Confirmation rally draws young from across diocese

BY BONNIE ELBÉRSON

FORT WAYNE — “Made for Greatness #Sainthood” was the theme for a Confirmation rally that drew middle school students from across the diocese to Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne on Saturday, Nov. 1.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass to begin the day’s events.

In opening, he noted that it was the feast of All Saints, “a great day in the life of the Church ... and a great day for a Confirmation rally.” Not only do we honor all the saints, all of us are called to be saints as well, he said.

He reminded his listeners that he’ll confirm most of them when they complete their preparation for the sacrament and added, “It’s one of my most joyful duties as a bishop.”

He especially liked the shirts the students wore which proclaimed, “Do not be afraid to be saints,” in the words of St. John Paul II, one of the newest saints. Bishop Rhoades elaborated on the Gospel message written by St. John the Apostle, his favorite saint. In doing so, the bishop recalled a vacation to Italy when he visited the cave on the island of Patmos where John saw visions of heaven and wrote the Gospel. Bishop Rhoades noted that gathering for Mass as they had done on the feast day was a foretaste of John’s heavenly vision.

Bishop Rhoades advised the students, when selecting a Confirmation saint’s name, to think about the saints and to choose one to be a special friend throughout their lives, just as John was a special friend to Jesus to the end of His life. Like John, “live as faithful followers of Jesus Christ,” he challenged them.

Bishop Rhoades further explained the upcoming sacrament to the confirmands by saying, “Confirmation completes what you received at Baptism.” He noted that they will be permanently “sealed” with the gift of the Holy Spirit as they are confirmed. “God calls us to be saints ... to fight temptation ... to overcome the enemy,” he said. Confirmation offers the strength to live the faith and bear witness to Christ in word and deed. “We are all called by God to be saints,” he said in closing.

Featured speaker for the rally was Ansel Augustine, a native of New Orleans and a “hot boy” in that culture. He told Today’s Catholic that the term “hot boy” refers to a person who handles his business and represents himself, his clique or his city well. No matter how difficult the situation, he comes out on top. “A hot boy is a person full of courage and is known to have a big heart,” he said. A hot boy has expectations but can play the game however it goes and will not tolerate disrespect.

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE, NOTRE DAME — “Speak Lord, your servant is listening.” The message from 1 Samuel stirred the hearts of young people gathered in Fort Wayne’s Allen County War Memorial Coliseum and the University of Notre Dame’s Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center as schools from across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend assembled for the annual all-schools Masses.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the Masses where his theme of vocation awareness to the Priesthood and consecrated life resonated with the students.

“Jesus teaches us how important it is that we pray to the Lord of the Harvest, that we pray to God, that He may give laborers, workers for His harvest, for His vineyard,” Bishop Rhoades said in his homily.

Jesus, in His ministry, saw that the people needed a shepherd and leaders who would show them God’s love. The Apostles began the mission of proclaiming the Gospel, healing the sick and helping those who were in trouble or had special needs.

“This has been a need of the people in all generations,” the Bishop said.

Confirmation rally draws young from across diocese

A group of fourth-grade students from St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne dressed as their favorite saints pose together before attending the all-schools Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Oct. 29.

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE, NOTRE DAME — “Speak Lord, your servant is listening.” The message from 1 Samuel stirred the hearts of young people gathered in Fort Wayne’s Allen County War Memorial Coliseum and the University of Notre Dame’s Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center as schools from across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend assembled for the annual all-schools Masses.

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Devotion to the memory of the dead

Following is the text of the homily that Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades delivered during Mass on All Souls’ Day, November 2nd, 2014, at the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne:

Today. All Souls’ Day, we bring to the Lord all our loved ones who have died, who have gone before us in faith. We pray and intercede for them and for all the souls in purgatory.

Pope Saint John XXIII once said that the devotion to the memory of the dead is one of the beautiful expressions of the Catholic spirit. We need a renewal and revival of this spirit. We live in a culture where many try to avoid as much as possible the thought and reality of death. This is seen even at funerals where the emphasis is more on celebrating the departed person’s past life on earth than on praying for them and their future glory.

It’s true that at funerals we should be giving thanks to God for the person’s earthly life, but also focus our attention on the important funeral rites of the Church that are primarily liturgies in which we pray for the recently departed person. I say to my family and close friends: “when I die, please don’t focus on my meager accomplishments; focus on the Lord and pray for me, for my eternal rest and peace. Help me with your prayers and sacrifices, especially with Masses, that we may attain eternal joy.”

In entrusting the souls of the faithful departed to the Lord, we recognize our solidarity with them as brothers and sisters in the communion of saints, the Church. Yesterday, All Saints Day, we celebrated the feast of our brothers and sisters who are already in heaven. We also live in solidarity with them — they help us and we ask them to do so when we invoke their intercession. Today, All Souls Day, we remember the souls in purgatory. The doctrine of the communion of saints expresses the great truth that the union among the members of the Body of Christ goes beyond earthly life, beyond death. In fact, it endures forever. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, said the following concerning the communion of saints:

This union among us goes beyond and continues in the life after death. It is a spiritual communion born in Baptism and not broken by death, but, thanks to the Risen Christ, is destined to find its fullness in eternal life. There is a deep and indissoluble bond between those who are still pilgrims in this world (us) and those who have crossed the threshold of death and entered eternity. All baptized persons here on earth, the souls in Purgatory, and all the blessed who are already in Paradise make one great Family. This communion between earth and heaven is realized especially in intercessory prayer.

Did you ever notice that we pray for the dead at every Mass? Each of the Eucharistic prayers includes intercession for the faithful departed. This is important also in our prayer outside of Mass, to remember the souls in purgatory. And also to have Masses offered for our loved ones who have died. This is a beautiful gift we can give to them.

None of this makes any sense without the hope we have in eternal life, a hope founded in the resurrections of saints and with our loved ones in the perfect joy of heaven. Because of Jesus, we believe that death does not have the last word. It’s not our final destiny, rather, it is a passage to eternal life. As we pray in the Preface of Masses for the Dead: “indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.”

Praying for the dead is a spiritual work of mercy. It is an important obligation, because even if they have died in God’s grace and in God’s friendship, most probably still need final purification in order to enter the joy of heaven. Every trace of attachment to evil must be eliminated and every imperfection of the soul corrected before we see God face to face. This is the complete purification that is meant by the Church’s teaching on purgatory. Praying for the souls in purgatory is a gift of love that we share with them. Sometimes when we pray for them, we can feel their closeness to us.

Today is also a good day for us to reflect on our own preparedness for death or lack thereof. Are we pilgrims here on earth and we must never lose sight of the final destination of our pilgrimage, our heavenly homeland. What is most important in life is that we live and that we die in God’s grace and friendship. We all desire eternal happiness. We live in hope that one day we will be with the Lord and with our loved ones in the perfect joy of heaven. This should be the horizon toward which we direct our lives and our choices.

On All Souls Day, Nov. 2, more than 100 faithful attended a Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in the Resurrection Mausoleum at the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne. Bishop Rhoades makes final remarks to those gathered before the dismissal hymn.

PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
IN TRUTH AND CHARITY
BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES
Cardinal Müller addresses issues of poverty at Notre Dame ethics conference

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — The prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) and a Nobel Prize winner were among the distinguished speakers at a conference on poverty sponsored by the University of Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture. The conference opened with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend on Oct. 30 and continued through Nov. 1.

In a keynote discussion, Cardinal Gerhard Müller, prefect of the CDF, was asked to speak about his 2014 book, “Poor for the Poor: The Mission of the Church” (Vatican Publishing House). Pope Francis wrote the preface to the book.

The cardinal said that in his pontificate, Pope Francis has worked to keep in the public discourse the issue of poverty understood in its widest possible sense.

“Going well beyond a merely economic conception of poverty, Pope Francis has tried to indicate to the world the true poverty of the human condition in our times: the poverty of body and soul, pointing out all the forces at work in the world further impoverishing mankind,” Cardinal Müller said.

“The mission of the Church is to free mankind from the poverty of our fallen condition and constantly remind us that we are created in the image and likeness of God; we are the object of His divine love; we are all called to transform in the light of man’s true vocation, his true dignity.”

Cardinal Müller also discussed the responsibility of wealthier countries to help those that are struggling, not through commer- cialization, but rather through genuine assistance that would honor the autonomy of the people as well as the historical and cultural structures of a country.

