Poor Handmaids come home to Fort Wayne-Hessen Cassel

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (PHJC) Sisters are organizing several events called “PHJC’s Coming Home” in various cities over the next few years with the purpose of reconnecting with the people in those areas in which the Poor Handmaids have ministered.

“PHJC’s Coming Home to Fort Wayne-Hessen Cassel” was held this past weekend with several scheduled events, concluding with Mass celebrated on Oct. 26 by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at St. Joseph Parish-Hessen Cassel.

“This past week, I had the opportunity to read a biography of Blessed Mother Mary Catherine Kasper, the foundress of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ,” began Bishop Rhoades in his homily. “I was really inspired by the story of Mother Mary Catherine’s life and her formation of the religious community of the Poor Handmaids in 19th-century Germany. Despite many obstacles, including poverty and persecution, Mother Mary Catherine persevered in her mission to celebrate Mass and take part in the papal audience while in Vatican City. Moreover, she worked tirelessly to reconnect with the people in the various cities where the Poor Handmaids have ministered over the years. This event was a beautiful celebration of her life and legacy.”

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass at St. Joseph Church-Hessen Cassel on Oct. 26 commemorating the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Coming Home to Fort Wayne celebration. The sisters’ ministry in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend began at St. Joseph Parish-Hessen Cassel.

The inaugural pilgrimage will include a local tour and a visit to the ruins of Pompeii, and much more, including opportunities for Mass and taking part in the papal audience while in Vatican City.

Two groups will depart on Nov. 10, 2015, with provisions for air out of Chicago for those in South Bend and air out of Detroit for those in the Fort Wayne area. Additionally, transportation to and from the airport will be included from a single pick up point in each city.

Edward’s notes, “Other gateways are available upon request for those friends and family members outside of this region that wish to travel with you.”

Each Today’s Catholic Travel pilgrimage will include a local priest from each city to act as host. Father Terry Coonan, parochial vicar of St. Pius X Parish in Granger, will be the travel host for the South Bend departure for the upcoming “Shrines of Italy” tour.

Father Andrew Budzinski, director of vocations and parochial vicar of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, will host the Fort Wayne departure of the trip. Fathers Coonan and Budzinski will serve as spiritual hosts allowing for additional insight as the groups experience the roots of Catholicism. Each priest will have the opportunity to celebrate Mass in historical basilicas on the tour as well.

Sean McBride, Secretariat of Communications for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend says of the new venture, “We’re very excited to offer this program to the faithful of the diocese. We’ve partnered with a very reputable company that offers travel programs specific to Catholics, and we are hopeful that this inaugural trip will be a great way to begin a long-standing tradition of Today’s Catholic pilgrimages. We look forward to offering two trips per year to many destinations around the world, with many of our diocesan priests acting as travel hosts.”

Informational meetings about the tour will be held in Fort Wayne and South Bend for those interested in learning more. In Fort Wayne, the informational meeting will be held at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1502 E. Wallen Rd., Fort Wayne, on Thursday, Nov. 13, at 6:30 p.m. In South Bend, the informational meeting will be held at St. Pius X Parish, 52553 Fir Rd., Granger, on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 6:30 p.m.

Visit www.todayscatholicnews.org/TCT for more details and plan to attend an informational meeting.
'Bludgeoned’ by all sides, family needs Church

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The family is under attack now more than ever because of today’s culture of division that wants to break from and be free of all everlasting bonds and forms of solidarity, Pope Francis said.

“Talking about problems of the family, for example, bonds are being destroyed, instead of created. Why? Because we are living in a culture of the provisional, of conflict, of the inability to make alliances,” he said.

What is needed is a Church and Christendom, who are willing to “waste time” on people, not just principles, and accompany face-to-face those needing to discover the truth in Jesus Christ, he said.

The pope’s comments came during a 90-minute encounter with about 8,000 lay members of the international Schoenstatt movement Oct. 25 in the Vatican audience hall. The movement, founded by the late German Father Joseph Kentenich, was celebrating its 100th anniversary.

Representatives asked the pope five questions, ranging from how to help strengthen families to his secret for maintaining a sense of hope and happiness in such a trouble-plagued world.

“I haven’t got the faintest idea,” he said with a smile.

Part of it comes from his personality and being a bit “impulsive,” which makes him a bit of a daredevil, he said. But that courage is also rooted in prayer and abandoning himself to God’s goodness, he added.

“Knowing that God is always there, even ‘in moments of major sin,” gives him great confidence and faith, he said, in remarks that were entirely spontaneous.

Something else that helps, he said, is perspective. Jesus Christ is and must always be at the center of everything, which means, oneself, one’s parish, the associations one belongs to, even the Roman Curia, cannot become the center of one’s life, he said.

“The truth is grasped better from the periphery,” from the outside looking in, he said. One striking example came to light in a recent conversation with a criminal defense lawyer who told him he often cries with the prisoners he visits in jail.

“He sees the world of law, of what he has to judge as a criminal lawyer, but also from the wounds that he finds there,” which allows him to see the actual situation better, the pope said.

“Therefore, I would say a healthy recklessness — that is, letting God do things; praying and abandoning oneself; courage and patience; and going to the peripheries. I don’t know if this is my secret, but it is what comes to mind,” he said.

In response to a question about how to help families, Pope Francis said he believed the “Christian family, the family, marriage have never been attacked as much as they are right now.”

The family is “beaten and the family is bastardized” and debased, since almost anything is being called a family, he said.

“The family faces a crisis because it is being bludgeoned by all sides, leaving it very wounded,” he said. There is no other choice than to go to the family’s aid and give them personal help, he said.

“We can give a nice speech, declare principles. Of course we need to do this, with clear ideas” and statements saying that unions that do not reflect God’s plan of a permanent union between a man and a woman are forms of “an association, not a marriage.”

However, people must also be accompanied “and this also means wasting time. The greatest master of wasting time is Jesus. He wasted time accompanying, to help consciences mature, to heal the wounds, to teach,” the pope said.

He said the sacrament of Matrimony is becoming just a ceremony or social event for some people, who do not see its sacramental nature as a union with God. Part of the problem is “a lack of formation for engaged couples and this is a sin of omission on our part,” he said.

But there also is the problem of a culture that is short-sighted, where everything is temporary or “provisional,” he said, and “forever has been forgotten.”

He said he sees the same thing even in his own family with couples living together “part time,” Monday through Friday with my girlfriend and Friday to Sunday with my fiancé. “They are new forms, totally destructive and limiting of the greatness of the love of marriage.”

When asked about the best way to share the faith with others, the pope said going out into the world and living as true witnesses of Christ and His message is the only way.

“There is no other way. To live in a way that others become interested and ask, ‘Why? This is witness,” he said.

Missionaries don’t save people; they are “transmitters of someone that saves us,” which is possible only if people have made Jesus a full part and the heart of their lives.

Everyone, however, is weak, makes mistakes, has problems “and we don’t always give a good witness; but the ability to become humble inside, to ask for forgiveness when our witness is not what it should be,” this is part of being good Christians.

The Church also needs to “go out,” he said, “to help, to share, to let people see what we do and how we do it.”

If a lay association or the Church itself doesn’t go out, “it is a Church of snobs,” and instead of looking for people and helping them, attracting them to Christ, “they spend time combing their doll’s hair, in little groups; they are ‘spiritual hairdressers.’ This is not good.”

“A community that goes out makes mistakes. Mistakes are made, but it is so wonderful to ask forgiveness when one makes a mistake,” he said. “Do not be afraid!”

