Role of St. John Paul hailed in Berlin Wall’s fall

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Commemorating the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, Pope Francis said the sudden end to the division of Europe was prepared by the prayers and sacrifice of many people, including St. John Paul II.

After reciting the Angelus prayer Nov. 9 with visitors in St. Peter’s Square, Pope Francis spoke about the 25th anniversary of the wall coming down, a wall “that for so long cut the city in two and was a symbol of the ideological division of Europe and of the entire world.”

“The fall was sudden, but it was made possible by the long and hard commitment of many people who struggled, prayed and suffered for it, some even sacrificing their lives,” the pope said. St. John Paul II, he said, had “a role as protagonist” in the change.

During his lifetime, the Polish-born pope refused to claim personal credit for the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, but he knew his preaching and his support for human dignity and freedom energized the forces for change, particularly in his homeland.

In a 1993 interview, Pope John Paul said, “I think the crucial role was played by Christianity itself; its content, its religious and moral message, its intrinsic defense of the human person. All I did was recall this, repeat it and insist on it.”

Pope Francis, commemorating the wall’s fall, asked Catholics to pray that “with the help of the Lord and the collaboration of all people of good will, there will spread even more a culture of encounter capable of bringing down all the walls still dividing the world.”

The pope also prayed for an end to “innocent persons being persecut ed and even killed because of their creed or religion.”

“Where there is a wall,” he said, “there is a closed heart. We need bridges, not walls!”

DECEASED CLERGY OF DIOCESE REMEMBERED AT MASS

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass Nov. 5 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne for the deceased clergy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. In memoriam were diocesan priests Father Leonard Chrobot, Father Lawrence Kramer and Father Matthew Sienkiewicz, all who died in the last year. “We gather this afternoon to pray in this month of November for our deceased bishops, priests and deacons,” Bishop Rhoades said during the Mass. “We remember their faithful service and we pray that they may receive their reward in heaven.” At the conclusion of the Mass, Bishop Rhoades and several priests and deacons assembled in the crypt of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception to pray for the deceased bishops and priests buried there and sang the “Salve Regina.”
Bishops reminded of role as pastors to Christ’s family — the Church

Baltimore (CNS) — The role of Catholic bishops is to accompany their family of the Church through their fears and concerns, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said Nov. 10.

In his first presidential address since his election last November, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz told the bishops gathered in Baltimore for the annual fall general assembly Nov. 10-13 that “as pastors, we accompany so many families who face their own fears and concerns and who yearn to experience the love of Jesus in and through His loving family — the Church.”

“Family, brothers, we seek to walk with these families and to build their confidence in faith,” said the archbishop, who heads the Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky.

Before the presidential address, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the Vatican nuncio to the United States, delivered brief remarks, urging the bishops to lead today’s young people by example “not just by doctrinal teaching alone.”

“We have to let our young people know that their lives are worth living and that they were born for eternal glory, not for glamour, or for sensation,” he said. “They are crying out to us. They desperately need to be inspired, to have the life of Christ breathed back into them.”

The first day’s agenda included reports on the recently concluded extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family; Catholic education and an outreach to Hispanic students in the United States; delivered brief remarks, urging the bishops to lead today’s young people by example “not just by doctrinal teaching alone.”

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The first day’s agenda included reports on the recently concluded extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family; Catholic education and an outreach to Hispanic students in underserved communities; the progress of planning for the 2015 World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia; the status of the 2013-16 USCCB strategic plan, “The New Evangelization: Faith, Worship, Witness”; the 2015 Fortnight of Freedom; and the defense of marriage.

The bishops also heard a preliminary presentation on five liturgical items up for consideration and to be voted on Nov. 11. The items include a revised translation of the ritual book used whenever a new church is built or when a new altar is made: the first official English translation of the ritual book “Exorcisms and Related Supplications”; and 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.

On the second day of the assembly — the only other full day of public sessions — the bishops were to choose a new secretary-elect for the USCCB, and vote for the chairman-elect of five committees — communications, cultural diversity, doctrine, national collections and pro-life activities. They also were to choose new members for the board of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network and Catholic Relief Services.

Other action items to be addressed Nov. 11 included the 2015 USCCB budget, the 2016 diocesan assessment, and a proposal to proceed on a revision to the “Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Healthcare Services.”

The bishops also were to 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.

The first day’s business wrapped up by mid-afternoon, so the bishops could concelebrate Mass at the city’s Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary to mark the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Baltimore was the first diocese founded in the United States.

In his report earlier in the afternoon, Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, told the bishops that this committee — extended for another three years — would place more of an emphasis on teaching and expanding networks with Catholic lay groups, interfaith and ecumenical partners.

He said the 2015 Fortnight of Freedom would particularly highlight the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council document on religious liberty, “Dignitatis Humanae,” and would provide “a great opportunity to teach about religious liberty and evangelize about it.”

Bishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco, chairman of the Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, spoke of the challenges facing the Catholic Church’s support for traditional marriage.

“For several years now,” he said, “the work of the committee has sought to defend marriage’s unique meaning while also calling attention to the real negative consequences and anticipated threats that marriage redefinition poses to religious liberty and freedom of conscience.”

The archbishop urged the bishops not to “shy away from challenges” but to take heart from the words and example of Pope Francis and advance a “culture of encounter, accompaniment and witness.”

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia formally opened its arms to the world as Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia told the U.S. Catholic bishops that registration has officially begun for the World Meeting of Families next year in the city.

Up to 15,000 attendees are expected for the gathering of families from around the country and the world Sept. 22-25, 2015. With the slate of speakers and activities planned for adults and youth, it will be the largest convention to be held in Philadelphia next year.

Registration and other information is available at the website www.worldmeeting2015.org.

“The World Meeting of Families will deal with a wide range of family issues where our faith is both needed and tested,” the archbishop said. “These are matters that affect families not only here in the United States but on a global scale.”

In a morning session and at a news conference that followed, some time was spent reporting on the recently concluded extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family in October.

Speaking to reporters, Archbishop Kurtz of Louisville acknowledged the differences in the synod experienced by the bishops participating in it and news accounts disseminated outside the synod, saying “a tale of two synods” emerged from it.