The other keynote address was presented by James Heckman of the University of Chicago, a Nobel Laureate in Economics. He spoke on “Predistribution: A strategy for promoting flourishing lives.”

Like Cardinal Müller, Heckman also stressed virtue as a remedy for poverty. He cited various statistics that show the inequality between people raised in poor households and those from wealthier homes. However, he said that financial assets alone do not explain this disparity, as other factors enter into the picture, such as culture and transmission of values.

Heckman said that a very traditional, Biblical method to alleviate poverty is through giving alms to the poor. He proposed another “dynamic strategy” to approach poverty and generational inequality through what he called “predistribution,” which he defined as “a strategy of giving skills to people to avoid them being poor in the first place, to improve human dignity and to present what I think is a complementary strategy to redistribution.”

This predistribution strategy, which would be economically efficient and is rooted in economic analysis, would build character, promote family values and create skills, Heckman contended. Skills he mentioned were motivation, self-regulation, and what he called the classical Christian virtues, all of which help people take greater control of their lives and have better outcomes such as better health and financial stability, less incarceration, stronger families, etc.

Pope Francis extends greetings to participants of the Poverty Conference

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades shared the following letter at the Mass celebrated Oct. 30 to open the Poverty Conference hosted by the University of Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture.

28 October 2014
Dear Bishop Rhoades,

The Holy Father sends cordial greetings to you and to all those participating in the Fifteenth Annual Conference hosted by the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture. He trusts that his “dynamic strategy” to approach poverty and generational inequality through what he called “predistribution,” which he defined as “a strategy of giving skills to people to avoid them being poor in the first place, to improve human dignity and to present what I think is a complementary strategy to redistribution.”

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POVERTY, PAGE 6
FORT WAYNE — Very often men can feel alone in their struggle for reaching sexual purity. But there is hope. Men can find renewed strength in the face of temptations thanks to a new weapon on the journey to a pure heart.

Rekindle The Fire men’s ministry recently launched its third text-message ministry, called “Pure Hearts.” Designed to support men in living out their desire for sexual purity, inspirational and challenging texts are sent to men’s phones three times a week.

Pure Hearts is an effective purity-building tool that when teamed with prayer, frequent Confession and reception of the Eucharist, change of habits and practical steps can conform hearts and minds to Jesus. By receiving weekly Scriptural passages, saints’ quotes, and parables, men are better equipped to defend against the sins of pornography and other temptations to impurity.

A growing struggle

Impurity, caused largely by pornography, is a pervasive problem among Catholic men. It guts the moral strength and resolve of their prolife office, received in baptism, to stand up to evil.

The Christian men’s organization, Promise Keepers, asked men at their 2008 conferences whether or not they had viewed pornography in the last week and 53 percent of the nearly 10,000 who responded (anonymously voted yes with their cell phones).”

There is no reason to think it is not as big a problem for Catholic men. It is also affecting Catholic high school boys and college men. In fact, in 2008, a Catholic high school in the Midwest surveyed the pornography use of 175 senior boys.

The results indicated that 48 percent were viewing pornography one or more times each week. Of the 48 percent, 36 percent had feelings of addiction to pornography, and 68 percent said that their parents were unaware of their pornography use. … The entire freshman class was surveyed, and 29 percent of the freshmen boys were viewing pornography one or more times each week; 12 percent had feelings of addiction, and 74 percent said that their parents were unaware of their pornography use.

Rekindle the Fire wants to help men, teens and boys rid pornography from their lives, to live out their true calling nature: to embrace roles as sons, brothers, husbands and fathers.

A higher calling

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades understands the rising importance of bringing the message of purity to the forefront. He summarized the effects and solutions for overcoming the struggle with pornography: “I am grateful for the Rekindle The Fire efforts to combat the use of pornography. Its effects are harmful in so many ways: degrading to women, destruction of marriages and offensive to the Lord. It also deflates a man’s calling and cripples his ability to love. I encourage men who struggle with pornography to seek help and healing, to receive the Lord’s forgiveness and grace in Confession and to reclaim their true dignity as men through the redemptive love of Christ.”

This is why Pure Hearts is so needed — to encourage and strengthen men to turn from the temptations of impurity and to seek the face of God each and every day of their lives. Pure Hearts is a free, confidential text-message service. Sign up now by sending the text message “trpure” to 75309, or visit rekindlethefire.com.

Dave McClow is a member of Rekindle the Fire men’s ministry at St. Vincent de Paul Church, Fort Wayne.

Confirmation Masses announced for spring 2015

All Confirmations are celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades unless otherwise listed.

St. Joseph Church, Garet — March 25: 6:30 p.m.
St. Dominic Church, Bremen — March 28: 10:30 a.m.
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne — April 6: 7 p.m.
Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne
Queen of Angels Parish, Fort Wayne
St. Henry Parish, Fort Wayne
St. Mary Parish, Fort Wayne
St. Peter Parish, Fort Wayne
St. Theresa Parish, Fort Wayne
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Fort Wayne
St. Patrick Church, Arcola — April 7: 7 p.m.
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Fort Wayne — April 8: 7 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Fort Wayne — April 14: 7 p.m.
St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart — April 15: 7 p.m.
St. Michael the Archangel Church, Plymouth — April 17: 7 p.m., Bishop William L. Higi
St. Patrick Church, South Bend — April 18: 10 a.m.
St. Augustine Parish, South Bend
St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, South Bend
St. Patrick Parish, South Bend
St. Hedwig Parish, South Bend
St. John the Baptist Parish, South Bend
St. Patrick Parish, Walkerton
St. Pius X Church, Granger (two Confirmation Masses) — April 18: 5:30 p.m. and April 19: 12:15 p.m.
Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame — April 19: 11:45 a.m., Bishop William L. Higi
University of Notre Dame
Saint Mary’s College
Holy Cross College
Holy Family Church, South Bend — April 20: 7 p.m., Bishop William L. Higi
Holy Family Parish, South Bend
St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, New Carlisle
St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur — April 21: 7 p.m., St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur
St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton
St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Elkhart — April 21: 7 p.m., Bishop William L. Higi
Immaculate Conception Church, Kendallville — April 23: 7 p.m.
St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Avilla
Immaculate Conception Parish, Kendallville
St. Gaspar de Balufo Parish, Rome City
Blessed Sacrament Parish, Albion
St. Mary of the Lake Church, Culver — April 25: 9 a.m.
St. Mary of the Lake Parish, Culver
Culver Academy students
St. Adalbert Church, South Bend — April 25: 5 p.m.
St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend
St. Casimir Parish, South Bend
Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Warsaw — April 26: 10:30 a.m.
St. Paul of the Cross Church, Columbus City — April 28: 7 p.m.
St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Columbus City
St. John Bosco Parish, Churubusco
Immaculate Conception Parish, Ege
St. Jude Church, Fort Wayne — May 3: 3 p.m.
St. Joseph Church, Hessen Cassel — May 4: 7 p.m.
St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder
St. Joseph Parish, Hessen Cassel
St. John-the-Baptist Church, New Haven — May 6: 7 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Parish, New Haven
St. Louis Parish, Besancon
St. Rose of Lima Parish, Monroeville
St. Patrick Church, Ligonier — May 10: 5 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Church, Fort Wayne — May 11: 7 p.m., Bishop William L. Higi
St. Joseph Church, Fort Wayne — May 13: 7 p.m., Bishop William L. Higi
St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend — May 16: 10 a.m.
Queen of Peace Parish, Mishawaka
St. Bavo Parish, Mishawaka
St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka
St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka
St. Mary Church, Huntington — May 21: 7 p.m.
St. Peter and Paul Parish, Huntington
St. Mary Parish, Huntington
St. Joseph Parish, Roanoke
St. Catherine Parish, Nix Settlement
St. Anthony of Padua Church, Angola — May 22: 7 p.m.
St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Angola
St. Joseph Parish, La Salle
Immaculate Conception, Auburn
Sacred Heart Church, Warsaw — May 22: 7 p.m., Bishop William L. Higi
Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw
St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse
St. Francis Xavier Parish, Pierceton
St. Robert Bellarmine Church, North Manchester — May 23: 10 a.m.
Bishop William L. Higi
St. Bernard Parish, Wabash
St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, North Manchester
Adult Confirmations
St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend — May 24: 11 a.m.
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne — May 30: 5 p.m.