Pope Francis greets a child as he arrives to lead a special audience for members of the Schoenstatt religious movement at the Vatican Oct. 25.

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POPE FRANCIS

CNS PHOTO/MAX ROSSI, REUTERS

November 2, 2014
with deep faith and courage, and incredible confidence in God’s grace and providence,” he said.

Bishop Rhoades cited Blessed Kasper’s great love for God and neighbor, the love Jesus commanded in the day’s Gospel reading (Mt 22:34-40) for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

“It was this love that inspired Mother Mary Catherine to accomplish great things,” he continued.

“She named her community Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary who at the Annunciation called herself the handmaid of the Lord and said ‘Let it be done to me according to Your word.’”

In a prayer service at the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne, Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Sister Judith Ditzl, provincial, recalled the ministry of the sisters. The Oct. 26 prayer service was part of a series of events from the Coming Home activities, which celebrated the sisters’ ministries in the Fort Wayne area.

Sister Conrad Kirchhoff was one of over 175 PHJCs who taught at St. Vincent Villa between 1887-1975.

Bishop Rhoades also cited the liturgy’s first reading (Ex 22:20-26) as appropriate wherein God commanded justice for the poor and the care of orphans and widows.

“In their early years, Mother Mary Catherine and the Poor Handmaids began with the mission of serving the poor, the sick, and caring for orphans in the Dernbach region of Germany,” he continued.

“As you know, this parish was the first mission of the Poor Handmaids in the United States,” said Bishop Rhoades. “In 1868, 146 years ago, at the invitation of Bishop John H. Luers, our first bishop, Mother Mary Catherine sent eight Poor Handmaids to serve the German immigrants here in Hessen Cassel. On Aug. 30, 1868, the sisters arrived here and were welcomed with much joy by the St. Joseph parishioners. They quickly got to work. Three of the sisters were nurses and visited the sick in their homes. The other five sisters taught in St. Joseph School,” Bishop Rhoades related.

The Diocese of Fort Wayne purchased a hotel in Fort Wayne the following year called the Rockhill House. “It became St. Joseph Hospital and the motherhouse of the Poor Handmaids in the United States,” he explained.

“Mother Mary Catherine Kasper died on the feast of the Presentation, Feb. 2, 1898. By that time, the Poor Handmaids had 160 missions, including 26 houses here in the United States. Mother Mary Catherine was beatified by Blessed Pope Paul VI (April 16, 1978),” he continued. “The guiding principal of her life was to love the Lord our God and to serve Him constantly. And this is the lesson from today’s Gospel,” he reiterated.

“The saints are examples for us of living the two great commandments. Blessed Mary Catherine Kasper is an example, not only for the Poor Handmaids, but for all of us, of love of God and neighbor. I finish this homily with the famous words of St. John of the Cross — for all of us to ponder: ‘At the sunset of my life, I will be judged on love.’ This is true for all of us: at the sunset of our lives, we shall be judged on love!’” Bishop Rhoades concluded.

On Oct. 23, Poor Handmaids joined with young adults at Fortezza Coffee in Fort Wayne for a “Night of Discernment.”

On Oct. 24, Poor Handmaids spent a “Get to Know a Sister” day with students in various schools.

On Oct. 25, former Poor Handmaids and Ancilla Domini High School alumnae met in the afternoon for a high school reunion and at an evening reception celebrating local PHJC ministries and partnerships at Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne. A Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception celebrated the PHJC presence and ministry in the Fort Wayne area.

On Oct. 26, a prayer service took place at Catholic Cemetery preceding the Mass at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, which was celebrated by Father Bill Kummer, parish administrator, and Msgr. Owen Campion of Our Sunday Visitor, Inc. Following the blessing after Mass, Bishop Rhoades recognized Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ Sister M. Julienne Smith, a member of the parish since childhood. The oldest of seven children, she was raised on nearby Monroeville Road.

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Pope Francis says Pope Benedict was a ‘great pope’

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Retired Pope Benedict XVI is a perfect example of how intellectual knowledge and scientific curiosity do not lead a person further from God, but can strengthen their love for God and for His human creatures, Pope Francis said.

“Benedict XVI was a great pope,” he said: “Great for the power and penetration of His intellect, great for his considerable contribution to theology, great for his love for the Church and for human beings, great for his virtues and his religiosity.”

Pope Francis praised his predecessor Oct. 27 at a meeting of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. The academicians invited Pope Francis to unveil a bronze bust of Pope Benedict at the academy’s headquarters in the Vatican Gardens.
Pope Francis calls for abolishing death penalty and life imprisonment

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis called for abolition of the death penalty as well as life imprisonment, and denounced what he called a “penal populism” that promises to solve society’s problems by punishing crime instead of pursuing social justice.

“Is it impossible to imagine that states today cannot make use of another means than capital punishment to defend peoples’ lives from an unjust aggressor,” the pope said Oct. 23 in a meeting with representatives of the International Association of Penal Law.

“All Christians and people of good will are thus called today to struggle not only for abolition of the death penalty, whether it be legal or illegal and in all its forms, but also to improve prison conditions, out of respect for the human dignity of persons deprived of their liberty. And this, I connect with life imprisonment,” he said. “Life imprisonment is a hidden death penalty.”

The pope noted that the Vatican recently eliminated life imprisonment from its own penal code.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, cited by Pope Francis in his talk, “the traditional teaching of the Church does not exclude recourse to the death penalty, if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor,” but modern advances in protecting society from dangerous criminals mean that “cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity are very rare, if not practically nonexistent.”

The pope said that, although a number of countries have formally abolished capital punishment, “the death penalty, illegally and to a varying extent, is applied all over the planet,” because “extra-judicial executions” are often disguised as “clashes with offenders or presented as the undesired consequences of the reasonable, necessary and proportionate use of force to apply the law.”

The pope denounced the detention of prisoners without trial, who he said account for more than 50 percent of all incarcerated people in some countries. He said maximum security prisons can be a form of torture, since their “principal characteristic is none other than external isolation,” which can lead to “psychic and physical sufferings such as paranoia, anxiety, depression and weight loss and significantly increase the chance of suicide.”

He also rebuked unspecified governments involved in kidnapping people for “illegal transportation to detention centers in which torture is practiced.”

The pope said criminal penalties should not apply to children, and should be waived or limited for the elderly, who “on the basis of their very errors can offer lessons to the rest of society. We don’t learn only from the virtues of saints but also from the failings and errors of sinners.”

Pope Francis said contemporar
y society overuse criminal punishment, partially out of a primitive tendency to offer up “sacrificial victims, accused of the disgraces that strike the community.”

The pope said some politicians and members of the media pro-

Pope Francis called for abolition of the death penalty and life imprisonment.

Retired pope says interreligious dialogue no substitute for mission

BY FRANCIS X. ROCCA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Retired Pope Benedict XVI said dialogue with other religions is no substitute for spreading the Gospel to non-Christian cultures, and warned against relativistic ideas of religious truth as “lethal to faith.”

He also said the true motivation for missionary work is not to increase the Church’s size but to share the joy of knowing Christ.

The retired pope’s words appeared in written remarks to faculty members and students at Rome’s Pontifical Urbanian University, which belongs to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. Archbishop Georg Ganswein, prefect of the papal household and personal secretary to retired Pope Benedict, read the 1,800-word message aloud Oct. 21, at a ceremony dedicating the university’s renovated main lecture hall to the retired pope.