Those differences were highlighted by Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York in remarks delivered during the assembly’s morning session.

He said some reports made it sound like the synod was “confrontational and divisive,” “hijacked by left-wing dissenters intent on eluding doctrine,” but in reality, it was “a synod of consensus … led by a pope with a radical charism for attentive listening.”
Pope removes Cardinal Burke from Vatican post

BY FRANCIS X. ROCZA

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis removed U.S. Cardinal Raymond L. Burke, 66, as head of the Vatican’s highest court and named him to a largely ceremonial post. He will now serve as cardinal patron of the Knights and Dames of Malta, the Vatican announced Nov. 8.

The move had been widely expected since an Italian journalist reported it in September, and the cardinal himself confirmed it to reporters the following month.

It is highly unusual for a pope to remove an official of Cardinal Burke’s stature and age without assigning him comparable responsibilities elsewhere. By Church law, cardinals in the Vatican must offer to resign at 75, but often continue in office for several more years. As usual when announcing personnel changes other than retirements for reasons of age, the Vatican did not give a reason for the cardinal’s reassignment.

A prominent devotee of the traditional liturgy and outspoken defender of traditional doctrine on controversial moral issues, Cardinal Burke had appeared increasingly out of step with the current pontificate.

In December 2013, Pope Francis did not reappoint him to his position on the Congregation for Bishops, which advises the pope on episcopal appointments.

Cardinal Burke expressed frustration, in a February 2014 article in the Vatican newspaper, that many Americans thought Burke’s position as head of the Vatican’s highest court had been automatic.

Burke made the news again late in October when he told a Spanish journalist that many Catholics “feel a bit of seasickness, because it seems to them that the ship of the Church has lost its compass. The cause of this disorientation must be sought.”

By Pope Benedict XVI to lead the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The new head of the Apostolic Signature is French Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, formerly secretary for relations with states, the Vatican’s equivalent of a foreign minister.

Ruling sets up possible Supreme Court round on same-sex marriage

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Although the Supreme Court just a few weeks ago declined to accept any of several challenges to rulings making same-sex marriage legal in various states, a 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision Nov. 6 could lead to another shot at the high court weighing in on a nation-wide approach to such unions.

It is the first federal appeals court ruling to uphold states’ rights to decide that marriage is a union of one man and one woman, and it could be restricted to only heterosexual couples. Four federal appellate courts — the 4th, 7th, 9th and 10th — have ruled such bans are unconstitutional.

In a 2-1 ruling, the panel of the 6th Circuit said that although the question is no longer whether same-sex marriage will be allowed in the United States, but when and how, the two judges said it is better “to allow change through the customary political processes,” than through court rulings.

“When the courts do not let the people resolve new social issues like this one, they perpetuate the idea that the heroes in these change events are judges and lawyers,” the ruling said, in overturning lower courts in the circuit that covers Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio and Michigan.

The Supreme Court typically does not accept cases of nationwide impact unless there is a division among lower circuit courts.

In the 6th Circuit’s ruling is the first to uphold states’ rights to prohibit same-sex marriage. As Judge Jeffrey Sutton noted in his 34-page opinion, “four federal courts of appeal have compelled several other states to permit same-sex marriages under the 14th Amendment, and 19 states plus the District of Columbia have expanded the definition of marriage to include same-sex unions.

The ruling could be appealed to the full 6th Circuit or directly to the Supreme Court. If the latter, the case could come to the high court for review this term. Cases are typically heard through April with rulings by the end of June.

Sutton was joined in a 6-3 majority by Judge Jeffrey S.平均 and Judge Deborah Cook. They found that “the marriage laws do not violate the Constitution. A principled jurisprudence of constitutional evolution turns on evolution in society’s values, not evolution in judges’ values. Freed of federal-court invention, 31 states would continue to define marriage the old-fashioned way.”

Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey wrote an 11-page dissent arguing that the majority was shirking the court’s responsibility to determine “individual rights under the 14th Amendment, regardless of popular opinion or even a plebiscite.”

In her dissent, Daughtrey said that if “we in the judiciary do not have the authority, and indeed the responsibility, to right fundamental wrongs left excused by a majority of the electorate, our whole system, the Constitution, our jurisprudence, our whole system of checks and balances, as well as the oaths to which we swore, prove to be nothing but sham.”

Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage, praised the 6th Circuit panel’s majority ruling for upholding citizens’ rights “to protect and defend marriage as the unique relationship of a man and a woman.” He said the court had acknowledged “the reasonable arguments for preserving the true definition of marriage” and respecting “the self-determination of states on this issue.”

“Is it society’s laws or for that matter any one religion’s laws, but nature’s laws — that men and women complement each other biologically — that created the policy imperative,” Archbishop Cordileone said in a statement.

The Michigan Catholic Conference, which supports upholding the state’s 2004 voter-approved amendment defining marriage as limited to between a man and a woman, called the court’s ruling “a joyous occasion for many communities and families across the state that have sought to protect the traditional definition of marriage.”

Catholic teaching upholds the traditional definition of marriage and holds that any sexual activity outside of marriage is sinful. The Church also teaches that homosexual attraction itself is not sinful and that homosexual people “must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity.”

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

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

BY ANN CAREY

SOUTH BEND — A new kind of St. Vincent de Paul Society thrift store opened in the former Belleville Plaza on Western Avenue on Nov. 3. Named Vinnie’s, the new concept store is the size of a typical boutique store and will sell only used clothing and accessories.

The name Vinnie’s has been used by the society in other parts of the country for similar stores, according to Thom Villing, a board member of the St. Joseph County society. The Vinnie’s name conveys a more contemporary image for a specialty store that is in a setting such as a strip mall, he said. However, the St. Vincent name will remain prominent, for the rebounding shopping plaza is being renamed St. Vincent Plaza.

Additionally, a new traditional store that will carry the full range of merchandise — clothing, furniture, household goods, toys, sporting goods — is set to open soon on Bendix Drive, also on the city’s west side. Both new stores will take the place of the store on Ardmore Trail.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blessed the new venture on its opening day, assisted by Holy Cross Father Adam Booth, associate pastor of Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus Parishes. The bishop noted that the VINCENTIAN Mass would be celebrated on St. Martin’s feast because St. Vincent de Paul was also known as an “Apostle of Charity.”