Call me for the Open Enrollment Period and for guidance.

Ray A. Plagens, Jr.
Licensed Insurance Agent
Phone: 866-494-7299
Cell: 574-210-7474
Ray.Plagens@healthmarkets.com
www.healthmarkets.com/Ray.Plagens
HMIA000618
Speaker urges pro-life supporters to advocate for life in culture

BY ALLISON CIRAULO

SOUTH BEND — Scott Klusendorf, founder and president of Life Training Institute, was the keynote speaker for the “Life is Precious” dinner hosted by the St. Joseph County Right to Life (SJCRTL) on Oct. 30. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades offered the invocation and opening remarks for the event held at the Century Center in South Bend, which attracted 725 attendees.

In his remarks, Bishop Rhoades praised the work of SJCRTL for its efforts to protect the unborn through prayer, education, political activity, social action and service. “Respect for life is the foundation of a truly just society,” Bishop Rhoades said. In light of the upcoming election, he also urged the audience to “vote for candidates who will further the common good, remembering that it is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life.”

Scott Klusendorf began his talk with the assertion that all supporters of the pro-life cause must also be apologists for the cause. This is due to the fact, Klusendorf said, that the pro-life movement faces an “increasingly hostile culture” that eschews absolute moral truth.

He said that in order to effectively engage the culture on the issue of abortion, pro-lifers need clarity on three questions: What is the unborn? What makes us exempt from a definitive moral reaction, it is not for that reason that while the issue of abortion is going to continue to tolerate an injustice it never has to see,” he said. “But when we open that casket, we offer the hope of reconciliation to God through Jesus Christ.”

In regard to the second question that needs clarity, Klusendorf spoke of the value of every human being as created in the image of God, regardless of size, level of development, environment or degree of dependency. To close, Klusendorf addressed the third question. “What is our duty? To love our unborn neighbor and his mother. And love is costly.”

Tom Gill, president of the St. Joseph County Right to Life, board, called attention to the cards placed at the seat of each attendee with a date representing a real abortion that took place at the abortion facility in South Bend. He encouraged attendees to name the baby memorialized by the card and to pray for that baby throughout the coming year.

Gill spoke of the importance of the St. Joseph County Right to Life’s billboard campaign, sidewalk counselors and prayer witness, all of which helped redirect 245 women from the abortion clinic to the Women’s Care Center in 2013.

“Every year all of us as a pro-life community are saving more babies,” he said. Program director Jeanette Burdell thanked the volunteers who have been invaluable to the work of St. Joseph County Right to Life. She also acknowledged the work of new operations manager, John Fyrqvist, whose IT background, she said, has helped take the organization’s work to the next level.

Together with Gill, Burdell presented Holy Cross Brother William A. Mewes with the Annette M. Macknick Courage Award for his work as a pro-life educator, prayer witness, sidewalk outreach coordinator and demonstration participant.

Michael and Colleen Kendzicki were the recipients of the Pillar of Life Award for their generosity and leadership, which has had “a notable impact on our mission to save lives.” The Brother John Lavelle, CSC, scholarship was awarded to Michelle Roy, a junior at Holy Cross College, for promoting and serving the pro-life cause as both a high school and college student.
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Skills often get overlooked in discussions of inequality, he continued, but skills are “major determinants of inequality.” Skills create agency, the capacity for people to act on their own to build their lives and work with others. Skills also promote the dignity of human beings, which he said is consistent with what Pope Francis has been saying.

We have been “fixated” on pure cognitive skills, Heckman continued, but recent research has shown that character skills play an important role in life success; and character skills can be fostered by families, taught in schools and acquired through social interactions.

Since the early years of a child’s life are so important, Heckman said more consideration should be given to nurturing family environments and mentoring children and parents. Not only would this benefit human flourishing and dignity, it also would be more effective and less expensive than simply giving alms to the poor.

One of the conference sessions dealt with the success of Catholic schools in bringing children out of poverty. Archbishop Fernando Chomali Garib of the Archdiocese of Concepción, Chile, told the conference about the dramatic rise in per capita income in his country that is related directly to Catholic education.

Nicoletta Gammei, a professor in the Notre Dame School of Law and co-author with her colleague Margaret Brinig of “Lost Classroom, Lost Community: Catholic Schools’ Importance in Urban America” (University of Chicago Press, 2014), explained why Catholic schools matter. They model the joy of vocation and form children in the Catholic culture; they provide an excellent education to disadvantaged children; and they provide stability to neighborhoods.

Shavar Jeffries, a Newark, New Jersey, attorney and founder of a system of charter schools in New York, explained how school choice and deregulated education have improved the life outcomes of poor children, and he argued for more school choice programs.

This year’s event was the 15th annual conference of the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture, which is dedicated to sharing the richness of the Catholic moral and intellectual tradition through teaching, research and dialogue across a range of disciplines.

Recently, in a Chronicle of Higher Education article, a Jesuit priest, Dr. Michael J. Pinto, predicted that by 2050 almost 50% of college graduates will live in poverty. This is a dire statistic, given that the U.S. is the richest country in the world.

However, Heckman noted, if poor children are not educated, they will not achieve their potential and thus will not have the opportunity to get out of poverty.

In essence, the conference participants were discussing the ways to transform poverty into wealth.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades was the celebrant of the Mass Oct. 30 that opened a conference on poverty sponsored by the University of Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture. Bishop Rhoades read a letter at the Mass from Pope Francis offering a greeting to those participating in the conference. At the conference, Cardinal Gerhard Müller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, spoke in his keynote about his 2014 book, “Poor for the Poor: The Mission of the Church” (Vatican Publishing House). Pope Francis wrote the preface to the book.

Liturgical items top agenda at USCCB meeting in Baltimore

BY MARK PATITSON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Liturgical matters will take center stage on the agenda of action items at the fall general meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, to be held Nov. 10-13 in Baltimore.

There will be five liturgical items up for consideration. All are subject to amendments from bishops. All but one require approval of two-thirds of the bishops, followed by final approval from the U.S. hierarchy in 1989 with a three-year period.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, who is president of the USCCB, will deliver his first presidential address. He was elected to a three-year term last November.

As is customary, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States, also will address the assembly.

During the meeting, the bishops will choose a new secretary-elect for the USCCB, and vote for the chairmen-elect of five committees.

A number of presentations will be made, including one on underserved communities and Catholic schools, and another on a recent pilgrimage of prayer for peace in the Holy Land.

The bishops also will conduct the canonical consultation on the sainthood cause of Father Paul Wattson. Father Wattson was an Episcopal priest who co-founded the Society of the Atonement, also known as the Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Atonement, to further Christian unity. He was received into the Catholic Church as were all men and women in the society at the time, and devised the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, still observed each January.

On the first day of the meeting, the bishops will celebrate Mass at the Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore in honor of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Baltimore was the first diocese founded in the United States. The bishops had similarly marked the bicentennial of the U.S. hierarchy in 1989 with a Mass at the basilica.

The liturgical items up for consideration:

• A revised translation of the ritual book “Dedication of a Church and Altar,” used whenever a new church is built or an old new altar is made. The revised English translation incorporates the modifications from the Code of Canons of the Eastern Church, as well as bringing the translation into conformity with the Roman Missal, Third Edition.

• A first-ever official English translation of the ritual book “Exorcisms and Related Supplications,” revised after the Second Vatican Council, and promulgated in Latin in 1999 with an amended version in 2004. The main part of this book is the rite of major exorcism, and includes an introduction outlining criteria for its use, which is always the decision of the bishop alone. While this text affirms the reality of evil in the world, it even more so affirms the sovereignty of Jesus to overcome any and all evil.

• A supplement to the Liturgy of the Hours of an English translation of the prayers used for the feast days of saints who have been added to the general calendar since 1984.

• Modifications to the Revised Grail Psalms, originally approved in 2010 by the Vatican. The USCCB Committee on Divine Worship recommended improving the translation and its “sprung rhythm” to make proclamation and singing easier.

The fifth liturgy-related item would authorize rewriting for later approval guidelines from its 1995 document “Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities” in light of medical developments and increased awareness of challenges faced by Catholics today, such as gluten intolerance, also known as celiac disease. Other action items to be addressed by the bishops include the 2015 USCCB budget, the 2016 diocesan assessment, and a proposal to proceed on a revision to the “Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services.”

