular season record for the St. Anthony Panthers was an upstart black-and-white outfitted team from St. Matthew.

The Panthers had bullied their way to the top of the league discarding all foes allowing only 12 points, while putting up a league high 60 in their quest for perfection.

The Blazers' squad had a different story to tell — an energetic, positive and capable coaching staff and a small but engaged group of kids that never gives up and believes in themselves.

The classic David and Goliath matchup would not have the same ending as the biblical depiction as Panther John Paul Lewis took the opening kickoff and pranced 97

yards to the promised land. The points after kick by Paxon Campbell was true and the route had begun, 8-0.

The Blazers stumbled on their first drive, but their offensive line showed fight as they pushed the pile for C.J. Njuguna to pick up a big fourth down and seven conversion. The pattern was short lived as they turned the ball over on downs at midfield.

The field position and desire fueled the Panther machine as quarterback Conor Ratigan ran, passed and handed off to backs Brennan Horvath and eventually again to Lewis, who scampered 20 yards for another score, making the margin, 14-0.

The down-on-their-luck Blazers would not fair well as on their next possession. Starting at their own six would result in Panther Conor Conery causing a fumble and that meant big trouble. As on the first

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CHRIST THE KING SOFTBALL CHAMPS



PAUL TINCHER

The championships of ICCL Softball were played at Harris Field in Granger on Oct. 1. Christ the King girls' team, comprised of girls from St. Joseph and Christ the King schools in South Bend, won the seventh- and eighth-grade championship. The champions, shown in the photo, played Mishawaka Catholic and won by a score of 16-0. The team was coached by Steve Goerke, Mike Garver and Scott Tingwald. The fifth- and sixth-grade championship was won by St. Matthew, who played St. Jude.

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ICCL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

resulting play, Ratigan found Lewis for another score, making it 22-0.

The Blazers' misfortunes would continue. On their very next possession, Logan Gardner pounced on a loose ball and again the Panthers were in striking distance.

The Panthers, however, would sputter as on the fourth down Mike Gibson came up with a huge stop to keep the maroon-and-gold clad squad from converting yet another Blazer miscue.

The only ray of light for the Blazers was a 50-yard pass play from Gibson to Randy Moore giving a little spark to the team as they regrouped during the intermission.

The Panthers would add to their point total early in the second stanza as Ratigan completed a series of short passes intertwined with a Brady Gumpf 20-yard dash and culminated with a strike to Horvath in the end zone. Campbell added another points after try, making the margin insurmountable at 30-0.

Even with the game in hand, the proud Blazers fought with determination on defense and finally broke the scoring drought as Christian Tate rumbled for a late touchdown ending the contest with 30-6 being the final tally.

"I was really proud of the way our team has grown and come together this season," commented Panther Coach James DeBoe. "Our



RAY DERUCKI

The Blazers' Mike Gibson takes aim as Panther Casey Conery closes in.

offensive line of Conery, Joey Gillis, Alex Mossey, Ryan Flanagan and Jonathan Brach has really become a solid unit."

"We will continue to work on our fundamentals and chemistry during our weeks heading into the playoffs," added DeBoe. "We are excited about what we have accomplished so far this season and still have some additional goals to achieve."

"I thought our team prepared well for the Panthers and even though the score didn't show it, our defense played very well as a group," explained Blazer skipper Ben Domonkos. "For us to be successful, we have to stay on schedule and keep away from the negative plays."

"We have asked a lot from our kids and they have given a great effort," continued Domonkos. "We will get back to work and we will be ready to fight another day."

In other action, the Holy Cross

Crusaders dispatched of rival Mishawaka Catholic, 25-0, behind two touchdown scampers from Patrick Farrisee, a 21-yard dash from Vincent Gutermuth and a 44-yard romp courtesy of Jeremy Klima.

The West Side Catholic Cardinals were back to the gridiron and conquered the Elkhart Christian Eagle in an exhibition matchup, 28-0. Ashton Ruszkowski was the story as he scored on a 45-yard jaunt and added two touchdowns through the air — one to Austin Lee and another to Noah Hickey. Lee added a 21-touchdown sprint and Pedro Uriostegui kicked two extra points tries.