The bishop reminded the Vincentians that members of the society “are called to seek personal holiness by works of charity,” and their vocation and mission “necessarily include a life of prayer.” And he concluded, “Whatever work you do as Vincentians, however menial it might seem, is sacred, when done in a spirit of loving service.”

After the Mass, a dinner was enjoyed by the Vincentians in the Holy Cross Church gymnasium, with an informal annual meeting of the society taking place afterward. The St. Vincent de Paul Society thrift stores support the mission of the society, which administers food, clothing, financial and other forms of direct assistance to the poor and those in need. It also offers self-sufficiency initiatives including the Bridges out of Poverty “Getting Ahead” classes, as well as the Food for Thought and Healthy Living programs.

Vinnie’s, a new kind of St. Vincent de Paul Society thrift store, opened in the former Belleville Plaza on Western Avenue on Nov. 3. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blessed the new concept store, which is the size of a typical boutique store and will sell only used clothing and accessories, before celebrating Mass with St. Vincent de Paul Society members in the South Bend area on Nov. 3.

“St. Vincent de Paul said that ‘in serving the poor, we serve Jesus Christ,’” Bishop Rhoades noted in his homily.

“In the tradition of its patron, you, the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, serve those who are needy and suffering, seeing in each individual you help the face of the Lord Jesus. Your beautiful parish conferences from across the county,” he continued. “And you aim to do so with the Vincentian spirit of humility. St. Paul teaches us in today’s first reading: ‘Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for everyone for those of others.’”

Bishop Rhoades noted that the saint honored by the Church on that day was St. Martin de Porres, known as an “Apostle of Charity.” It seemed “providential,” he said, that the Vincentian Mass would be celebrated on St. Martin’s feast because St. Vincent de Paul was also known as an “Apostle of Charity.”

The bishop reminded the Vincentians that members of the society “are called to seek personal holiness by works of charity,” and their vocation and mission “necessarily include a life of prayer.” And he concluded, “Whatever work you do as Vincentians, however menial it might seem, is sacred, when done in a spirit of loving service.”

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St. Thomas principal proud to be Catholic

BY DENISE FEDOROW

ELKHART — At the start of the new school year, staff and students at St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart welcomed new principal John Wiggins.

Wiggins is originally from Macomb, Missouri, and said he spent most of his life in the state, including attending a small liberal arts college — Central Methodist University. He went on to get his special education degree at William Woods University and completed his doctorate at William Woods as well.

His wife Rachel grew up in Auburn and raising their four children — 15-year-old twin sons and five- and six-year-old daughters near family is important to the couple. So when the job at St. Thomas came up Wiggins said, “Lo and behold, this is where God directed us.”

Wiggins was a school superintendent in the past and also ran a state school for special needs students. “But I really missed the daily interaction with the students,” he said, explaining that the interaction is what he enjoys about being principal.

In the few months he’s been at St. Thomas, Wiggins has noticed some strengths of the school, citing the school and parish family as one. “There’s a good sense of community between the parish and school. We have excellent leadership — our pastor (Father Jason Freiburger) is phenomenal! The parents are on board with what we do, and we have great teachers,” he said.

“I see the passion they have for the students and their passion for Christ,” he said.

St. Thomas School currently educates kindergarten through eighth grade students and Wiggins noted the biggest challenge the school faces is the ability to keep technology current. He noted accessibility and how to better implement technology. One decision he and the staff are making is whether to use Bill Pay or “apps” to pay tuition and order school lunches online.

Wiggins said the school is refreshing the school website and automating everything while researching the best use of each dollar.

Aside from implementing more automation for the parents’ convenience by next year, other changes include security updates. A plan is in place to renovate and enclose the school playground for students’ safety, as well as spruce up that side of the building. Another physical change will have all elementary students in one wing of the building and all middle school students in another wing.

Teachers are currently investigating Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s), which are more data-driven and Wiggins said, “We’re about to be able to offer band as a core part of class, too.” The administration is also exploring the possibility of having a pre-school grade level next year.

When asked why he felt parents should send their students to St. Thomas School he replied, “As the faithful we should all send our kids to Catholic schools where the focus is on Jesus first. By focusing on the faith it allows us to slow down a little. Certainly curriculum is important, but the reality is by knowing Christ intimately they will grow to be better human beings, better parents, better grandparents and better members of society.”

As for St. Thomas specifically, Wiggins said, “You really do feel Christ’s presence here.”

He said he talks to the staff about how important their faith and their vocation is and that God sent each child to them. “We talk about that the reality is we hold their souls in the palm of our hands. Our job is to get them to heaven first; Harvard second.”

He said the new vision of what St. Thomas stands for is “Christ, Compassion, Character,” and shared that his hope is that parents will send their students to St. Thomas for that Christ-centered focus.

Wiggins said he is really excited about growing the community between parish and school and is currently working on implementing a mentoring program. “I’m enthusiastic for a lot of the ideas the faculty has and excited the team wants to go somewhere rather than ‘this is what we’ve always done,’” he said.

Wiggins said as a new Catholic (having joined the Church 10 years ago) he wants everyone to know, “I’m really on fire for the faith.”

Wiggins grew up Methodist and in fact said, “It was one month before I was set up to go to a Methodist seminary when I realized I was Catholic.”

He said it was the premature birth experience of his twin sons, including at a point where doctors suggested abortion, “when God really opened up doors and talked to me.” He said advisors at the Methodist seminary told him that if God was calling him to be Catholic, he was being led to a truth. “Coming to the Church is one of the best experiences in my life. I know this is where God wants me,” he said. Wiggins and his family are enjoying the fullness of the faith and he is open to the future possibility of the diaconate if he feels God is calling him there.

“I want people to know I’m really proud to be Catholic,” he said.

John Wiggins, St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart’s new principal, has been busy getting to know staff, students and the needs of the school in these first months on the job.

BISHOP RHOADES LECTURES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades spoke about the role of architects in service to the Church and the liturgy in light of the teachings of the Second Vatican Council and of Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI on Oct. 29 at the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture. He said that sacred buildings “should be truly worthy and beautiful and be signs and symbols of heavenly realities.” He said sacred architecture helps the faithful in prayer to lift their minds and hearts to the Lord. Bishop Rhoades also spoke of the great need in today’s culture for Catholic churches to truly convey a sense of the sacred.