In USCCB elections, Archbishops Gregory M. Aymond of New Orleans and Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese for the Military Services have been nominated as secretary-elect. The five committee seekers choosing chairmen-elect, and their bishop-nominees, are:

• Committee on Communications: Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, New York, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas.

• Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church: Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller of San Antonio, and Bishop Joseph J. Tyson of Yakima, Washington.

• Committee on Doctrine: Bishop Robert J. McManus of Worcester, Massachusetts, and Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron of Detroit.

• Committee on National Collections: Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi of Mobile, Alabama, and Bishop Jaime Soto of Sacramento, California.

• Committee on Pro-Life Activities: Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York and Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles.

The secretary-elect and the chairman-elect will serve one year in that capacity and then begin a three-year term.

The bishops also will vote on members for the board of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network and Catholic Relief Services.

A status report on the 2013-16 USCCB strategic plan, “The New Evangelization: Faith, Witness, Worship,” was presented by Archbishop J. Peter Sartain of Seattle, USCCB secretary. Separate reports were presented by Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco, chairman of the Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage; Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty; and the USCCB working group on the life and dignity of the human person.
Christ Child Festival planned

FORT WAYNE — The “Christmas in the Park” Christ Child Festival will be held at Franke Park, 3411 Sherman Blvd., in Fort Wayne from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 29, and Sunday, Nov. 30. The event location provides the opportunity to ride through Franke Park in one of the two horse-drawn wagons or the one horse-drawn carriage. Festival-goers will enjoy a living Nativity, tents with crafts and games for children, displays and more. For more information contact Judi Hapke at 260-447-9437.

Madrigal Dinners, a Christmas tradition, festive for whole family

NOTRE DAME — The Saint Mary’s College Department of Music will present its 42nd Madrigal Dinners, a Renaissance-style holiday banquet and performance celebration. The merry fest is sure to thrill children of all ages with entertainment provided by colorfully attired singers, actors, dancers, instrumentalists, jugglers, a jester and a lord of the manor. Performances will be held in the North Lounge of Ritter Hall Dec. 5-7. Ticket information, including family friendly, adult and children menus and pricing, is available at moreaucenter.com or by calling the box office at 574-284-4626.

This is the 31st year that Nancy Menk, professor of music, director of choral activities, and the Mary Lou and Judd Leighton Chair in Music, has conducted the Madrigals.

Accompanying the entertainment is a holiday feast prepared by Dining Services (Sodexo). The meal includes prime rib (Cornish hen for the maltese), roasted potatoes, glazed carrots, Waldorf salad, wassail and cheesecake with flaming cherries. Children and vegetarian menus are also available.

OLVM Sisters discuss Victory Noll future plan with local leaders

HUNTINGTON — Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters welcomed guests representing local government, community agencies and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend on Thursday, Oct. 23, to join in a discussion process relating to preserving the legacy and work of the sisters and to the future use of the Victory Noll land and buildings.

As part of their regular community assembly in which sisters discussed both in Huntington and other mission centers gather at Victory Noll for meetings, the local leaders were asked to be involved in a “visioning” effort by the sisters to partner in responding to the needs of the people of Huntington and beyond.

Changing demographics within the OLVM community are prompting the sisters to look at ways to preserve their values and extend their mission as the number of members continues to get smaller. A member-ship that once included more than 300 sisters has now dropped to fewer than 70, many of whom are in their 80s and 90s and not involved in active ministries.

Victory Noll will examine partnering options with area entities as they move forward, and ways to strengthen those partnerships to achieve their goals.

“Our hope is that any future plans will respond not only to the needs of the sisters as a congregation, but also to the needs of others as well, especially those persons who are at times neglected or overlooked,” said Sister Beatrice Haines, Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters president. “This was an energizing, creative and hope-filled experience. It was only a beginning and we hope to include others in the future.”

John Niedermayer, president of Pathfinder Services in Huntington, said he was glad to be part of the discussion.

“I enjoyed learning more about the incredible gifts of the sisters and the energy they give to Huntington,” he said. “I want to stay in touch and be asked to contribute in the future.”

Dr. Ted Dunn of St. Louis served as facilitator and consultant for the assembly, and for the meeting with local leaders, which included a tour of Victory Noll.

The Victory Noll campus covers 150 acres on the west side of Huntington. There are five buildings that serve as residential areas, a health care facility, administrative offices and a retreat center. More than 100 acres is maintained as a natural habitat with forested and grassland areas.

Founded in 1922 by Father John Joseph Sigstein, Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters residence is located at Victory Noll in Huntington and the sisters serve across the United States.

ST. JOSEPH-HESSEN CASSEL HOLDS STUDENTS’ RETREAT

St. Joseph-Hessen Casssel, Fort Wayne, eighth-grade students invited neighboring students from St. Aloysius School, Yoder, as they hosted an all-day retreat Oct. 27 at St. Joseph with the Franciscan Brothers Minor. The day started with an energetic Mass celebrated by Franciscan Father David Mary Enigo, followed by fellowship, music, inspirational talks and Scripture readings. The retreat was concluded with a procession around campus with the Our Lady of Fatima statue carried by students, as the friars and students recited the rosary, ending in the church with prayer.

ST. JUDE STATUE BLESSED BEFORE CLOSING MASS OF PARISH MISSION

While visiting St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, for a parish mission, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blessed at new statue of St. Jude on Oct. 28, the feast of St. Simon and St. Jude. Bishop Rhoades celebrated Mass at St. Jude on Tuesday for the final night of the three-day parish mission, “Sent By Christ.” The statue of St. Jude was gifted to the parish by Jerry Ankenbruck and created by artist Frank Bouger. Also pictured is Father Jacob Rumyon, pastor.
All-schools Masses show us the future of the church

PHOTOS BY KAY COZAD

The Bishop Dwenger choir provides liturgical music at the all-schools Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Oct. 29.

St. John the Baptist, New Haven fourth-grade student Max Robinson speaks with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades about St. Maximilian Kolbe’s life and martyrdom during bishop’s homily at the all-schools Mass celebrated at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Oct. 29.

The fourth-grade students dressed as saints from area Catholic schools receive Communion from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, left, and Father Philip DeVolder, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw, at the all-schools Mass. A number of area priests from the schools represented in the congregation concelebrated Mass.

Superintendent of Catholic Schools Marsha Jordan and Secretary of Catholic Education Carl Loesch attend the all-schools Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Oct. 29. The fourth-grade students from area schools attended Mass dressed as their chosen saint.

These fourth-grade students of Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne pose as St. Maria Goretti and Joan of Arc at the all-schools Mass.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blesses the Catholic school students, staff members and others who attended the all-schools Mass celebrated at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Oct. 29.
ALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Church for 2,000 years,” Bishop Rhoades said. “There is a great need today for laborers, for workers in the Church, in the Lord’s vineyard.”

“Jesus tells us to pray for vocations,” the bishop said, “to pray for more workers for the Church. I am asking you to pray for more priests and religious sisters and brothers.”

He also asked the students to think of themselves, serving God as priests, religious sisters or brothers. “Maybe some of you are already thinking about it. I hope so,” Bishop Rhoades offered.

He related the story of Samuel from the day’s first reading. God was calling Samuel to be a prophet.

“Sometimes when you pray, say those words of Samuel: ‘Speak Lord, your servant is listening,’” Bishop Rhoades said. “Especially pray what to do in your life, pray about your vocation. … And when we are listening, we hear God’s call, and it may be a call to be a priest, to be a sister or a brother. It may be a call to marriage. But we have to listen.”

He encouraged the young people to listen for that call in the silence of their hearts and minds. “When you pray,” he said, “don’t do all the talking. Listen. Listen to God speaking to you.”

He encouraged the students to read the Scriptures. He said if they did not have a Bible, to put one on their Christmas list. “When we read the Scriptures, that’s one way that God speaks to us,” Bishop Rhoades said. He encouraged the young people to be open to God’s call when choosing a vocation. Think about, he said, “What does God want me to be and do with my life?”

“When we do what God wants us to do, and we answer His call … then we’re really going to be happy with our life,” Bishop Rhoades said.