The playoffs will begin this weekend, as the St. Matthew Blazers take on the Mishawaka Catholic Saints at 2:30 p.m. at Father Bly Field in the only scheduled action.

Winning streak highlights CYO Green League Panthers' season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — One of the favorites for this year's Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Green League volleyball title is St. Vincent de Paul. The Panthers finished as runner-up both in the fifth and sixth grades to St. Joseph, Decatur, but opened the 2014 season by winning the championship for seventh graders at the Barney Schultz Commodore Classic hosted by St. Joseph, Decatur, on Sept. 6.

The preseason showdown included five CYO teams. Since then, the team has remained undefeated in league play downing St. Joseph, Decatur, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, St. Jude and St. John the Baptist, New Haven.

With 13 on their roster, several with club experience, Coach Denise Lyons and her sister, Debbie Rednour, have been mentoring many of the girls since their fifth-grade season and feel fundamental execution is key to a successful season with passing, footwork and aggressive serving being three components.

"We spend approximately 20 to 30 minutes each practice shuffling our feet to the ball and making



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The St. Vincent de Paul Panthers participate in a community gardening project "off the court" at Catholic Charities' sponsored Villa of the Woods in Fort Wayne.

good contact with the ball," Lyons explained. The siblings both attend St. Vincent Parish and enjoy helping the youth in their community.

They recently organized a day for their team to give back off the court by planting flowers, picking weeds and cleaning the grounds of Villa of the Woods. "The girls truly enjoyed the team bonding along with knowing they helped the community," Lyons summarized.

WASHINGTON, D.C. PRO-LIFE MARCH

Sponsored by Indiana Knights of Columbus

You are invited! On January 20, 2015 Pro Lifers will depart from several locations around Indiana for Washington, D.C. for THE 42nd NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE!

Non-Knights are welcome on this historic trip!

Tuesday, January 20, 2015: Depart from one of the Indiana locations approximately 8:00 p.m. on tour bus.

Wednesday, January 21: Arrive Washington, D.C. approximately 10 a.m. Tour Washington Mall. Check in. Leave for National Shrine of Immaculate

Conception. **Thursday, January 22:** Breakfast at motel, board bus for ride to Rally. Pick up box lunch, join March, after which we board bus to hotel.

Bus ride to banquet center for evening dinner. **Friday, January 23:** Breakfast at motel, board buses and head home, arriving at 8:00 p.m.

The Cost: \$280 per person. Cost includes: Round-trip on tour bus, Motel for 2 nights, double-occupancy, 2 breakfasts, Box Lunch, Wednesday night dinner and celebration...the unbelievable feeling of satisfaction and honor of having participated in this event!

\$150 due September 29, 2014. \$130 due November 1, 2014. (Can't make these dates? Phone us.)

Date of 1st payment ___ Check # ___ Amount ___ Date of last payment ___ Check# ___ Amount ___

More info on website www.indianakofc.org or phone Michael Velasco at 219-663-0509. (RETAIN UPPER PORTION)

Return lower portion with your check. Please print all information

Name _____ Council _____ Knight _____ Spouse _____ Son of Knight _____ Daughter of Knight _____ Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone(____) _____ Cell Phone(____) _____ Leaving from: (Check one) Merrillville ___ South Bend ___

Lafayette ___ Fort Wayne ___ Muncie ___ Indianapolis ___ Columbus ___ Lanesville ___ ROOMMATE _____

(In case of emergency, please contact:) Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone(____) _____

Please list any medical information that we need to know about _____

DO NOT SEND CASH...Make checks payable to: INDIANA STATE COUNCIL..Memo Line: DC March...Send your check and bottom of this form to: Pro Life Director - 3993 Willowood Court - Crown Point, Indiana 46307-8945

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.

Knights plan open house, dinner

Fort Wayne — An information night for those interested in the Knights of Columbus will be held at the hall, 601 Reed Rd., at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 14. A spaghetti dinner is planned for Wednesday, Oct. 15, from 5-6:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Day of Reflection

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, Oct. 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Listen Up!" Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is \$20 and includes lunch. Register by Oct. 17 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at 574-259-5427.