All Saints Religious Goods

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Catholic charities — and a U.S. physician — respond to Ebola

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Dr. Timothy Flanigan, professor of medicine at Brown University School of Medicine and permanent deacon for the Diocese of Providence, R.I., said he left his wife and five kids in August and traveled to Liberia because “I thought I could make a difference.” As the Ebola epidemic continues, killing thousands of people in West Africa and leaving millions of others without health care for other diseases, Flanigan spent two months working with Liberia’s National Catholic Health Council teaching staff a totally new way of treating patients: “no touch care. It’s strange. It goes against everything we do, but the medical system is closed down by and large because of the risk of infection,” he said Nov. 4 at the end of a meeting sponsored by Carlos Internationalis, the umbrella organization of Catholic charities around the world. Flanigan said it was difficult resisting the temptation to put his hands on his patient’s shoulders and even to listen to their hearts and lungs. Instead, to avoid catching the virus, he wore protective clothing, washed his hands continually in bleach water and asked patients to describe their symptoms and tell him where it hurts. “We use more antibiotics that way,” he said, but his patients — like his family — “expect me to be safe.”

Pope Francis to open Vatican conference on traditional marriage

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A month after closing a Synod of Bishops on the family stirred by controversy over divorce, same-sex unions and other nonmarital relationships, Pope Francis will open an interreligious conference dedicated to traditional marriage. The Vatican-sponsored gathering in the “Complementarity of Man and Woman,” will take place Nov. 17-19 and feature more than 30 speakers representing 23 countries and various Christian churches, as well as Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism, Taoism and Sikhsim. The conference will aim to “examine and propose anew the beauty of the relationship between man and woman,” according to organizers.

Pope says annulment process should be cheaper and more efficient

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis said the Church’s marriage annulment process should be more efficient and perhaps even free of charge, and he decried any attempts to exploit it for profit. “Some procedures are so long and so burdensome, they don’t favor (justice), and people give up,” the pope said. “Mother Church should do justice and say: ‘Yes, it’s true, your marriage is null. No, your marriage is valid.’ But justice means saying so. That way, they can move on without this doubt, this darkness in their soul.” The pope made his remarks Nov. 5, in a meeting with diocesan officials and canon lawyers enrolled in a course offered by the Roman Rota, the Vatican tribunal primarily responsible for hearings for requests for marriage annulments.

Church reaches out to parishioners as lava threatens to split community

HONOLULU (CNS) — As a river of molten rock sits poised to intrude on the sleepy rural town of Pahoa on the island of Hawaii, or the Big Island, it is bringing members of the Church closer together, even as it threatens to divide them permanently. Besides the dramatic and tragic loss of homes and livelihoods, another major effect of a lava flow is the separation and isolation of communities as major roads are covered over and made impassable. When this occurs, residents will be denied ready access to jobs, medical care and other services, schools, and supermarkets — and church. As of Nov. 3, none of this had happened yet. Any major disaster continues to remain “imminent.” The flow, unpredictable and capricious, after traveling nearly 13.5 miles and more than 125 days, has stalled just yards from a major road and residential homes. However, breakout flows farther back indicate the lava is still coming. The present flow began June 27 from the Puu Oo vent of Kilauea Crater, which has been erupting nonstop for 31 years. The 2,100-degree liquid rock, when moving, averages 5 to 10 yards an hour, Sacred Heart Parish secretary Bernice Walker, who calls herself a Pahoa “lifer,” grew up in neighboring Kalapana, a coastal area Kilauea covered nearly 25 years ago. So she knows the finality of a lava flow. “There is a lot of uncertainty for sure and that is the biggest worry,” Walker said of the present threat. “So far it’s stressful and worrisome. But we are in it together.”

Baltimore Archdiocese marks 225th anniversary with day ‘full of joy’

Baltimore (CNS) — In a day “full of joy” for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Catholics from Maryland and beyond packed the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Baltimore for a day to celebrate the archdiocese’s 225th anniversary of its founding as the first diocese in the United States. Before the Mass, Archbishop William E. Lori, 16th archbishop of Baltimore, said he was grateful for those who had gone before. “We’re standing on their shoulders,” he said, “and I’m hopeful for the future.” The two-hour celebration began with a procession of banners from all the schools in the archdiocese and a large Knights of Columbus honor guard. About 200 seminarians joined the procession, followed by deacons, priests, an archbishop and nine bishops, plus Cardinal Edwin F. O’Brien, a former archbishop of Baltimore.

All were forced to flee to avert capture. In a day “full of joy” for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Catholics from Maryland and beyond packed the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen in Baltimore for a day to celebrate the archdiocese’s 225th anniversary of its founding as the first diocese in the United States. Before the Mass, Archbishop William E. Lori, 16th archbishop of Baltimore, said he was grateful for those who had gone before. “We’re standing on their shoulders,” he said, “and I’m hopeful for the future.” The two-hour celebration began with a procession of banners from all the schools in the archdiocese and a large Knights of Columbus honor guard. About 200 seminarians joined the procession, followed by deacons, priests, an archbishop and nine bishops, plus Cardinal Edwin F. O’Brien, a former archbishop of Baltimore.

Archbishop: Nigeria must find political will to stop Islamist militants

MANCHESTER, England (CNS) — The president of the Nigerian bishops’ conference said his country’s government could defeat the Boko Haram Islamist militant group if it mustered the same political will it found to fight Ebola. Archbishop Ignatius Kaigama of Jos, Nigeria, suggested that the government could end the group’s attacks on Christians and civilians if it really wanted to in a Nov. 6 lecture at the Jesuit-run Church of Holy Name in Manchester. “Since the Nigerian government is successfully fighting the Ebola disease, it can equally, with strong political will, fight the religious fundamentalism which threatens the very soul of Nigeria,” he said in a speech. He argued that much more in Nigeria does not support the activities of Boko Haram, which has bombed or torched dozens of churches and public spaces since 2009. The archbishop said the Nigerian government “should be able to provide a level ground for harmonious coexistence and good relations” between such people and Christians. “What do we want of our government?” he asked. “I love my country and I love my leaders, but what do we want them to do? We need a Nigerian government that wants to stop the activities of this miliary group, which continues to create mayhem, to create chaos and anarchy in Nigeria,” Archbishop Kaigama said.