The speech is one of a handful of public statements, including an interview and a published letter to a journalist, that Pope Benedict has made since he retired in February 2013.

“The risen Lord instructed His apostles, and through them His disciples in all ages, to take His Word to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all people,” retired Pope Benedict wrote.

“But does that still apply?” many inside and outside the Church ask themselves today. “Is mission still something for today? Would it not be more appropriate to meet in dialogue among religions and serve together the cause of world peace?” The counter-question is: “Can dialogue substitute for mission?”

“In fact, many today think religions should respect each other and, in their dialogue, become a common force for peace. According to this way of thinking, it is usually taken for granted that different religions are variants of one and the same reality,” the retired pope wrote.

“The question of truth, that which originally motivated Christians more than any other, is here put inside parentheses. It is assumed that the authentic truth about God is in the last analysis unchangeable and that at best one can represent the ineffable with a variety of symbols. This renunciation of truth seems realistic and useful for peace among religions in the world.

“It is nevertheless lethal to faith. In fact, faith loses its binding character and its seriousness, everything is reduced to interchangeable symbols, capable of referring only distantly to the inaccessible mystery of the divine,” he wrote.

Pope Benedict wrote that some religions, particularly “tribal religions,” are “waiting for the encounter with Jesus Christ,” but that this “encounter is always reciprocal. Christ is waiting for their history, their wisdom, their vision of the things.” This encounter can also give new life to Christianity, which has grown tired in its historical heartlands, he wrote.

“We proclaim Jesus Christ not to procure as many members as possible for our community, and still less in order to gain power,” the retired pope wrote. “We speak of Him because we feel the duty to transmit that joy which has been given to us.”

Retired Pope Benedict XVI arrives for the beatification Mass of Blessed Paul VI celebrated by Pope Francis in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican Oct. 19. The retired pope said dialogue with other religions is no substitute for spreading the Gospel to non-Christian cultures, and warned against relativistic ideas of religious truth as “lethal to faith.”
Serra Club of South Bend, Serra Club of Fort Wayne foster vocations, seek additional members

BY TIM JOHNSON

The Serra Club is an international organization with approximately 18,000 members in 37 countries. The club fosters vocations to the Priesthood and religious life and encourages its members to fulfill their own Christian vocations to service. The Vatican has designated Serra as the lay vocation arm of the Church.

Serra clubs are named after Blessed Junipero Serra, who founded the missions along the California coast and evangelized thousands. Through talks by seminarians at Serra meetings, friendships and associations with those who are discerning the religious life develop.

In South Bend, Serrans meet the first Friday of the month for Mass at Our Lady ofFatima Chapel in the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. Mass is followed by lunch and a meeting. On the third Wednesday of the month, Serrans meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. Dinner is followed by a 6 p.m. meeting and speaker.

Some of the Serra Club of South Bend activities include raising money for seminarian education through the sale of St. Joseph Father’s Day cards, recognizing Mass servers with a certificate of appreciation and support, participating in the Newman Connection to connect new college students with their respective campus ministry offices, adopting a priest and seminarian to pray for and send letters of encouragement and sending cards to priests on the anniversary of the ordination and profession of vows by priests.

The Serra Club of South Bend is led by Susan Vales, the current president. The club meets twice a month at the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka.

“The Serra Club of South Bend is open to all practicing Catholics,” reported Susan Vales. Vales noted friendships are deepened with fellow Catholics in the diocese. A great emphasis is placed on praying for vocations to the Priesthood and religious life.

“Serrans also share in and affirm vocations to the Priesthood by attending the ordination and profession of vows by priests,” Vales added. Serra promotes strong personal spiritual growth through monthly Mass, retreats, holy hours and spiritual reading.

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Father Paul McCarthy serves as the chaplain.

“Two of my goals for this year are to partner more closely with the diocesan Office of Vocations and to collaborate and coordinate more with the South Bend chapter of Serra,” Coonan said. “I think this will generate excitement and boost our membership.”

Coonan told Today’s Catholic, “Any actively practicing Catholic male or female, 18 years or older, is welcomed to join our club. If they do not know a Serran, they can speak with their church office or call the diocese to get the name of the president and the president would invite them as a guest to the next meeting. They can come as a guest and see what we do and how the program works. If they decide they would like to join, an application is given and they need to fill it out and give it back to a Serran that can get it to the board.”
Official says Catholic cemeteries have ‘huge opportunity to evangelize’

RYE, N.Y. (CNS) — Beyond their traditional roles as predictably quiet and often-beautiful places, “cemeteries have a huge opportunity to evangelize and a responsibility to stand for what the Church represents,” said Andrew Schafer, executive director for Archdiocese of Newark Catholic Cemeteries in New Jersey. People who come to a communal service in a cemetery may be encountering Catholic funeral tradition for the first time, or for the first time in many years, and a positive experience might encourage them to return when they need to arrange a burial, Schafer said. Catholic cemeteries have lost 1 percent of their potential business each year since the Second Vatican Council relaxed burial and cremation restrictions. In response, directors of Catholic cemeteries have added products and services, and stepped up marketing efforts to maintain their traditional base and attract new clients. “Although Catholics are a growing percentage of the population in the United States, the number of Catholic funerals and burials has dropped sharply over the past 50 years,” George Borreiro said. He is managing director of the Trustees of St. Patrick’s Cathedral, the group responsible for four large cemeteries in the Archdiocese of New York. “Some of the decline mirrors decreased Church attendance, but it’s also attributable to a rise in cremation, general cultural trends and the Second Vatican Council allowing Catholics to be buried in secular cemeteries,” Borreiro said.

Chicago’s new archbishop to live in rectory at Holy Name Cathedral

CHICAGO (CNS) — Archbishop Blase J. Cupich, who will succeed Cardinal Francis George, the former archbishop of Chicago, as Chicago’s new archbishop, is setting his sights on what he wants for the archdiocese and the diocese. His priorities include addressing the growing percentage of Catholics who are disengaged from the Church and making sure that the Church is relevant to young people.

ALBANY, N.Y. (CNS) — Entire families navigate their smartphones while sharing meals at restaurants. Students text in class. Parents take phone calls at their children’s sporting events. It’s no surprise that cellphones affect even churchgoers.

R U texting in church? Put the phone down!

DORCITAN FATHER NAJEEB MICHAEL WORKS ON RESTORING MANUSCRIPTS IN IRAQ

Dominican Father Najeeb Michael works on a manuscript at his restoration laboratory in Qaraqosh, Iraq, prior to Aug. 6. Father Michael and his team moved 1,300 manuscripts dating from the 14th to 19th centuries before Islamic State militants invaded Qaraqosh Aug. 6.

Muslim leaders worldwide issue stern rebuke to ISIS

WASHINGTON (CNS) — More than 100 Muslim leaders — clerics and laypeople alike — have signed on to a letter criticizing the Middle East Muslim military group IS for the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. In the 17-page letter, the leaders quote extensively from the Quran, the Hadith and the teachings of the Prophet, as well as from texts that delineate the legal rights and duties of citizens in its territory.

ON RESTORING MANUSCRIPTS IN IRAQ

DOMINICAN FATHER NAJEEB MICHAEL WORKS

DOMINICAN FATHER NAJEEB MICHAEL WORKS ON RESTORING MANUSCRIPTS IN IRAQ

CNS PHOTO/COURTESY OF CENTRE NUMERIQUE DES MANUSCRITS ORIENTAUX
Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, to hold mission

WARSAW — Sacred Heart Church in Warsaw will hold its parish mission from Nov. 9-12 beginning at 6:30 p.m. each evening.