Cemetery clean-up time

South Bend — The Sacred Heart Cemetery, corner of Western Avenue and Pine Road, will be removing decorations beginning Monday, Oct. 20. Please have all

spring and summer decorations removed by this time.

Theology on Tap

Fort Wayne — Theology on Tap for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single or married, will be held at Soups Salad and Spirits, 1915 S. Calhoun St., Thursday, Oct. 16, at 6:30 p.m. "Finding Hope in American Politics" will be led by Dr. William Svelmoe, religion historian, Jerry Paar, economist and Jessica Fraser of the Indiana Institute for Working Families. This event is hosted by the Young Adult Ministry office. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/TOT for information.

Marian scholar to speak

Donaldson — PROCLAIM! at the Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame will offer a presentation by Danielle Peters, STD, at the Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, 601 Union Rd., on Oct. 12, at 4:30 p.m. Peters, a member of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, serves as the vice president of the Mariological Society of

America and is an internationally renowned Marian scholar. Admission is \$9 and includes refreshments and a door prize of a rosary blessed by Pope Francis. For information visit icl.nd.edu/proclaim, email pbellm@nd.edu or call 574-631-1379.

Fish and chicken fry planned

Bluffton — St. Joseph Church will have a fish and chicken dinner Friday, Oct. 10, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the social hall, 1300 N. Main St. Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$6 for children 6-12.

'Up the Down Staircase' to be performed

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School drama department will present "Up the Down Staircase" Oct. 11-12, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bishop Luers gymnasium. Tickets are \$7 and available

REST IN PEACE

Fort Wayne

Phyllis L. Sitko, 89, St. Therese

Amanda Rae Stewart, 87, St. Peter

Joy Lyn Blocker, 53, St. John the Baptist

Mary F. Herber, 89, Queen of Angels

John James McGinn, 82, Our Lady of Good Hope

Maria T. Doust, 49, St. Patrick

Cindy L. McAlister, 58, St. Vincent de Paul

Suzanne Kennedy Stark, 65, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

New Haven

Cecile K. Ladig, 77, St. Louis Besancon

Scott E. Lothamer, 58, St. Louis Besancon

Notre Dame

Thomas Hammer, 83, Basilica/Sacred Heart

Francis Christopher Weiss, 98, Our Lady of the Holy Cross Chapel

Stuart T. McComas, 82, Basilica/Sacred Heart

Plymouth

Noma A. Leland, 97, St. Michael

South Bend

Alfred R. Denby, 95, Corpus Christi

Paul W. Lies, 97, Corpus Christi

Robert C. Morence, 79, St. Matthew

Candelaria Rodriguez, 84, St. Adalbert

James E. Wood, 64, St. Matthew

at the door or by contacting Pat Shifley at pshifley@bishopluers.org.

Saint Joseph High School plans events

South Bend — An information night for prospective families will be held Wednesday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Black Box Theater. The evening will offer an opportunity in a smaller setting to learn more about SJHS from campus ministry, counseling, administra-

tors and admissions. A placement test will be offered Saturday, Oct. 25, for prospective students for the incoming class of 2019.

Rummage sale planned

South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary's youth group will have a rummage sale Saturday, Oct. 18, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the school, 735 W. Calvert St.

ASSISTANT LITURGY DIRECTOR

*Located on the beautiful campus of
Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana*

Sisters of the Holy Cross seek an experienced, full-time Assistant Liturgy Director. The position is responsible for assisting the Director in overseeing liturgical prayer services and celebrations at the Church of Our Lady of Loretto and for Congregation events.

Candidate must be proficient in keyboard and cantor skills. A minimum of 3 years' experience in pastoral music and liturgy, with emphasis on Eucharist, Liturgy of the Hours and funerals. Other requirements include: Must be a practicing Roman Catholic, Bachelor's degree in music, liturgy or equivalent experience, Master's degree desirable. Computer literacy in Desktop Publishing software such as InDesign, and music software such as Sibelius or Finale preferred.

We offer a friendly work environment in a just and caring community based atmosphere, a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package.