Winter’s early arrival challenges Iraqi Christians who fled militants

AINKAWA, Iraq (CNS) — Sister Habiba’s kindly face is etched with sadness as she surveyed the muddy field where dozens of tents sheltering displaced Iraqi Christians once stood. “Cold, punishing rains and blustery wind swept through the encampment Oct. 20, earlier than expected for winter, crushing down the tents in the dead of night. Shoes, slippers and toys were strewn about, stuck in the muddy mess, signaling the mad dash for safety. The recent wintery deluge drove out families, adding to the millions already struggling to survive. “What do we want them to do? We need to put their hands on their patients.”

Francis said the Church’s marriage annulment process should be more efficient and perhaps even free of charge, and he decried any attempts to exploit it for profit. “Some procedures are so long and so burdensome, they don’t favor justice, and people give up,” the pope said. “Mother Church should do justice and say: ‘Yes, it’s true, your marriage is null. No, your marriage is valid.’ But justice means saying so. That way, they can move on without this doubt, this darkness in their soul.” The pope made his remarks Nov. 5, in a meeting with diocesan officials and canon lawyers enrolled in a course offered by the Roman Rota, the Vatican tribunal primarily responsible for hearings for requests for marriage annulments. Pope Francis said participants at the Oct. 5-19 Synod of Bishops on the family had expressed a desire to “streamline the process” of judging requests for annulments, and he noted that he had recently established a special commission to do so. As an example of the burdens faced by those seeking annulments, the pope recalled that a tribal he oversaw as archbishop of Buenos Aires exercised jurisdiction over dioceses as far as 150 miles away.
FORT WAYNE — On Wednesday, Oct. 22, through Friday, Oct. 24, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Redeemer Radio celebrated its Fall Sharathon at its Mary Cross Tippmann Broadcast Center studios, Fort Wayne. The event raises necessary funds to help cover the operating expenses of its listener-supported radio stations.

The 18th, semi-annual, Sharathon was one of firsts. It was the first time that listeners in the greater Michiana area heard Sharathon on 95.7 FM as well as the first time that Sharathon was heard on three FM stations: 106.3 FM (greater Fort Wayne), 95.7 FM (Michiana), and 89.9 FM (northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio).

Contribution amounts made it the most successful Fall Sharathon to date. Another record breaker during Sharathon was the number of turkeys donated to the Franciscan Center by Tim Didler Meats. Over 190 turkeys were donated to The Franciscan Center by Tim Didler Meats through contributions of our donors.

Sharathon drew over 450 volunteers and guests, consisting of priests, school principals, students, religious and lay ministers, covering 36 hours of on-air fundraising, phone bank operation, food donation and pledge maintenance.

The theme for this Sharathon was “Now is the Time.” Studio guests shared with listeners on how lives are being impacted and changed through the work and outreach of their parishes, schools and ministries.

Chair couple, Joe and Katie Brown, said of the event, “There were many dedicated staff and volunteers who came together to make Sharathon a success. Sharathon is a celebration of our blessed Catholic community. We were blessed to see God in action throughout Sharathon.”

Donations are still being accepted for Sharathon. Anyone can pledge online at RedeemerRadio.com, by phone 888-436-1450 or in person. The Spring Sharathon for Redeemer Radio will be held Wednesday, April 29, through Friday, May 1, 2015.

**Jail Ministry training workshop to be offered Nov. 15 in Warsaw**

WARSAW — Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, will be the site for a diocesan Jail Ministry workshop to be held Thursday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The workshop titled “I Was in Prison and You Visited Me” will offer training for those who want to minister to the incarcerated but do not feel equipped to do so.

The workshop topics include:

- Faith Behind Bars — The big picture regarding the call to serve in jails and the prison system
- Ecumenism in Jail and Prison Ministry — Working with faith-filled people of other traditions
- Restorative Justice — Healing harm done by crime
- Pastoral Care — Spirituality and skills to carry with you into the jail

B hillups is the assistant professor of theology and director of the pastoral ministry program at Lewis University. She not only has experience ministering in Cook County Jail in Chicago, but she has developed a course entitled Faith Behind Bars and a Prison Ministry Leadership Curriculum.

Lunch will be available. A goodwill offering will be accepted.

To register, contact Lisa Meadows at 574-527-7961 or meadowsm1@comcast.net.

For more information, visit diocecesfwb.org/Jail-Ministry.

**Symposium on Domestic Violence and Intersectionality**

The workshop will be held in the Sacred Heart Parish Gym located at 125 N. Harrison St., Warsaw. Doors open at 9 a.m. Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m.

The daylong event will feature professionals in mental health, law, social work, healthcare, education, as well as community agencies and domestic violence survivors. The speeches will explore the complexities of domestic violence and explain how to best respond to the crisis.

“The symposium is designed to discuss the intersectionality of domestic violence and to help the community understand that it is not ‘about’ violence, or about relationships. Rather, it is a complicated issue that cannot be discussed in isolation from a host of social and economic issues,” explains Adrienne Lyles-Chockley, a professor of theology and director of the Pastoral Ministry Program at Lewis University.

**SISTERS HONORED THROUGH MULTI-MEDIA DISPLAY**

Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center unveiled a multi-media display, chronicling the history of its founding orders of sisters. The display details how the sisters began their service in medicine during the Civil War and later established hospitals in Mishawaka and South Bend. Those hospitals would later form Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center.

**BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL PROMOTES SCHOOL VISITATIONS**

In an effort to promote Bishop Luers High School, bus-sing was provided for the seventh- and eighth grade classes from St. Louis Academy, New Haven, to visit the school. The morning began with prayer in the chapel followed by six one-on-one visits and lunch. Bishop Luers Director of Communications Monica Zwick explained, “This new approach has proved to be a very beneficial opportunity and a positive experience for potential students.” Shown here, Zwick, far right, describes experiments to St. Louis Academy students in the chemistry lab.
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Building church within the Church: One family’s search for acceptance

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — For the Barton family, Aug. 24 was a very special day. Not only did they witness the Baptism of their youngest son Raphael, but the reception of first Communion by their middle son Andrew as well. With the two sacraments in one day would have any Catholic family celebrating, but with the challenges that autism has brought to Andrew’s life, faith formation, the Bartons literally rejoiced in the moment.