With the feast of All Saints, Nov. 1, celebrated near the all-schools Masses, fourth-grade students came dressed as their favorite saints. In Fort Wayne, Max Robinson of St. John the Baptist, New Haven, was called out by Bishop Rhoades to speak about his saint, St. Maximilian Kolbe. Bishop had asked for a priest-saint and young Max was quick to volunteer and share with the 4,000 people gathered for the Fort Wayne Mass on Oct. 29 what he learned about the saint who “gave up his life for a stranger.” St. Maximilian, a priest, lost his life at Auschwitz, after he came forward to take the place of a man sentenced with nine others to the starvation chamber. Father Kolbe was the last survivor in the starvation chamber and actually died from a shot of carabolic acid.

Bishop also called on Katie Palmer of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, who chose St. Katharine Drexel as her patron saint. St. Katharine Drexel was part of a wealthy Philadelphia family. She used her inheritance to found the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and established schools and missions across the country to serve Black and Native American children.

Other fourth-grade students chose priests, sisters and brothers to represent at the Mass.

Mia Gabet from St. Mary, Avilla, chose a Dominican sister, St. Rose of Lima, as her patron saint. The sister took care of the poor and sick and was called the “Angel of the Andes.” Mia noted before the Mass.

In South Bend, Bishop Rhoades emphasized the witness of St. Martin de Porres, the first Black Saint of the Americas, on his feast day of Nov. 3.

“St. Martin, a Dominican Brother from Lima, Peru, was known for his great humility, love of the Eucharist, and enjoyment of menial work. He taught that no matter how humble our work, if we do it with love and for the glory of God, we can become saints.”

Bishop Rhoades was pleased to learn that Martin Del Abra of St. Adalbert had chosen to dress as St. Martin de Porres, his patron name saint.

Bishop Rhoades said, “We should all have our special friends in heaven — men and women we can look to and ask for prayers and intercessions from throughout our lives.”

Additionally, Bishop Rhoades spoke with Teresa Pingel of Christ the King, who dressed as Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, whom she was named after. She shared that she admired Mother Teresa for “founding the Missionaries of Charity and helping to serve those who are very poor.”

Bishop Rhoades commended all the South Bend students who dressed up as saints, again exclaiming his hope that some in attendance may become priests, or religious sisters or brothers. He thanked all those who participated in the Mass as servers, lectors, cantors and choir members.

He also recognized those who helped make the event a success, including the teachers, principals, and staff of the schools represented, the Catholic Schools Office, Superintendent Marsha Jordan, Quality Dining and the University of Notre Dame staff.

Students participated as altar servers, gift bearers, readers and as members of the liturgical processions.

Christopher Lushis contributed to this story.
O n March 2, 2010, Francis Cardinal George, the archbishop of Chicago, announced that a cause for canonization had been introduced by the archdiocese.

The new candidate for sainthood is truly remarkable for not only is he the first American diocesan priest of African descent but was the son of slaves. His name was Father John Augustine Tolton, and in his short life of 43 years, he endured racial hatred, poverty and intolerance with fortitude and charity.

He is today, a model for African American Catholics and a witness to the Church’s welcome to all people, regardless of their color or background.

“The time was not yet right”

Tolton was born on April 1, 1854, into slavery in Brush Creek, Missouri, to the slaves Peter and Martha Tolton. His parents had been married in a Catholic ceremony and made certain that he was baptized, at St. Peter’s Church, a few miles from Hannibal, Missouri.

At the start of the Civil War, his father escaped and joined the Union army, and his mother, in 1863, made the courageous decision to flee Missouri with her three children to the free state of Illinois. Augustine was nine at the time.

Once safely in Quincy, Illinois, Martha found work with her sons in a local cigar factory and took them to Mass in the local German church. This solution was accepted by his fellow Chicago priests, his members.

In 1889, he gave an address at the First Catholic Colored Congress in Washington, D.C., and as he was speaking to an audience of African American priests in Boston, New York and even as far away as Galveston, Texas. At the same time, he pressed ahead with future plans for St. Monica.

In early July 1897, Father Tolton attended the annual retreat of Chicago priests at St. Viator’s College in Bourbonnais, Illinois. He was taken to the nearby Mercy Hospital, but he never regained consciousness and died a few hours later.

The cause of his shocking death was listed as sunstroke. The stunned black Catholic community bid a loving farewell to “Father Gus,” and his remains were taken to St. Peter’s Cemetery in Quincy.

The achievements of Father Tolton did not die with him. He was chosen among the black Catholics in Chicago and across the country.

He also remained a powerful model for young black men seeking to follow in his footsteps. In the Priesthood and for all priests dedicated to proclaiming Christ’s love in the face of hatred and scorn. America’s first Black Catholic bishop, Harold Perry, SVD, wrote of him, “Father Tolton found his opposition within the Church and among Church people, where compassion should have overtaken prejudice and ignorance. It was his lot to disprove the myth that young Black men could not assume the responsibility of the Catholic Priesthood.”

There remained the problem of a seminary. Every application was declined on the basis that “the time was not yet right” for a black seminarian. Undaunted, Father McGirr won the help of the Franciscan Fathers, and through Father Bishop Fischer of St. Peter’s Basilica, Augustus General secured admission for Augustine into the College of the Propaganda Fide in Rome to become a missionary in Africa.

Tolton later acknowledged the immense debt he owed to Father McGirr, declaring in 1889, “The Catholic Church depleted slavery — that of the mind and that of the body. She endeavors to free us of both, I was a poor slave boy, but the priests of my Church did not disdain me. It was through the influence of one of them that I became what I am tonight.”

A Missionary to America

In February 1880, Tolton joyously set sail for Rome, and the next six years of intense studies in languages, theology and missiology were the happiest of his life. Finally, on April 24, 1886, he achieved the fulfillment of his dreams. The Propaganda Fide ordained a priest in the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome. On Easter Sunday, he celebrated his first Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica. His life had changed forever, but not in the way he had expected.

The day before he received Holy Orders, Tolton was informed that the Propaganda Fide was not sending him to Africa. Instead, he was being heading back to the United States. He was still to be a missionary, but to America, a country that had ended slavery but still did not have one black priest.

For Tolton, the news was shocking. He knew what he was being asked to do. He had grown up facing racial prejudice, and he was acutely aware that returning as a priest would only make him a target of hatred from anti-Catholics and even from some Catholics who were not ready to accept a black man as a priest. Tolton, however, obediently accepted the assignment.

A joyous welcome home followed. On June 21, he celebrated Mass on July 18, 1886, at St. Boniface Church. In attendance were several thousand people, both black and white.

His first assignment was as pastor to the African-American parish of St. Joseph Church that had been established out of St. Boniface. Tolton proved a gifted pastor, and when he was starting attended the parish and seeking his spiritual advice, complaints were made to the local bishop that Tolton was trying to “mix the races.”

In the end, the situation of intolerance became so strident that Father Tolton was forced to ask permission of authorities in Rome to accept an invitation from Archbishop Patrick Feehan of Chicago. Feehan wanted to serve as a pastor for black Catholics in the city. This solution was accepted by Rome, and on Dec. 19, 1889, Tolton left his family and friends and began the challenges of a new phase of service.

The change in living quarters.

He had lived initially in a small room on South Indiana Avenue, near St. Mary’s Church. Later, with the help of his congregation, Tolton was able to move into a small house behind St. Monica’s. Significantly, the added space allowed him to invite his mother and sister Anne to come and live with him and so unite the family once more.

As his fame spread he was also invited to speak at national gatherings. In 1889, he gave an address at the First Catholic Colored Congress in Washington, D.C., and he was asked to speak to Catholic college students in Boston, New York and even as far away as Galveston, Texas. At the same time, he pressed ahead with future plans for St. Monica.

From slavery to the Priesthood: Father John Augustine Tolton

Father Augustine Tolton, also known as Augustus, is pictured in a photo from the St. Augustine Church in Quincy, Ill., where he served as pastor in the 1880s. Tolton was ordained a priest April 24, 1886. He served as pastor at St. Joseph Church in Quincy, Ill., and later established St. Monica’s Church in Chicago. Chicago Cardinal Francis E. George has formally closed the investigation into the life and virtues of the sainthood candidate.

Father Gus

Around 1882, black Catholics in Chicago started the St. Augustine Society, dedicated to visiting the sick, providing proper funerals and feeding the poor. Mass for them was celebrated in the basement of Old St. Mary’s Church on 49th and Wabash. With his arrival, Father Tolton became their chaplain.