Send resume to: Sisters of the Holy Cross, Inc.,
100 Lourdes Hall-Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, IN
46556 Attention: Human Resources Director
or e-mail to jszekendi@cscsisters.org.

 *Sisters of the Holy Cross*

 **Redeemer
Radio**

Redeemer Radio 95.7 FM Coming to Michiana Hiring three Full-Time Positions

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

These positions include:

- Operations Manager
- Community Relations Director
- Technical Manager

all serving the greater Michiana Catholic community.

Operations Manager responsibilities include:

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

Community Relations Director responsibilities include:

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

Technical Manager responsibilities include:

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

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

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

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

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

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

We're ready to care for you.

The **Saint Joseph Physician Network** is backed by experts from every specialty and one of the most advanced hospital systems in the region. We connect great doctors with unmatched resources and technology to help them set the standard for care in Michiana.

We are excited to announce that the following physicians have joined our team of more than 85 providers at 27 Physician Network offices:



Mojgan Arashvand, DO
Cardiologist
Marshall County Cardiology Specialists
574.948.5340



Alar Sambandam, DO, FACC
Cardiologist
Marshall County Cardiology Specialists
574.948.5340



Anand Singla, MD
Interventional Cardiologist
Marshall County Cardiology Specialists
574.948.5340



Laura Blackford, MD
Family Medicine
Plymouth Family & Internal Medicine
574.948.5100

The Saint Joseph Physician Network serves the following Michiana locations:

Elkhart County Location

Saint Joseph Physician Network
People's Clinic
5218 Beck Drive, Ste. 12
Elkhart, IN 46516
574.335.7700

Marshall County Locations

Bourbon Family Medicine
114 N. Washington St.
Bourbon, IN 46504
574.335.7850

Bremen Family Medicine
1120 W. South St.
Bremen, IN 46506
574.335.7800

Lake Shore Clinic
921 N. Lake Shore Dr.
Culver, IN 46511
574.842.3327

**Marshall County
Cardiology Specialists**
2349 Lake Ave., Ste. 99
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.948.5340

Marshall County Family Practice
1919 Lake Ave., Ste. 104
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.948.5200

Marshall County OB/GYN
1919 Lake Ave., Ste. 106
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.948.5230

Marshall County Orthopedics
1919 Lake Ave., Ste. 102B
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.948.5070

**Marshall County
Pediatric Physicians**
1919 Lake Ave., Ste. 110
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.948.5290

Marshall County Surgery Associates
1919 Lake Ave., Ste. 102
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.948.5170

**Plymouth Family
& Internal Medicine**
2349 Lake Ave., Ste. 100
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.948.5100

**Plymouth Family & Internal
Medicine — Downtown**
209 E. Jefferson St.
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.948.5100

**Saint Joseph Health Center
Outreach Clinic — Plymouth**
510 W. Adams St., Ste. 150
Plymouth, IN 46563
574.335.7900

*Accepting new patients who
meet qualifying guidelines.
Please call for details.*

St. Joseph County Locations

Community Pediatric Physicians
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 401
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6242

**Family Medicine
Faculty Physicians**
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 101
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6580

Granger Community Medicine
12563 S.R. 23
Granger, IN 46530
574.335.8300

Internal Medicine Associates
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 309
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6232

Midwest Cardiology
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 208
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6700

Northwest Family Medicine
2930 W. Cleveland Rd.
South Bend, IN 46628
574.335.8450

River Park Family Medicine
1122 S. Ironwood Dr.
South Bend, IN 46615
574.335.8399

**Saint Joseph
Cardiothoracic Surgery**
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 208
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6000

**Saint Joseph Family Medicine
at Elm Road**
60101 Bodnar Blvd., Ste. B
Mishawaka, IN 46544
574.335.8500

Saint Joseph FertilityCare™ Center
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 408
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6474

**Saint Joseph OB/GYN
Specialists & Midwifery**
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 408
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6440

South Bend Neurology
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 305
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6450

Sports Medicine Institute
611 E. Douglas Rd., Ste. 137
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574.335.6214

**University Park
Family Medicine**
17321 S.R. 23
South Bend, IN 46635
574.335.8400

Need to find a doctor? Call our physician referral line at 866.757.6248.