Andrew’s family, which includes dad Aaron, mom Jennifer, big brother Michael, little sister Felicity and baby Raphael, recently moved back to their hometown of Fort Wayne after moving around the country in active military service. They are grateful to have found a welcoming church home for their special needs at St. Therese Parish.

With the help of Jane Sundor, co-director of the Office of Catechesis in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the Bartons found the appropriate resources to help Andrew adapt to life in the Summit City. Not long after, Jennifer found herself accepting an invitation to sit on the newly formed Disabilities Advisory Board.

“It’s so important,” she says, “There’s so much to do.”

Andrew was born in Virginia in 2002 and his parents felt something was different about him by the time he was two, noting that their precious son played in different ways, lining up his cars and repeatedly spinning objects.

“We went to the doctor because he didn’t respond to his name. They checked his hearing and then it hit us,” says Jennifer. Therapies in preschool assisted with early intervention, though the diagnosis of severe autism wasn’t made until Andrew was six years old.

All the while as the expanding family moved with its military duty, Andrew adjusted to school and his dad, who adds that military resources helped immensely. And in every city they found themselves, the Bartons sought a welcoming Church community. It was in Utah, at St. James Church that the family found their spiritual home and soon was approached by its pastor about Andrew receiving the sacraments.

While considering how their son would be able to participate in religious education, Jennifer was given information on an adaptive first Communion kit for those with special needs, and after investigating the “Adaptive First Eucharist Preparation Kit for Children with Autism and Other Special Needs,” published by Loyola Press, and written by Eagle Scout Brendan Rizzo whose sister is challenged by autism, St. James Parish purchased the kit for the Bartons’ home use.

Aaron worked with his young son to help him understand what the Eucharistic sacrament meant.

“We worked at home to make him understand it wasn’t just food, but something special. Father Eric gave us unconsecrated hosts. Drew was very receptive,” he says.

With faith formation undertaken in Utah, it didn’t take Andrew long to prepare for the day of his first Communion once the family settled in Fort Wayne after their most recent move. “Father Lawrence (Teteh, pastor of St. Therese) was good about working with Andrew to figure out what he would be able to do,” says Jennifer, adding that the entire family joined Andrew at the altar that special day to receive his first Communion.

Aaron continues to use one tool in the adaptive kit with Andrew whenever they attend Mass. The flipbook with simple drawings of each part of the Mass allows Andrew to follow the events as they happen and know what to expect.

Written by Eagle Scout Brendan Rizzo whose sister is challenged by autism, the Eucharistic sacrament means.

The Barton family includes from left, Michael, Felicity, dad, Aaron, in back, mom, Jennifer, holding baby Raphael, and Andrew. The family has found a welcoming Church home at St. Therese in Fort Wayne for their special needs.

Acceptance is one of the biggest hopes for them.

Acceptance is their biggest hope for the future of the Catholic Church as well. “We want the Church to move forward with education with people like Drew,” they say.

Aaron offered these suggestions for the parishes in the diocese: “How do we include people in Mass? Ushering, taking the gifts up.” He relayed how in Utah his priest made periodic pulpit announcements to heighten awareness of those with special needs.

Having been on the disabilities board has given Jennifer an outlet through which to advocate for the many needs in the Church. “I think everyone has a special need. We’re all in a different place on our journey. … The board is working to get advocates from each parish to tell the board what they need.”

Jennifer wants to spread the word that there is hope right here in the diocese. “The board is so necessary. I wish more people knew about it and that they don’t have to hide their disabilities. It’s important that people know your kids are not acting up — they just can’t sit or take the noise.”

In the past year, Jennifer notes, the board has broken into subcommittees to focus on different aspects of need at the parish level and in the diocese overall.

“It’s a long process with so much to do,” Jennifer says.

Bathrooms, right language and the hope that the kids can do the sacraments and be part of the community. How we can reach out to others and link them.

“Drew was given to us for a reason. It’s hard, but God always gives us what we need,” concludes Jennifer.

Aaron and Jennifer Barton, center, celebrate the Baptism of their infant son Raphael and the first Communion of middle son Andrew, left, with Father Lawrence Teteh, pastor of St. Therese Parish in Fort Wayne. Andrew, who is challenged with autism, worked with a special kit to prepare for the sacrament.

“It helps him to know we’re moving along,” says Aaron.

During last year’s Mass for the Disabled, celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, the Barons were deeply moved when the bishop asked to meet Andrew after Mass. Bishop Rhoades gave Andrew a blessing and told him he would like to confirm him. “Drew will be making his Confirmation next summer,” beams Jennifer.

As Andrew’s mother, Jennifer says, “We have to be his advocate. We have to look at him as God has made him.”

Aaron agrees, adding, “Autism is only part of who he is.”

The two have taken to consecrating Andrew to Jesus through Mary since participating in the diocesan wide Marian consecration held Aug. 15.

“Our faith is a huge help,” admits Jennifer, “Without it we couldn’t be where we are.”

The Barons look to the future with hope. “We’ve learned not to give up hope,” they say. “We thought he wouldn’t ever make his first Communion. So we’ll keep trying. … We want to make sure he’s taken care of and accepted.”

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Giving adults with cognitive disabilities time to connect with God

BY JEAN PEERENBOOM

KAUKAUNA, Wis. (CNS) — Everyone needs the time and space to connect with God. Adults with cognitive disabilities find this space at a one-day retreat designed for them by some special people in the Diocese of Green Bay.

The retreat is for adults and these folks are treated like adults, but the activities are designed to meet their needs.

“I believe you treat people at their age level, not their cognitive level,” said Deacon Bill Burkel, who retired this fall as retreat director after 15 years.

“I had the opportunity to spend a lot of time with some really great people. You can’t sell short what they are able to give to our community,” he told The Compass, the diocesan newspaper. “They give just by who they are. We need to recognize the presence of God in them.”