In 1891, Tolton won permission to move out of the basement by building a church for the African American Catholics of Chicago, what he hoped would be St. Monica’s Church, on the corner of 25th Street and Drexel Boulevard. Even though much of the church was not finished owing to lack of funds, Tolton celebrated the first Mass at St. Monica’s in 1893. What had begun as a tiny flock hidden away in the bottom of a church grew to a congregation of more than 600, and St. Monica’s served as the spiritual center for black Catholic life in the city for decades to come.

Tolton embraced his people with selfless devotion and settled into his role as the first black pastor in Chicago. He was called “Father Gus,” but while he had been accepted by his fellow Chicago priests, his ministry was still largely performed alone among the shocking slums of the city. He worked tirelessly to care for the sick and the forgotten, giving completely of himself to a community still struggling for acceptance and justice. And through it all, he endured intolerance and hatred both for being a black man and a Catholic priest.

A symbol of his new life was the change in living quarters. He had lived initially in a small room on South Indiana Avenue, near St. Mary’s Church. Later, with the help of his congregation, Tolton was able to move into a small house behind St. Monica’s. Significantly, the added space allowed him to invite his mother and sister Anne to come and live with him and so unite the family once more.
Coping with the burden of dementia

One of my greatest fears is developing dementia when I am in my final years. I have had many close family members get dementia and a positive family history is a risk factor for developing dementia. Alzheimer’s dementia accounts for between 60-80 percent of all cases and is the type most familiar with. But there are many variations. They include dementia with Lewy bodies, frontotemporal dementia, vascular (multi-infarct) dementia, and Parkinson disease with dementia.

As the world’s population ages the burden of dementia is increasing worldwide. There are an estimated 5 million people now in the United States that have dementia. When a member of your family gets dementia it can be devastating and not only effect the entire family but friends, coworkers and the community as well.

There are medicines and therapies that can slow down the progression for several years, but invariably there is steady progression until memory is lost and thinking. So if you are analytical enough to think you are getting dementia you probably are not.

My mother had dementia for over 10 years before she died. My family was blessed by the fact that my mother was one of the happy ones. I have helped care for hundreds of patients with dementia over the years and it usually goes one of two ways: pleasantly confused or nasty and belligerent.

To be the primary caregiver and not only have to deal with the mental confusion, but in addition, be verbally abused can be overwhelming. Believe me when I say it is not easy.

DOCTOR, PAGE 12

Jesus is the true temple of God

This link with the pope reminds us that we all are part of the Church.

The dedication of any church is important since by dedication we set a space on earth aside for God, the bearer of God’s holy word, and to be with God in Jesus in the Eucharist.

For the first reading, the Church offers us a beautiful passage from the Book of Revelation. The prophet sees water flowing from the temple. The Holy Land then, as now, as always, was very arid. Water meant life. Life flowed from God’s house, from God’s presence.

St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Corinthians is the source of the second reading. It describes us, the people of the Church, as “God’s building.” We are the brick and mortar of the structure that makes God visible on earth, in which God dwells. Christ is our foundation stone.

The last reading is from the Gospel of John. It reports the event, so familiar to Christians, when Jesus entered the temple area in Jerusalem and found there a virtual marketplace. He drove the merchants away, insisting that the temple was God’s house, the holiest of places.

He denounced the merchants for making God’s house a place not just of business, but by their cheating and greed, a place of sin.

Reflection

We can be overly literal in reading this passage from St. John’s Gospel. Of course, Jesus riddled the sacred precincts of the temple of merchants and charlatans, preying on the gullible.

Sin and human greed have no place in the true temple of God. For John, Jesus was the true temple of God, unifying all the religious and social aspects in the group of believers surrounding Jesus. They were united to the Lord, by the Lord’s own design. Their mother was united with them.

The bond was created by none less than God. Jesus would be killed and in three days would rise. It was just as Jesus predicted that the temple would fall and in three days be restored.

We are now in this community, which Jesus Church. There can be no sin among us. We cannot allow our greed or dishonesty to defile the holy temple that is Christ.

We are the Body of Christ, resurrected and living in the world. Christ is in us. We are in Christ. In God’s mercy, the pope guides us and ministers to us.

Father Tolton, pray for us

“For the slave called in the Lord is a freed person in the Lord,” St. Paul wrote in his First Letter to the Corinthians. His words resonated 18 centuries later in the life of Father Augustus Tolton, who was born a slave, died a Catholic priest, and is now being considered for sainthood.

Father Tolton’s cause was submitted to the Congregation for Saints’ Causes in September by the Archdiocese of Chicago. If canonized, he would be the first African-American priest recognized as a saint. Young Augustus escaped slavery when his mother rowed her family across the Mississippi River from Missouri to Illinois in 1862. His talents caught the attention of the Franciscan professors at St. Francis College in隅州, Illinois.

He went in his courageous assignment to seek. One month after Father Tolton was ordained, Charles LWanga and his companions were massacred in Uganda for embracing the Catholic faith. Father Tolton, who clearly took after his mother, was willing to brave such an environment.

But God had other plans: to serve the Church in a nation that openly disdained him because of the color of his skin.

The prejudices of the day prevented Father Tolton from attending a seminary in the United States. He went to Rome instead. His fellow students, he said, “all were my friends, they all loved me, though I cannot say why.”

The St. Joseph’s Advocate, a newsletter published in the United States by the Josephite Fathers in Those Days, described Father Tolton’s April 24, 1886, Ordination at Rome’s Basilica of St. John Lateran this way:

“Tolton, a native of Missouri, was beatified in 1973 by Pope Paul VI.”

If canonized, he would be unknown and that is within the sacred (circle) of the Catholic Church. We hope he will soon be recognized as a saint.

John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America.
Exploded into being by divine love

I’ve long been fascinated by cosmology, although my deficiencies as a mathematician preclude my really following the arguments of astrophysicists, high-energy particle physicists and others exploring the origins of the universe. Yet the fascination remains and it was kindled anew by a May 12 article in the Boston Globe Magazine about Alan Guth, a key figure in current explorations of what happened in the Big Bang, the orthodox explanation for How Things Started.

Take a deep breath and try this key passage from the article:

“Using the theories of Einstein and others, Guth points out that at extremely high energies, there are forms of matter that upend everything we learned about gravity in high school. Rather than being the ultimate force of attraction that Newton and his falling apple taught us, gravity in this case is an incredibly strong force of repulsion. And that repulsive gravity was the fuel that powered the Big Bang.

“The universe is roughly 13.8 billion years old, and it began from a patch of material packed with this repulsive gravity. The patch was ... tiny — one 100-billionth the size of a single proton. But the repulsive gravity was like a magic wand, doubling the patch in size every tenth of a trillionth of a second. And it waved its doubling power over the patch about 100 times in a row, until it got to the size of (a marble. And that happened within a hundredth of a billionth of a trillionth of a second. As a point of comparison, the smallest fraction of time that the average human being can detect is about one-tenth of a second.

“The ingredients of what would become our entire observable universe were packed inside that marble ...”

Literally mind-boggling, to be sure, but a good way to remember that the Big Bang theory of the origins of the universe was the brain-child of a Catholic priest, Georges Henri Joseph Edouard Lemaître, a Belgian Jesuit. When Lemaître began his work, the “steady-state” model of the universe dominated cosmology; after the work of Lemaître and others, the steady-state model was supplanted by the notion of an expanding universe that began with the Big Bang — or what Father Lemaître called, a bit more primitively, the “hypothesis of the primal atom” or the “Cosmic Egg.” As I understand it, Alon Guth’s work, and that of others exploring the first micro-seconds of what people of biblical faith know as Creation, builds on Lemaître’s insights.

The new cosmology makes possible a new dialogue between physics and theology, or, more broadly, between science and religion. In the early days of what we now as modern science, the hard sciences — physics, chemistry, astronomy — were thought to be (and often thought themselves) the enemies of revelation and biblical religion. In the early 21st century, that’s changed. It’s life sciences, like evolutionary biology and genetics that are often stuck in the intellectual quicksand of ill-informed, knee-jerk atheism, while the hard sciences are bumping up against boundaries beyond which their methodology can’t take them — boundaries that may define the meeting ground between scientists and theologians.