Redemptorist Father Greg Schmitt will lead the mission with themes including: “Baptism and Confirmation” on Sunday, Nov. 9, with a blessing with water; “Marriage and Holy Orders” on Monday, Nov. 10, with Rite of Recommitment; “Reconciliation and Sacrament of the Sick” on Tuesday, Nov. 11, with Service of light; and the “Eucharist” on Wednesday, Nov. 12, with the celebration of the Eucharist.

USF to host Battle of the Bands

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will host USF Battle of the Bands, the area’s first competition exclusively for high school and college-age musicians, on Saturday, Nov. 22, at 1 p.m. in the North Campus auditorium.

Participants will compete on stage for a chance to record their original music in the studios of the university’s renowned Music Technology Program. This new event, sponsored by the School of Creative Arts, is open to all music genres, including rock/metal, acoustic/folk, jazz/pop and hip-hop/rhythm and blues.

Band members must be no older than 21 to enter, a requirement unique to USF Battle of the Bands, School of Creative Arts officials said. Winners will be determined by originality and musical expression, technical skill, professional behavior and stage presence. Judges will be industry professionals with a variety of specialties in touring and industry professionals with a variety of specialties in touring and performing, music business and audio engineering.

For more information, e-mail usfbattleofthebands@gmail.com or call Mark Everetts at 260-399-7700, ext. 8025.

St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, students welcomed Oct. 20 with an orange on their desks that displayed the sign, “Orange You Glad Your Parents Chose Life? We Are!”

Students celebrated the week with a living rosary in respect for all life. Other activities included thank you notes to parents and the wearing of orange accessories as the entire student body celebrated Mass on the feast of St. John Paul II.

Knights of Columbus Council 533 Santa Maria conducted a Tootsie Roll Drive at the South Bend Farmer's Market to raise money on Sept. 20 for the intellectually and physically-challenged of the local community. Assisted by members of the Marian High School cheerleading squad, as well as some family members, the Knights witnessed firsthand the generosity of the Saturday morning patrons as they raised $1,004.22 in just four hours. Council 533 announced the funds would be divided between the Michiana Downs Syndrome Family Advocacy Group, Corvilla and the Christ Child Society.

SUGAR COLLECTION BENEFITS AVE MARIA HOUSE

Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne collected 300 pounds of sugar in an effort to help the Ave Maria House. Families were asked to bring in a five-pound bag of sugar on Oct. 17 to donate to Ave Maria House and approximately 60 families participated. Ave Maria House provides an opportunity for people without a home address to meet, have a cup of coffee, learn about social services and have a homelike atmosphere. “When student council presented the idea, I thought it would be great,” said Julia Giron, a seventh-grade student at Most Precious Blood. “Even though it’s just sugar for a cup of coffee, it means much more than that.” Faith Didier, also a seventh-grade student added, “Being able to help people makes my heart burst with joy. I’m so glad I was able to have this opportunity to meet Bishop Rhoades’ challenge to be a magnanimous person by making someone’s day a little sweeter.”

SJRMC’s Faithful Lives Celebration benefit planned

MISHAWAKA — The Foundation of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center announced that a limited number of tickets are available for the 16th Annual Faithful Lives Celebration on Nov. 13.

This year at Faithful Lives, the Foundation of SJRMC will celebrate the opening of the Our Lady of the Rosary Health Center, a new primary care health center that offers a full array of family medicine and prenatal/obstetrical services.

This year’s Faithful Lives Celebration will begin at 5:45 p.m. with a cocktail reception on Thursday, Nov. 13, at the Hilton Garden Inn on the campus of Saint Mary’s College.

Funds raised at Faithful Lives will support the development and advancement of a population health management initiative at the Our Lady of the Rosary Health Center.

Register by Oct. 31 at www.sjmed.com/ways-to-give or call 574-335-4543.

Correction

A final quote concluding the article titled, “One man counts his blessings even in grief,” was missing in the Oct. 26 issue of Today’s Catholic newspaper. The quote should have read, “As for his strongly held belief in letting go and letting God, not only in grief but in all of life’s challenges, he says, ‘The more you do it the better life gets.’”
Holy Cross College offers students opportunity to live and discern together in religious community

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

NOTRE DAME — Beginning this past August, Holy Cross College officially introduced a new program on its campus for young men contemplating the possibility of a call to religious life. Named in honor of the patron of the Brothers of Holy Cross, the St. Joseph House program offers students an opportunity to enter into the community and faith lives of the brothers in an intentional way.

Since its founding in 1966, the college has been under the leadership and direction of the Holy Cross Brothers, who uphold as their main charism the education and formation of young men and women. Blessed Basil Moreau, CSC, the founder of the congregation, highly emphasized the importance of cultivating both the mind and the heart of each student.

This education of the whole person is seen clearly through the emergence of the St. Joseph House program. Inspired by the example of the brothers living and working on campus at Holy Cross, in recent years students began to ask if it would be possible to join them for their daily prayer. From there, the idea of inviting young men to live within the community in a more official way started to develop.

After researching the formation program offered by St. Edward’s University, Holy Cross Brothers Jesus Alonso, Nich Perez, James Posluszny, Joe Umile and college President Brother John Paige realized that something similar could become a reality at Holy Cross.

Thanks to a generous gift of the Moreau Province of Brothers, the necessary renovations took place this summer to construct and expand
Vocation director shares enthusiastic vision

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Father Andrew Budzinski, parochial vicar at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, was named as the vocation director for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in July. "Today's Catholic" recently posed several questions to Father Budzinski about his new role.

TC: Father Andrew, we described you as "off and running" when we introduced you as the new vocation director last July. Tell us about the retreat you held for those interested in the vocation to the Priesthood?

Father Budzinski: The Vocation Office hosted an overnight retreat for young men, 16 and up, who are curious about the Priesthood. Thirty-seven men attended. They heard conferences from priests of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend about Priesthood, discernment, prayer, celibacy and life as a seminarian and priest. They also had the opportunity to meet the seminarians of our diocese and spend significant time with them asking questions about Priesthood and discernment.

TC: Did you think the retreat was helpful? Will you hold another retreat? If so, when and where?

Father Budzinski: It was extremely helpful. The men responded overwhelmingly the desire to have future retreats and will certainly do so every summer. I anticipate the retreat growing to at least a full weekend. I’m in the process of finding a location.

TC: You attended the national gathering for vocation directors recently. What did you learn from that event?

Father Budzinski: The first three days were an institute for brand new vocation directors. There were about 70 new men. We learned some time-tested, good practices such as how to help a man discern if God is calling him to the Priesthood and how to help form the men in the seminary.

TC: Tell us a bit about the "state" of vocations in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. How many seminarians do we have? Where are they studying?

Father Budzinski: We currently have 35 seminarians. Fifteen are at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. And two are in formation at the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

TC: Pope Francis recently expressed to the Congregation for the Clergy these remarks about those interested in studying for the Priesthood: “Examine closely whether he belongs to the Lord, if that man is healthy, is balanced, if that man is capable of giving life, of evangelizing, if he is capable of forming a family and turning that down in order to follow Jesus.” What do you think of those remarks? What qualities do you look for in a potential seminarian?