A recent retreat held at St. Katharine Drexel Church in Kaukauna had as its theme “Will You Wash My Feet?” It was developed around the song “Washing Feet,” which is used during liturgies at Prince of Peace Church in Green Bay, where he serves as deacon.

“These retreatants are capable of service just like the rest of us. I developed it around the song, which ends with ‘washing the feet of our neighbor ... love to all at our door,’” Deacon Burkel explained.

Nicole DeRuyter of De Pere leads the music for the retreats and has been involved for about three years. “Music reinforces what they are learning about in another format,” she noted. “It gives us the opportunity to praise together and enjoy each other’s gift of music.”

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May you join with us in prayer to acknowledge the need for the presence and caring individuals who are seeking ways to reach Catholic disabled brothers and sisters. The Church is impoverished without the presence and the gifts of the disabled.

If you are interested in helping with this important ministry or if you know of someone who is disabled and is interested in greater and more meaningful participation in our Church please contact Mary Glowaski at 260-399-1458 or mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org.

A pastor’s perspective on serving all abilities

W

ith federal civil rights laws in place in the U.S., equal opportunity is ensured. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) outlaws any discrimination on the basis of a disability in areas from employment and public accommodations to transportation and telecommunications.

But what of the Catholic Church? How does the Church serve persons of faith who are challenged by physical or cognitive disabilities?

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Secretariat for Evangelization and Special Ministries Disabilities Advisory Board comprised of clergy, laity and disabled persons, that has met to address the needs of the area disabled Catholics.

One insightful priest on that board is Father David Voors, pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption in Decatur. He shared his perspective on serving the faith formation needs of all persons.

He told Today’s Catholic that “within the parish church, God’s beauty (is) seen in every person.”

Over the past year, Father Voors said, “I have had the honor (and uneness at times too) of working on a committee for bettering a parish’s outreach to people with disabilities.” During his participation on the committee Father Voors has learned a few things.

In most every meeting I attended, there was discussion over the proper term for someone who had a special need,” he said. “Handicapped, disabled, disability, impairment, special need, challenged — whatever it’s called, keep focused on the beauty and dignity of the person.”

He continued, “The question, ‘What is a disability?’ isn’t the question to ask. The focus isn’t on the wheelchair, impairment, crutch, mental or physical challenge — it’s on the person. The person carries the very likeness of God within and we must learn to see the person before we even notice the special need or handicap. When God sees each of His children, He sees beauty. We must learn to do the same.”

The outreach he envisions for the parishes around the diocese must be implemented slowly over time, he said. “Start with baby steps. Baby steps are important for they help move us in the right direction.”

Father Voors offered these three baby steps a parish might consider: “Make available electronic hearing aids, which can tune in to your public address system. These individual hearing aids are battery operated and inexpensive. A parish member who struggles to hear can be given one to use whenever they come to worship,” he said, adding, “Make available low glucose hosts. This again is a small baby step — it isn’t difficult. A person can stop by the sacristy asking the celebrant to ‘add a glucose host’ to those to be consecrated. He/ she simply comes to the main celebrant at Communion time.”

And finally, Father Voors would suggest a special needs area, which is handicapped accessible. “This may seem more than a ‘baby step’ but in today’s world of mobility, it is good to have an area that a person — whether with a crutch, wheelchair or perhaps a special needs dog — is able to be comfortable. This might take a bit of planning — but it shows our desire to be welcoming and caring,” he said.

Another way to serve all ability levels involves sharing, growing and praying … and sharing some more, said Father Voors.

“I was at a parish in South Bend a few weeks back that had a sign on it’s outside door giving directions for those who are disabled and have special needs. This was great to read! We need to thank those parishioners, who have recognized the need to reach out in special ways — along with gentle encouragement to every parish,” he said.

Father Voors offered, “Here again, three simple thoughts: Invite parish members to form a committee to talk, share and pray regarding outreach to those with disabilities. Set a date for this to be started. You might be surprised at the response … and to the many special needs within the parish.”

He continued, “Invite parishioners with disabilities to be involved in ministries for the weekend Masses. And write a line or two each month in your Sunday bulletin to keep the parish informed.”

With these simple but powerful suggestions in mind, Father Voors said, “I realize as people who have fallen far short in responding to those with disabilities or special needs. May you join with me recognizing the need and taking a step in the right direction.”

How to help ...

The diocese has been working with committed and caring individuals who are seeking ways to reach Catholic disabled brothers and sisters. The Church is impoverished without the presence and the gifts of the disabled.

If you are interested in helping with this important ministry or if you know of someone who is disabled and is interested in greater and more meaningful participation in our Church please contact Mary Glowaski at 260-399-1458 or mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org.

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VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis, who has called the Catholic Church to go out to the peripheries and who described himself as coming from “the end of the earth,” will visit the heart of European secular and economic power: the European Union — and the European Union's legislative arm of the 28-member European Union — and the Council of Europe, an organization of 47 countries formed to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law on the continent.

Like his predecessors, Pope Francis is expected to call the European institutions and the people they represent to recognize the values that inspired their commitment to unity and democracy. In particular, the Church wants them to recognize that repetitious appeals to human rights and human dignity mean little if entire categories of human beings are denied those rights or robbed of them.

Pope Francis’ repeated condemnations of a “throwaway culture” may have been formed and informed in the barrios of Latin America, but what he has seen in Europe has not softened his language.

In a speech last December, he said, “The victims of this culture are people who are weakest and most fragile human beings — the unborn, the poorest, the sick and elderly, the seriously handicapped, etc., — who are in danger of being ‘thrown away,’ expelled from a system that must be efficient at all costs.”

St. John Paul and Pope Benedict often called on the European Union and its related institutions to recognize that having a common currency and forging joint economic policies will foster the good of Europe’s citizens — and people around the world — only if economic growth and profits are a result of promoting the good of the human person and not the exclusive goals.

THE VATICAN LETTER

CINDY WOODEN

In Jesus we have lesson of how to live

In Jesus we have lesson of how to live

proclaimed by the Church on this weekend obliquely makes reference to an event that marriages under the Greek dispensation usually were contrived.

Quite disturbing for Jews was the fact that wives were not much bet-
ter than servants, even slaves. The concept of love, freely and gladly exchanged between spouses, was not always evident by any means in Greek life.