If Alan Guth’s work is empirically verified, a large question will remain — a question that takes Guth’s science to just such a boundary: Where did that primordial something, that “patch of material packed with ... repulsive gravity” that contained “the ingredients of what would become our entire observable universe,” come from? It defies all logic to suggest that something can come from nothing; yet science can’t get us “behind” that something from which everything came.

As it says in Galatians 6:2: “Help carry one another’s burdens; in that way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Finally, Matthew 5:16: “In the same way, your light must shine before men so that they may see goodness in your acts and give praise to your heavenly Father.” If you look at your situation in terms of it being an opportunity to serve your loved one and therefore serve the Lord, you should not only find strength needed to carry on but also find peace.

Doctor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

I tell you that those afflicted with dementia have little control over what they say and two minutes later won’t remember they said it. The caregivers that can get through this and still smile invariably have a deep faith and are usually also dedicated to daily prayer and Scripture reading. How else could they survive?

Many spouses take care of their loved ones at home as long as they can and I think this is more than admirable. It is truly God’s work and one of His highest callings. In my mother’s case my father had already died and we could not provide the care she needed so we had to make the decision to place her in a dementia unit in a nursing home. We were blessed by a wonderful and dedicated staff and my mother was happy and well cared for till the end.

To those out there caring for a loved one with dementia at home, my advice is to give it all you have, but recognize that in a significant percentage of people with dementia there comes a time when you can no longer handle things alone and they are actually better off and safer in a nursing home setting.

You also need to ask for help. Ask your family and friends to help out to give you an occasionally time of respite. You also need to ask for help from the various social agencies available such as the Alzheimer’s Association (alz.org). Consider becoming part of an Alzheimer’s support group. Ultimately to survive this challenging time you have to seek out and accept the graces the Holy Spirit will bring to you if you ask.

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Saint of the week:

George Weigel

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

Gospel for November 9, 2014

John 2:13-22

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

ZEALOUS

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

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Josephat

1580-1623

Feast — November 12

An early ecumenist, Josephat was born in Ukraine. Not happy with a mercantile apprenticeship in Lithuania, he spent his spare time learning church Slavonic to enhance his liturgical and prayer life. In 1604 he entered a monastery in Vilnius, where he began promoting Orthodox union with Rome and reform of Ruthenian monasteries. This movement finally became the Basilians of St. Josephat. As an abbot, bishop and archbishop in Eastern Europe, he constantly called for unity with Rome, a position that became increasingly controversial. In 1623, after preaching openly in Vitebsk (Belorusia), he was attacked by a mob, shot and thrown in a river. This patron of Ukraine is the first Eastern-rite saint whose cause was processed by Rome.
St. Charles Cardinals defeat St. Anthony Panthers in diocesan playoff

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — South Bend has been home to many storied football games, and the Inter-City Catholic League hosted their diocesan rival Catholic Youth Organization for a Division I championship that would have a script worthy of a Hollywood blockbuster.

The host St. Anthony Panthers boasted an unblemished record and had skilled players talented enough to make anyone envious and a monster on defense that has opposing coaches look twice or devise ways to run away from him.

St. Charles had a very similar story — undefeated and unmatched. They passed a much-heralded quarterback with a cannon for an arm backed by talented receivers and a go-to sprinter to carry the payload.

The Cardinals started the game with quarterback Blake Sheer showing just how far he could throw the ball as on two plays in a row. The snapping signal caller threw 20-plus-yard darts. Unfortunately the opening series ended on a 30-yard incompletion.

The Panthers would start off looking the purple-and-maroon warriors with a series of short passes to Jared Lee and Alex Blunt, followed by a pitch to Hayden Ellinger. The only problem was the Panther defense and their hard hitting and sure tackling didn’t allow big plays and resulted in incompletion on fourth and two.

The Panthers would start off looking at 70 yards between them and the goal line and looked overwhelmed by the Cardinals with no gain, no gain incompletion until a roughing the passer penalty turned on a switch that energized the squad.

Big back Gumpf on the next play seemed hemmed in, and, out of nowhere, bounced a big gain for 35 yards followed by a couple more runs and then Ratigan found Charlie Howe of the Cardinals intercept a fourth and eight offering.

The game was far from over as the Panther defense put nine men in the box and stopped the Cardinals on successive plays, using their timeouts to squeeze moments from the clock.

On their heels and under great pressure it happened. Cardinal Coach Sam Talarico loaded up the backfield and called an unconventional play. Quarterback Sheer pitched to the deep back. Blunt and the Panthers pursued with reckless abandon targeting the runner, and then the tailback lofted a 41-yard strike to O’Keefe to seal the deal lifting the Fort Wayne team to a 16-6 victory in the closing moments.

“My goodness, they were the most physical team we faced all year, and we had to run our offense away from defensive lineman Casey Conery,” said an exuberant Talarico.

“I knew when I sent the play in that we put the work and time in our defense.”

The Panthers of St. Anthony would take a different tactic as they would keep it on the ground and head down behind their lineman and be successful.

The Cardinals were well coached and well prepared and played a great football game,” commented Panther skipper James DeBoe. “You can’t make mistakes against a good football team and win unfortunately.”

“Our kids fought tooth and nail. They put the work and time in and for that I’m proud,” remarked DeBoe. “It’s hard to go out this way, but the kids will go on with life and be successful.”

The St. Charles Cardinals took the ICL-CYO Division I championship on Sunday, Nov. 2. The team defeated the St. Anthony Panthers, 16-6.

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St. Rose-St. Louis Twins won the Blue League CYO volleyball championship.

St. Vincent de Paul won the Green League CYO volleyball championship.
South Bend — The air was cool and crisp, the crowd was roaring and the team was energized ... the final football polls at season end and the euphoria of being crowned champions,” recalled team member Dave Badagnini about 1964.

(The year) 1964 was just a good senior year — dating my future wife and winning the state championship,” recalled Mike Pianowski.

Player Bob Christin said, "Hardly a day passes when I don't remember at least one moment that I had the good luck to play on a team that won a state championship in 1964.

For Rich Joo, the class was extra special even though the school was segregated with females on one end of the building and males on the other.

"Even though we were separated, there seemed to be a good unification among us. I had many great times with a lot of wonderful Saint Joe students and honestly cannot single out one that stands above them all. We were a great student body," said Joo.

Former players appreciated the chance to revisit their glory days and spend time with former coaches.

“Friday night was fantastic. Meeting new Saint Joe faces and touring that magnificent school. The recognition of the accomplishment from 50 years ago sent chills up my spine. I was ready to don a helmet and run it up for one more game. Of course, I would have needed oxygen and EMTs standing by," said Badagnini. “It is a thrill to this day to have been part of all this and the honor to have represented Saint Joseph High School both on and off the field in 1964!"

The Friday night reunion was wonderful. It was so great to see my old friends, teammates and coaches one more time,” noted Joo.

"The Friday night festivities were done in such a way that I hope I never forget them until the day I die. The personnel involved did a wonderful job of putting them together. After doing a lot of talking and laughing with the attendees and having the honor and privilege of being introduced at half time and walking out onto the Saint Joseph High School football team win another game, I believe I can speak for all of us that were there that it was one of the happiest moments of our lives," commented Joo.

The Crusaders would try a new approach to the pursuit of the Eagles. The first series had the offense on the sideline while the defense tightened their grip and hit quarterback Knapek hard. The defense would be playing second string.

The drive was suddenly scuttled after the defense tightened and the Eagles sputtered punting the ball away.

The Crusaders would try a new game plan, which consisted of handoffs to reliable backs Grant Stefanek and Tion Ottridge for small gains and then call a quarterback run behind the offensive line for five to six yards and a first down. The simple tactics netted quarterbacks Patrick Farrisee three late downs in a row. However a minus gain on a ball back to the visitors from Fort Wayne.

The Eagle would show off their high octane offense without the aid of Gaston who was nicked up as quarterback Norman Knapek found receivers Marcus Hartle and John Podzilezinski of successive downs for 20 yards a piece. The drive stalled, as a five-yard pass completion was only half the distance needed for a first down.

The teams exchanged interceptions as Podzilezinski stopped a Crusader drive with his and Ottridge returned the favor moments later on a flea-flicker effectively ending the scoreless half.

The second stanza saw the Eagles going nowhere fast as the patented Holy Cross defense anchored by Mitchell Coleman tightened their grip and hit quarterback Knapek hard. The trench warfare soon ended as Farrisee broke a tackle, then another tackle and one last tackle until finding daylight and sprinting the remaining 80 yards untouched for the first score of the battle. The points-after kick by Miguel Zyniwicz was good, making the narrow margin, 8-0.