Father Budzinski: It’s the pope. How can I possibly disagree? I agree with him completely. A potential seminarian should be a man of prayer, attend Mass every Sunday, Holy Day and more if he can, go to Confession regularly, be involved in his parish and/or charity in some way. He should be a “man of communion,” someone who is capable of healthy friendship with a variety of people. Even though he might be called to Priesthood, a potential seminarian should also be someone who would be a good husband and father. He should want to bring people to Christ, especially through the sacraments. Above all, a potential seminarian should be a man in love with Jesus Christ and His Church.

TC: If a man is interested in the Priesthood, how should he go about checking into the vocation?

Father Budzinski: First, he should pray. The priest is a man of prayer. God reveals His will for our lives through prayer and the sacramental life of the Church, which of course means he should attend Mass and the sacrament of Penance regularly. Time before the Blessed Sacrament in Eucharistic Adoration is invaluable.

Second, he should do some research. Every young man from our diocese who would like to receive free books about the Priesthood may visit gopriest.com and request them. He’ll get a copy of “To Save a Thousand Souls” by Father Brett Brennen and “Is Jesus a Catholic Priest?” by Father Thomas Richter: fantastic resources that answer so many questions.

Third, he should talk to a priest. If you want to be something, you have to see examples of it. Do not be afraid to ask your parish priest for a meeting to talk about the Priesthood.

Fourth, he should get a spiritual director. If a man is in high school or older, it is a good idea to meet regularly with a priest spiritual director who can also be his regular confessor. The spiritual director will help formulate a spiritual plan to grow in the virtues, increase in charity, and observe and advise him in growing in the spiritual life. As vocation director, I can help him identify a good spiritual director.

Fifth, he may want to consider joining The Melchizedek Project, a discernment group for men in high school and older who meet at least once a month with a priest to talk about different aspects of the life of a priest. We have two Melchizedek Projects in South Bend: at St. Matthew Cathedral and St. Pius X and two in Fort Wayne at St. Vincent de Paul and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. You can find information at discempriesthood.com. Sixth, he should attend a retreat and/or visit a seminary. Retreats, such as our annual “Come and See” retreat or other high school retreats are privileged times of prayer and intimacy with Jesus Christ that allow us to hear His voice more clearly. We will also take buses to the Pontifical College Josephinum every semester so that men can see firsthand what seminary life is like.

Seventh, he should be involved in his parish. Get involved in the youth group and in charitable activities. Assist the priest at liturgies as a server, lector or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

Lastly, he should call me, the vocation director — especially if he is a high school junior or senior or older. My job is to help men from our diocese discern a possible vocation to the Priesthood. I would help them in all of the above mentioned ways.

TC: What are some goals you have as the director?

Father Budzinski: 1.) Pray, pray, pray. 2.) Get the men God is calling to the Priesthood into the seminary. 3.) Help our current seminarians prepare for the Priesthood. 4.) Help our diocesan priests understand how they should call men into the Priesthood. They are the “vocation directors” of their respective parishes. 5.) Publish a new website: discempriesthood.com. 6.) Form more Melchizedek Project groups throughout the diocese. 7.) Increase the number of Hispanic vocations to the diocesan Priesthood.

Father Andrew Budzinski, director of the Vocations Office in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, left, poses with newly ordained Deacon Royce Gregerson, following the Roman Rite Holy Mass at Church of the Most Holy Trinity of the Pilgrims in Rome on Oct. 3 where Deacon Gregerson delivered his first homily. The Mass was offered in thanksgiving for the Ordination to the Diaconate for Deacon Gregerson on Oct. 2.
a suitable living community on the second floor of Pulte Residence Hall to serve as the new pre-novitiate formation program.

Now integrated in the life of the brothers’ community, students living in the program attend and participate in morning and evening prayer, daily Mass and evening meals together. They also take part in a weekend retreat with the brothers at the beginning of each semester, attend monthly presentations focused on the Congregation of Holy Cross, help prepare meals for the community twice per month, and engage in daily “obediences” where each member of the house shares in the responsibility of the upkeep of the home. All these things provide for the student a glimpse into the life of a Holy Cross Brother living in common community on a daily basis.

Entrance into this program involves an application process. After submitting an application, students meet with the vocation director to discuss their interest in living in the community. Some students choose to apply on their own, while others are invited by the brothers to consider the program based on having demonstrated a serious desire to discerning the will of God for their lives.

Those who are accepted, because of their participation in the maintenance and upkeep of the home, receive a discounted rate for their room and board. All those currently in the program are invited to renew their commitment to living there on a semester-by-semester basis.

Part of the establishment of the new program included the construction of a new chapel, which Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blessed on Oct. 1. It has been named the Brother André Chapel, after St. André Bessette, who was canonized in 2010 in recognition of his humility, hospitality, care of the poor and tremendous devotion to St. Joseph, through whose intercession he attributed many healings and miracles.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades emphasized the importance of being men of prayer, remaining focused on Christ, growing in holiness and serving the Church through the example and intercession of Brother André.

“Where did Brother André receive the strength for his labors with people? It was in the chapel, in prayer,” Bishop Rhoades said. “He was ever conscious that he was a mere instrument of the Lord. I pray that here, in this chapel, you will continue to be formed, as Brother André was, as Holy Cross Brothers, in the school of the Gospel, the school of the Eucharist.”

Current students living in the community together have spoken highly of their experiences.

Sophomore Andrew Querciagrossa shared, “I was attracted to the opportunity to actively discern my vocation while at the same time living the life of a college student. I saw it as a chance to get to know the brothers both individually and as an order. This has happened especially during our common meals, which we share every day. The most attractive aspect of St. Joseph’s House to me is the fact that we have the Brother André Chapel right down the hall from our rooms and the common prayer we share every morning and evening.”

Jacob Esfrij, a graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School and parishioner of St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, echoed those sentiments: “In coming to the St. Joseph House, I sought to develop my prayer life and learn how to live in community with others, both of which I have been able to do here. The most important thing I’ve experienced in the program is the day-to-day life of the brothers. It has been inspiring to see that they are ordinary people, but who live extraordinary lives, which stem from their vows and commitment to prayer and community life.”

President Brother John Paige also enthusiastically shared his support for the new program: “By offering the opportunity for undergraduate students to live in community and experience religious life, St. Joseph House is helping foster a culture of vocations on the Holy Cross College campus. Do I approve of this move? Certainly! I am one of the religious who lives there in community with them.”

SERRA Clubs of Fort Wayne and South Bend

Men and women working / praying for religious vocations.

YOU CAN JOIN US!

South Bend, President Susan Vales 574-204-2084
Fort Wayne, President Terry Coonan 260-489-4773
Home security

I woke up this morning to welcome the home security guy. He was traveling from headquarters in Ohio to meet me, and I was told by a dispatcher that he could arrive anywhere from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. I figured I’d better be out of my bathrobe and into real clothes by 8 just in case. Good thing I slipped my Pilates pants and stretch shirt on before I made coffee, and well before 8. He arrived early, just as I was loading last night’s dishes into the dishwasher, grabbing random shoes off the floor, and replacing a toilet paper roll in the back bathroom.

Our teeny, three-pound, sweet puppy did not detect the security man sauntering up the walk, nor the doorbell nor walking past her in the kitchen. She was too busy whining for scrambled eggs past her in the kitchen. She was too busy whining for scrambled eggs past her in the kitchen. She was too busy whining for scrambled eggs past her. She was too busy whining for scrambled eggs past her in the kitchen.

responding to the canine whines, I turned to the stove and smiled as I fried the pan, left over from my older ones. My Pilates pants and stretch shirt were taking off, and I was thinking about the beauty of the beauty of the beauty of God. (I had hoped I might quickly call my husband, I told him, I think, the dog suddenly started barking raucously. I excused myself and put her in her crate in the far end of the house. When she didn’t stop barking, I moved her to another room. I hoped I might quickly show the security guy around the house, and then get to the business of educating two younger girls, ages 9 and 12, who are home-schooled. But showing the security technician around took longer than anticipated. One thing led to another and he shot a few questions my way: Why did he bring the wireless box and equipment when our home was wired up? Didn’t the man I had I’d need different equipment if there was something already in place? Did I, all after, want to install the wireless kit he brought or go with the hardwired equipment, which would take a little more work to update, have a less fancy keypad and no two-way speaking system, but was a simpler installation. So, in his opinion? Where should the glass break detectors go? How many did I want? Did I want to add this or that? A “hubbub- sob” or a “whatchamacallit”?

I better call my husband, I told him, who might have an opinion on the matter. Tick. Tock. Tick. Tock.

Only the just may enter heaven

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

Jn 6:37-40

Almsg 1,000 years ago, the feast of commemorating all the departed souls was initiated at the great Benedictine abbey of Cluny in France, situated roughly two-thirds of the way from Paris to Geneva. Then, Cluny was a major center of learning and of missionary outreach. It is no wonder that a feast celebrated at Cluny would be observed throughout Europe.

Eventually, the feast of All Souls became an important date on the Catholic calendar. On this weekend, instead of celebrating the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Church is observing the feast of All Souls. The Church has a lesson to teach.

Whenever the Church replaces the liturgy of a Sunday in the normal sequence of “Ordinary Time” with a feast, it intends to teach an important lesson.

The Church’s message is simple. Only the just may enter heaven, as the Scriptures teach, but everyone has sinned. While forgiven, believers suffer the ill effects of their sins, while not bringing upon eternal death.

Purgatory is the Church’s theological explanation of how sinners overcome these ill effects. The lesson is about us as humans, and about God’s great love for us, even if we have sinned.

The first reading is from the Book of Wisdom. The purpose of this book is expressed in its name. It seems religious faith and devotion as the highest of human reasoning. Belief in God, and obedience to God, are only logical.

The reading is reassuring. It states God will not forsake the righteous. But, God will test the righteous, as fire tests gold. (Fire removes impurities from gold).

For the next reading, the Church presents a passage from the Epistle to the Romans.

This reading consoles us that while we have sinned, God still loves us. Indeed, the Son of God died for sinners that they might have eternal life. St. John’s Gospel supplies the last reading. In this reading, Jesus declares that no one who earnestly seeks God will be scoured. Each person, in God’s love, the plan is that no one should be lost, but we must freely turn to God.

Reflection

Death and penance, and of course the drabness of the vestments and the subdued tone of the liturgy on All Souls, all easily bring before us the image of gloom and unease. In these symbols, and in each of these aspects, the Church warns that sin produces death.

The Church, however, does not leave us in despair but rather with great hope for reconciliation. Nevertheless, God loves us. In this love, God sent the Son of God as Redeemer, dying in sacrifice on Calvary, so that we might have life forever.

God never imposes anything upon us, not even for our own good. Just as the ancient prophets, and Christian mystics, knew quite well, sin injures humans. As sinners, we are wounded.

We must seek God’s pardon, but even if forgiven, we bear the scars of the injuries of sin. Our resolve has been weakened, our vision further blunted.

Purgatory is the opportunity to be purified, for the scars of the wounds of sin to be erased. It is a state of longing and of intense re-dedication to God. The souls in purgatory understand the folly of their sins but also the beauty of God. They yearn to see God — and they will not be disappointed.

On this feast, we pray that God will hurry the process of purification so that the souls in purgatory soon fully will live with God.

We must also think of ourselves, recommitting ourselves to God. Sin has hurt us, but its wounds can be healed, we can be pure, and God will give us life and peace forever.

The reading is reassuring. It states God will not forsake the righteous. But, God will test the righteous, as fire tests gold. (Fire removes impurities from gold).

For the next reading, the Church presents a passage from the Epistle to the Romans.

This reading consoles us that while we have sinned, God still loves us. Indeed, the Son of God died for sinners that they might have eternal life. St. John’s Gospel supplies the last reading. In this reading, Jesus declares that no one who earnestly seeks God will be scoured. Each person, in God’s love, the plan is that no one should be lost, but we must freely turn to God.

READINGS

Sunday: We 3:1-9 Ps 23:1-6
Rom 5:5-11 Jn 6:37-40
Monday: Phil 2:1-4 Ps 131:1-3
Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Phil 2:1-4 Ps 131:1-3
Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday: Phil 2:12-18 Ps 27:1-4, 13-14 Lk 14:25-33
Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a Ps 105:2-7
Lk 15:1-10
Friday: Phil 3:3-8a Ps 105:2-7
Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Phil 4:10-19 Ps 112:1b, 5-6, 8a, 9Lk 16:19-15

What is the common good?

In Church documents and often when Church officials discuss social and political issues, the term “common good” will be cited. While it is one of the fundamental principles of Catholic social teaching, it is often misunderstood. It is distinct from a “greater good” that one may hear from political leaders or pundits in the press. Common good has a specific meaning within Church teaching.

The Church’s social doctrine is based on the foundation that each person is made in the image and likeness of God. As stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “being in the image of God, the human individual possesses the dignity of a person, who is not just something, but someone.” Hence, society and public policies should promote and respect the dignity of the human person. This is the basis for all human rights. As St. John Paul II noted, “These rights apply to every stage of life and to every political social and cultural situation. Together they form a whole, directed unambiguously towards the promotion of every aspect of the good of the both the person and society.”

Catholic social teaching also recognizes that the human person is a social being. We depend on one another for our livelihood as well as our wellbeing; physically, environmentally and spiritually. We grow and realize our vocation and fulfill God’s purpose for our life in relation not only with Him but with one another. In Catholic teaching, rights are not without corresponding duties: they are inseparably linked (Compendium of Catholic Social Teaching). As St. John XXIII noted, “in human society to one man’s right there corresponds a duty in all other persons; the duty, namely, of acknowledging and respecting the right in question.”

Because of the social nature of humankind, the good of each individual is necessarily related to the good of everyone else. The Catechism defines common good as, “the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily.” It concerns all of life, not just particular aspects, such as economic or political questions.

Glenn Tebbe is the executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference.

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Family synod’s dynamics recalled the Second Vatican Council.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Even before the start of the Oct. 5-19 Synod of Bishops on the family, observers were likening it to the Second Vatican Council of 1962-65.

In both cases, an innovative and charismatic pope called an assembly in the first months of his pontificate, seeking to preach the Gospel in terms of contemporary culture and apply Catholic teaching with what St. John XXIII called the “medicine of mercy.”

As it turned out, history also repeated itself in the institutional dynamics of this year’s event, as bishops from around the world asserted their collective authority, leading the assembly’s organizers in Rome to revise some of their best-laid plans.

A classic history, “The Rhine Flows into the Tiber,” recounts the first tumultuous week of Vatican II, when bishops rejected the Vatican’s handpicked candidates for the commissions that would write the council documents.

“It was not a revolutionary act, but an act of conscience, an act of responsibility on the part of the council fathers,” recalled Pope Benedict XVI in 2013. Then-Father Joseph Ratzinger attended Vatican II as a theological adviser to Cardinal Joseph Frings of Cologne, Germany, one of the leaders of the bishops’ resistance.