A hobbling Gaston again put pressure on the Crusader defense but an errant throw found Holy Cross’ Stephen Murphy for an interception.

This time the St. John/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel defense would be called upon and they exceeded expectations by not only forcing the Crusaders to punt, but on that play tallying a safety, making the score, 8-2.

The Eagles would strike quickly after a big pass play from Knapek to Gaston of 35 yards, the latter followed the blocking of student body left and after breaking two tackles would do the rest turning down the sideline for a 25-yard score knotting up the ball game.

A dazed Holy Cross squad gathered themselves, refocused and Ottridge answered the bell by running a maze of Eagles for a 44-yard touchdown run of his own. The points-after kick was again true making the difference, 16-8, with just less than seven minutes to go.

The Crusader boxed in the potent offense of the Eagles and played keep away courtesy of another Farrisee head down and followed an affective offensive line to burn all but one second of the clock making the distance too great for even the most explosive of teams to come back.

"Having Farrisee run up the middle was a throwback from the Coach Teegarden School — when something is working, run it until they stop ya," quipped Krzyzewski. “This is a good way to finish up. This should develop into a pretty solid group at the next level.”

"This was a tough game and a little disappointing for us. They did a great job of slowing our offense down,” explained Eagle Coach Andre Goodwell.

"Throughout this season, this team has faced adversity and has come together as one unit.”

"I think it showed in how we played the entire game how these kids believed in each other," lamented Goodwell. "We aren't happy with the final result, but I couldn't be more pleased with our effort and persistence.”

The Crusaders reigned as ICCL-CYO Division II champs

South Bend — Past Inter-City Catholic League and Catholic Youth Organization diocesan championship weekends have encompassed shoveling of snow and semi-truck loads of hot cocoa, but this past weekend Wow, what a good sunny skies and perfect football temperatures as the Eagles of St. John/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel would match up against the host Holy Cross Crusaders at Saint Joseph High School in the Division II championship contest.

The Crusaders would be centered around the high flying and high scoring Eagles that featured track star Justin Gaston and the hard-hitting, ground pounding old-school Holy Cross Crusaders that were two extra point kicks away from a perfect season.

The first series for the Crusaders wondering if their defense would be playing second fiddle to the pursuing Eagles as the black-armed-advisor guarded the posts forcing a four and out.

The pride of the Crusader defense would be tested early as a bottled up Gaston took a hand off deep and a teammate tackled closed in, reversed his field and jaunted 20 yards until being forced out at the sideline as spectators shook their heads in disbelief.

The drive was eventually scuttled after the defense tightened and the Eagles sputtered punting the ball away.

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ICCL Panthers, Saints take league divisional championships

Mishawaka — The mighty mites of the Inter-City Catholic League faced each other in the B-League Championships held at Marian High School’s Otolski Field Oct. 26.

The A Division saw the St. Anthony Panthers avenge an early season loss by upsetting the Crusaders of Holy Cross, 7-0. Collin Suth had the lone touchdown and Thomas Kurkowski scooped in for the extra point for the champion Panthers.

The B Division pitted two teams that played to a tie during the season in the Mishawaka Catholic Saints and the Blazers of St. Matthew squared off in a classic battle.

The purple-and-gold-clad Saints would have no doubt that they were to wear the crown as they posted an impressive, 15-0, route over the Blazers. Manager Maxwell of the Saints did most of the damage as he found paydirt on runs of 10 and 15 yards. Michael Murphy teamed up with Dylan Morton on the extra point tally.
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.

St. Vincent de Paul announces new store opening South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Society announces the opening of a new store, Vinnie’s Community Store, a resale store in partnership with the Center for the Homeless. Located at 4644 W. Western Ave., store hours will be 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. The new store will carry upscale men’s, women’s and children’s clothing, shoes and accessories. Volunteers are needed. Contact Mary Eme at 574-234-6000, ext. 12126, or at mary.eme@svdpsb.org.

CRAFT SHOWS

Holiday Art Fair Fort Wayne — St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, 1702 E. Wallen Rd., will have a holiday art fair Friday, Nov. 14, from 6-9 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kris Kringle craft show South Bend — St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, 54191 N. Ironwood Dr., will have a Kris Kringle craft show Saturday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sixty juried crafters with a bake sale and lunch available. A cash or non-perishable food donation would be greatly appreciated.

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 Tammarra Horn at 260-413-3801 for information.

March for Life plans being made now All high school teens are invited to join the diocesan March for Life youth pilgrimage traveling to Washington, D.C., in January. Space is limited. Learn more and register at www.fwsbYM.com.

Ham and turkey dinner time New Haven — St. Louis Besancon Parish will have a ham and turkey dinner Sunday, Nov. 23, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. A raffle for quilts and turkeys, a country craft store and a silent auction are planned. Tickets are $8.50 for adults, $5 for children 5-12, and children under 5 eat free.

Spaghetti dinner planned South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, Nov. 13, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $2.50 for children 5-12.

Music to honor Father Sorin Notre Dame — The University of Notre Dame Office of Campus Ministry will host a bicentennial musical celebration in honor of Notre Dame founder, Father Edward Sorin, CSC, on Friday, Nov. 21, at 8 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Music by the Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra, the Notre Dame Glee Club, the Notre Dame Liturgical Choir, the Notre Dame Women’s Liturgical Choir, the Celebration Choir and pianist John Blacklow will be performed. Tickets are available at PerformingArts.nd.edu.

Day of Reflection Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, Nov. 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “Angels in Scripture.” Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is $20 and includes lunch. Register by Nov. 14 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at 574-259-5427.

Turkey Bingo time again Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist Parish will hold Turkey Bingo on Sunday, Nov. 23, in the school gym/PAC from noon to 4 p.m. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit the St. John Youth Activities Committee.

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

Fall events at Bishop Dwenger Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger High School will have an open house Thursday, Nov. 6, from 6:30-8 p.m. to explore all facets of the school. All prospective students are invited. The music boosters will host a craft bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with over 150 crafters. Lunch will be available. Purse Bingo hosted by the faculty will be Saturday, Nov. 8, in the cafeteria. Tickets are $20 or $200 for a table of eight. Beverages and light refreshments will be available for purchase with proceeds from these sales benefiting the dance team. Only 300 tickets will be sold and are available in the main office, by phone 260-496-4775 or email rsvp@bishopdweneger.com. Must be 21 or older to attend. License No. 134719.

Bingo for cash and turkeys Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Booster Club. Bingo on Saturday, Nov. 8, at 7 p.m. in the high school gym. BJ’s Blue Cheese and spaghetti will be served before bingo starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10. All proceeds will benefit the school. Cash and turkey prizes will be given.

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John Patrick Nolan, 76
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St. Plus X
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Dennis J. Dillman, 75
St. Therese Little Flower
Florence E. Muldoon, 96
St. Anthony de Padua
Evelin Spychalski, 94
St. Adalbert
Marlene A. Waltz, 78
St. Jude
Thomas J. Murphy, 93
Holy Cross
As a servant of the Lord, said Augustine, he has tweaked the image to develop the Holy Hot Boy. He considers himself an ambassador for Christ and spreads His message wherever he goes. He handles his business in a Christian manner.

“I am a child of God,” he told the crowd.

Augustine regaled his listeners with many stories about growing up in New Orleans, each one exemplifying a Christian attitude in doing God’s work. He frequently exhorted the students to “make some noise for the Lord,” to which they responded with a loud cheer.

He reminded them that the sacrament of Confirmation is powerful and will help them live a life centered in Christ.

“We are called to be saints, to be a witness of God’s love to the world,” he said.

“You know who you are and Whose you are,” said Augustine. When returning to his native New Orleans after the destruction of Hurricane Katrina, the speaker said he noticed water lines from the flooding on each of the ruined and abandoned buildings. The higher the water line, the greater the damage. Likewise, we have our own individual “water lines,” which represent challenges in our lives, he noted.

He urged his listeners to emulate the saints by giving those issues to God, to touch the cross and lift up those trials to Him. “Do not be afraid. … Live the life of Christ,” he concluded. He echoed the theme for the day’s rally, “Do not be afraid to be saints.”

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RALLY
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