More than 50 years later, bishops at the synod on the family divided into 10 working groups to discuss the mid-term report and suggest amendments for the synod’s final document.

“The security man began explaining the intricacies of the system he was supposed to summarize the assembly’s first week of discussions, made headlines with its strikingly conciliatory language toward people with ways of life contrary to Catholic teaching, including divorced and remarried Catholics, cohabiting couples and people in same-sex unions.

Immediately after the cardinal spoke, 41 of the 184 synod fathers present took the floor to comment.

A number objected that the text lacked certain necessary references to Catholic moral teaching, particularly regarding homosexuality and contraception. Bishops also remarked on the mid-term report’s scarce references to the concept of sin.

“Three-quarters of those who spoke had some problems with the document,” Cardinal George Pell, prefect of the Secretariat for the Economy, told Catholic News Service. He called the report tendentious, skewed and without sufficient grounding in Scripture and traditional doctrine.

At a news conference Oct. 13, Cardinal Erdö distanced himself from the mid-term report, identifying Italian Archbishop Bruno Forte of Chieti-Vasto, the synod’s special secretary, as responsible for a particular controversial passage on same-sex unions.

Later that afternoon, the synod fathers divided into 10 working groups to discuss the mid-term report and suggest amendments for the synod’s final document.

The mid-term report was “seen by many as not being as balanced as it should have been,” Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington told CNS.

Cardinal Wuerl, one of 11 members of a team that drafted the synod’s final report, said one common objection was to the theological concept of “graduality,” which the mid-term report used, among other ways, to suggest the positive value of “irregular” relationships such as cohabitation.

“You don’t see that in the final document because the small language groups said, ‘Yes, it was said, but it didn’t garner support,’” the cardinal said.

The synod’s leadership, under Cardinal Lorenzo Baldirossi, who served as general secretary, planned not to publish the working groups’ individual reports but provide them only to the drafters of the final report, along with their approximately 450 suggested amendments.

But on Oct. 16, the bishops insisted that the working-groups’ reports be made public.

“We wanted the Catholic people around the world to know actually what was going on in talking about marriage and the family,” Cardinal Pell said.

On the same day, the drafting committee was expanded to increase its geographic diversity, with the addition of Cardinal Wilfrid F. Napier of Durban, South Africa, and Archbishop Denis Hart of Melbourne, Australia. Just as bishops from a cluster of northern European countries had been leaders of change at Vatican II, some of the more outspoken synod fathers this year were from the English-speaking countries and Africa.

The synod’s final report, which the pope ordered published almost immediately after the assembly finished its work Oct. 18, featured many more citations of Scripture, as well as new references to the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the teachings of Blessed Paul VI, St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI.

Synod fathers voted on each of the document’s 62 paragraphs. All received a simple majority, but three — on especially controversial questions of homosexuality and Communion for the divorced and civilly remarried — failed to gain the two-thirds supermajority required for approval of synodal documents.

As always, it is the life, the life God ordained for us to live, in its intricacies, little joys and challenges, as well as the big ones. We can work our salvation in these small moments, more so than even in the larger ones. How do we do it? With steadfastness, patience, endurance, joy and humor, yes lots of humor.

The home security guy left my home security by living each moment with trust in God and move forward in life, his life.

Theresa Thomas is the wife of David and mother of nine children. Watch for her newest book “Big Hearted Families” (Scepter) and read more on her blog: http://theresathomas.wordpress.com

THE VATICAN LETTER

FRANCIS X. ROCCA

November 2, 2014

John 6:37-40

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls). The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

NO LOSS


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SCROLLING WORD

The CrossWord

November 1 and 9, 2014

48 Kind
49 No room here
50 Electroencephalograph
51 Aid and...
52 ... of Galilee

DOWN

1 Rase crops
2 Manor home
3 Highest point
4 Large S. America river
5 Author of “Screwtape Letters”
6 Not nice
7 Storks abode
8 All Souls month
9 Thought
10 Pennsylvania (abbr.)
13 Luke room
18 “Enthusiasm for your house”
19 California (abbr.)
21 Automobile
22 United States
23 Rest in Peace
24 ... and glory
25 Cc
27 Bullfight cheer
28 Monks’ brew
29 “... from me, Satan”
30 Spotted
31 Martarian woman’s place
32 Inmate
33 Annex
34 Days to raise up the Temple
35 Placed up forheaders
36 Next Pope Paul
38 Resource
40 Cut back to encourage growth
44 Abbr. for Filipinos
46 Molder
47 Jacob had 12 of them

Across
1 Farming club (abbr.)
35 Placed upon foreheads
36 Molder
37 Footwear
41 Ears
42 Farming club (abr.)
43 Volcano
44 Imitate
45 Cell stuff
46 Molder
47 Jacob had 12 of them

Based on these Scripture Readings: Rev 7: 2-4, 9-14, 1Jn 3: 1-3; Mt 51-12a and Ez 47: 1-2, 8-9, 12; 1Cor 3: 9-11; 16-17; Jn 2: 13-22

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Answer Key can be found on page 15
Sports

Cardegle cross-country team celebrates successful season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Successful ultra-marathoner and head girls’ track coach at Bishop Dwenger, Erin Brady, was the featured guest speaker at the year-end banquet for the Cardegle cross-country team. After a highly successful season, individual and team awards were presented. Most notable for 2014 was the addition to the top 15-all-time runner lists, which included both the top four girls and top four boys of the season.

The Cardegles also posted the best overall win/loss records in Cardegle history. The girls’ varsity squad celebrated an impressive 95-16 finish with a junior varsity record of 26-8, while the boys’ 113-16 finish with a junior varsity record with a 20-7 for the JV.

The Cardegle cross-country team is shown in the photo above.

2014 Cardegle Cross-Country award winners

Top girls
1. Aileen Delaney
2. Alex Ebetino
3. Caroline Miller
4. Natalie Vogan
5. Julia Eckrich
6. Julia Broerman
7. Hannah Ewing

Top boys
1. Emmett Delaney
2. Matt Kochanski
3. Isaiah Wiseman
4. Keaton Broerman
5. Andy Myers
6. Drew Reiling
7. Jonah Getty

Most Valuable Runner Award
- Emmett Delaney and Aileen Delaney

Most Improved Runner Award
- Andrew Reiling and Caroline Miller

Mental Attitude Award
- Jason Kochanski and Katie Nix

Cardegle Award
- Josh Schipper

Provided by the Cardegle Cross-Country team

TOURNAMENT ICCL SOCCER CHAMPIONS NAMED

St. Adalbert won the Inter-City Catholic League varsity boys’ soccer championship by defeating St. Joseph, South Bend, 4-3, in what was described as a very chippy and hard-fought game on Oct. 26. Moises Lobatos, Francisco Tavarez, Luis Navarrete and Rocky Correa scored the goals. In girls’ varsity action, Christ the King was the tournament champion after defeating Holy Family, 1-0, in a hard-fought battle by both teams. Kamryn Wieschhaus scored the goal for the Kings on the assist from Gretta Cahoon.

St. Anthony Panthers take championship

BY JOE KIZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — For late October in north central Indiana the sprinkling of T-shirts, flip flops and the occasional pair of shorts seemed a bit peculiar. What didn’t look out of place were the two best teams in the Inter-City Catholic League squaring off for the championship at Otolski Field at Marian High School.

The mighty Panthers of St. Anthony already had the regular season championship under their belt and were vying to remain perfect. The Holy Cross Crusaders had other designs as the margin of defeat to the maroon-and-gold clad warriors was just an extra points try early in their campaign.

The game would become an early battle of wits as the Panthers’ defense fought rushes by Grant Stefanek. The Crusaders’ defense was just an extra points try early in their campaign.

The stalemate finally succumbed when Panther quarterback Conor Ratigan’s pass found Crusader defensive back Stefanek on a dead run and the blue and black garnished gladiator dashed 25 yards into the endzone with just 3:11 left in the first half.

Provided by the ICCL Cross-Country team

Fifth-, sixth-grade volleyball teams select three champions

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In the junior varsity Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) volleyball tournament, 22 teams were whittled down to three new champions.

Host Denny Jamison from Queen of Angels reported, “It was an exciting week. There were some very close games with eight different matches going three sets.”

In the fifth-grade tournament, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton downed St. Charles, 25-17, 25-17, to

Provided by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton fifth-grade volleyball team was crowned the CYO fifth-grade champions. The crown is the first championship for the new school.

Provided by Ray Debriel

The ICCL football championship St. Anthony Panthers are shown in the photo above.
points after kick was no good, making the score, 6-0. The Panthers would try to strike quickly as Brady Gumpf took the kickoff and busted through the wall of defenders and made his way to the goal line only to be caught by Crusader Garrett Stefanek at the 25. In only three plays the Panthers again incurred a miscue and fumbled away a golden opportunity on the Crusader doorstep giving the ball back in what would seem like their last possession of the half.

The Crusaders just had to run out the clock and head to the locker room when disaster struck. In an attempt to punt the pigskin with one minute left on the clock, the ball sailed over the kicker’s head and was recovered at the two-yard line by Panther Brennan Horvath.

Ryan Schmitt finished the job diving in for the touchdown. The second half had more folly and both commanding respect for each other. Neither breaking, as the defenses held their ground down the half.

The second half had more folly as the defenses held their ground giving up a few yards here and a few yards there, neither breaking, and both commanding respect from the other.

With 7:49 left in the game and the Crusaders with the ball, a comment was made in the press box, “This may be the drive that claims a championship.”

The drive started with a couple of Stefanek rushes and then Farrisee willed the ball with his outstretched hand past the first down chains. The drive continued with the duo behind the diligent line blocking pushing the ball down the field until on a third down and long, the Crusader quarterback lofted the ball up with great reverence but Panther Brennan Horvath dashed his hopes by intercepting the toss, extinguishing the march.

There was too much field and not enough clock left for the dismayed Crusaders as they had played toe to toe with the champion Panthers but came up short by the same extra points kick that had cursed them earlier in the season.

“Wow, what an absolute battle. Coach Krzyzewski had his team ready as I knew he would,” lamented Panther Coach James DeBoe. “I can’t tell you how proud I am of these young men and what they accomplished this year.”

“We have depended on our kicking team and Paxson’s leg all season to put pressure on our opponents and give us that edge. His try was never so important than it was today,” explained DeBoe. “Our offense had been effective this year, but our defense along with some nice open field tackles by Mitchell Floran really met the challenge.”

“This was a true prize fight with punches and counter punches,” remarked Crusader skipper Krzyzewski. “Both teams played their hearts out and gave us one heck of a game.”

“I have been around a while and what a unique way (snap over the head of the punter) to lose a championship,” commented Krzyzewski. “Our hats are off to them, I couldn’t be more proud on my team because of the way we battled than I am now.”

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend CYO/ICCL championships will be held Sunday, Nov. 2, at Saint Joseph High school. The first game starting at 1 p.m. will feature the St. John the Baptist/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Eagles matching up against the Holy Cross Crusaders. The second is set to kick off at 3 p.m. with the undefeated Cardinals of St. Charles taking on the unblemished Panthers of St. Anthony.
Craft and arts bazaar planned
Bluffton — The St. Joseph Parish Council of Catholic Women will have a craft and arts bazaar Saturday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church. Call Tammara Horn at 260-413-3801 for information.

Craft fair announced
Fort Wayne — The St. Charles Parish craft fair will be Saturday, Nov. 1, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. More than 100 vendors will sell hand crafted fall and Christmas items, furniture, blankets, jewelry, wood crafts, art work, games, baked goods and more. Lunch is available as well as other treats.

Casino night to be held
New Haven — St. John the Baptist Parish will have a casino night Saturday, Nov. 8, beginning with dinner from 5-7 p.m. and euchre tournament Saturday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 65 vendors, food, piggy raffle, cash raffle, bake sale and more available.

Card party and euchre tournament
Yoder — St. Aloysius Knights of Columbus will have a card party and euchre tournament Saturday, Nov. 8, in the school basement. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. $5 fee. Call 260-639-6488 for information.

Rosary for Poor Souls planned
Mishawaka — The annual rosary for the poor souls will be offered on Sunday, Nov. 2 at 2 p.m. in St. Joseph’s Cemetery, rain or shine.

Alumni Memorial Mass
South Bend — Saint Joseph High School will have an alumni memorial Mass for deceased alumni Monday, Nov. 3, at 7 p.m. in the chapel of the school, 453 N. Notre Dame Ave.

Memorial Mass planned
Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Parish will have a Memorial Mass Sunday, Nov. 2, at 2 p.m.

Knights of Columbus to host fish fry
Plymouth — The Knights of Columbus Council 1975 will have a fish dinner on Friday, Nov. 7, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 901 E. Jefferson from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are $8.50 for adults, $4 for children 4-10 and children under 4 are free. The fish will be prepared by Tyner Oddfellows. Drive-through and carry-out options will be available. Proceeds from the event will benefit local charitable organizations.

Memorial tribute at Ancilla Chapel
Donaldson — The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ will remember liturgist Mary Lou McCarthy-Arzt with a memorial concert on Saturday, Nov. 8, at 7 p.m. in the Ancilla Domini Chapel. This free concert will be followed by a reception in Cana Hall.

Our Dame Folk Choir plans concert to benefit Holy Cross Missions
Notre Dame — The University of Notre Dame Folk Choir will hold a concert on Friday, Nov. 14, from 8-9:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and feature sacred African music. There is no admission for the concert, but a free-will offering will be taken for Lakeville Secondary School in Jinka, Uganda.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Nov. 7, from 5-7 p.m. Adults $8.50; children 5-12 $3.50; shrimp for $9 and chicken strips for $8.50 will be available.

Christmas bazaar planned
Avilla — St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, North Main St., will have a Christmas bazaar Sunday, Nov. 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school. Call 260-693-3454 for information.
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Information meeting
Fort Wayne area faithful:
Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014
6:30 p.m.
St. Vincent de Paul Parish
1502 E. Wallen Rd., Fort Wayne

Information meeting
South Bend area faithful:
Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2014
6:30 p.m.
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52553 Fir Rd., Granger

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The students of St. Joseph School, Fort Wayne, will partner with the Christ Child Society in Fort Wayne to collect items for the backpack program through the month of November. Christ Child Society backpack coordinator Julie Curran explained to the students Oct. 24 what would go in the backpacks that will be distributed to children who are homeless or going into the foster care system. On Thursday, the Christ Child Society distributed winter items to students at the school who had registered with the society. Principal Cristy Jordan said the backpack program provides a way for the school to give back to the Christ Child Society and the community. In the photo, Curran lines students up for a game that helps them identify appropriate items for the backpack.