Proverbs tries to elevate the Jewish notion of human dignity, a dignity including women as well as men.

St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Thessalonians supplies the second reading. In the early days of the Church, the general presump-
tion was that momentarily Jesus would return to earth to vanish the evil and vindicate the good. Paul had to remind the Christians of Thessalonica that following the Gospel might be a long, tiring and difficult process, as Christ might not appear as quickly as they would like.

For its third and last reading, the Church this weekend presents St. Matthew’s Gospel. The story in essence also appears in Mark.

The story builds on the same theme as that given in First Thessalonians. The present order will end one day. Each human will die. No one can predict exactly when natural death will come.

Life suddenly and unexpect-
tedly can change for societies, as Americans realized after Dec. 7, 1941, when Japan bombed Hawaii, and on Sept. 11, 2001, when terror-
ists destroyed so many lives.

The reading from Matthew calls upon Christians to remember the uncertainty of life, and also to remember the certainty of the end of life.

God has given each Christian skills and talents. He has revealed to them the way to live. He has sent Jesus to them as Redeemer. They possess no extraordinary advantages. They must not waste time or ignore the fact of life and its uncertainty. They must live as good disciples.

Reflection

Soon, the Church will conclude its year of 2014. Its great celebra-
tion, and final message, will be the feast of Christ the King. Jesus is the only answer, the answer to every question, worry and need.

One day, at a time unknown, life will change for each of us individu-
ally. Our societies also will change. Jesus has promised one day to return in glory. How and when this return will occur is not known.

In the meantime, we possess God’s gifts needed for life, for salvation, for God strengthens, guides and redeems us, as Paul assures us in First Thessalonians. In Jesus we have the lesson of how to live. In Jesus, we truly have life. We are heirs to heaven. But we must respond by Christian living. We must commit ourselves, without hesitation, to the Lord Jesus, Christ the King.

READINGS


Monday: Prv 1:1-6 1 Cor 2:7-10 Ps 1:1-2, 5-6 Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: Prv 3:1-6, 14-22 Ps 15:2-5 Lk 19:1-6

Wednesday: Prv 11:11-14 Ps 150:1-6 Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: Prv 5:1-10 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Lk 19:44-48

Friday: Prv 10:28-11 Ps 119:34, 24, 72, 103, 113, 114 Lk 19:4-5

Saturday: Prv 11:4-12 Ps 144:1-2, 9-10 Lk 23:28-40
The synod on the family

The controversies surrounding the recent Extraordinary Synod on the family have often put me in mind of John Henry Cardinal Newman, the greatest Catholic churchman of the 19th century. Newman wrote eloquently on an extraordinary range of topics, including university education, the play between faith and reason, the nature of papal authority, and the subtle manner in which we come to matters of religion. But the arguments around the synod compel us to look at Newman’s work regarding the evolution of doctrine.

When he was at mid-career and in the process of converting from Anglicanism to Roman Catholicism, Newman penned a masterpiece entitled “On the Development of Christian Doctrine.” In line with the evolutionary theories that were just emerging at that time—Hegel’s work was dominant in most European universities and Darwin’s “On the Origin of Species” would appear just a few years later—Newman argued that Christian doctrines are not given once for all and simply passed down unchanged from generation to generation. Rather, like seeds that unfold into plants or rivers that deepen and broaden over time, the development of the doctrine of the Trinity proceeded “in the course of lively rumination. It is that idea which, when it is preserved, can remain largely unchanged by the same token, superficialities and Darwin’s ‘On the Origin of Species’ were just emerging at that time. The doctrine of the Trinity in Catholicism does not remain unchanged from generation to generation. It develops, their various aspects and implications emerging in the course of lively rumination. It is assuredly not the case, for example, that the doctrine of the Trinity was delivered fully-grown into the minds of the first disciples of Jesus and then passed on like a football to their disciples. The first is what he calls preservation of type. A valid development preserves the essential form and structure of what came before. If that type is undermined, we are dealing with a corruption. Mind you, type can be maintained even through enormous superficial changes, as, to use Newman’s own example, “a butterfly is a development of the caterpillar but not in any sense its image.” And by the same token, superficialities can remain largely unchanged even as the type utterly morphs, as happened, say, in the transition from the Roman Empire to the Roman Empire.

A second criterion is what Newman refers to as “conservative action upon its past.” An evolution that simply reverses or contradicts what came before is necessarily a corruption and not a development. In Newman’s own words, an authentic development “is an addition that illustrates, not obscures; corroborates, not corrects the body of thought from which it proceeds.” In accord with this idea, Christianity could be seen as the development of Judaism, since it preserves the essential teachings and practices of that faith, even as it moves beyond them. Cardinal George Pell alluded to this principle when he said, during the recent synod debates, “the Church does not do back-flips on doctrine.” So, for example, if a proposal were put forth at the Extraordinary Synod that simply contradicted the teaching of John Paul II in “Familiaris consortio” or Paul VI in “Humanae vitae,” it would certainly reflect a corruption.

A third criterion that Newman puts forward is what he calls “the power of assimilation.” Just as a healthy organism can take in what it can from its environment, even as it resists what it must, so a sane and lively idea can take to itself what is best in the intellectual atmosphere, even as it throws off what is noxious. Both total accommodation and superficialities would certainly reflect a corruption. Now how does all of this apply to the synod? Well, let’s consider the proposal made by Cardinal Walter Kasper regarding communion for the divorced and re-married. Is it an authentic development or a corruption of Catholic moral teaching and practice? Might I suggest that all of the disputants in that argument take a step back and assess the matter using Cardinal Newman’s criteria? Where would Newman be opposed in principle to change in this regard? Not necessarily, for he knew that to live is to change. Would he be therefore enthusiastically embrace what Cardinal Kasper has proposed? Not necessarily, for it might represent a corruption. As the conversation continues to unfold over the coming months, I think all sides would benefit from a careful reading of “On the Development of Christian Doctrine.”


FATHER ROBERT BARRON

**LETTER**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11**

In his 2003 exhortation after the special Synod of Bishops for Europe, St. John Paul wrote that the aim must be “building the European Union seen as a community of peoples and individuals, a community joined together in hope, not exclusively subject to the law of the marketplace but resolutely determined to safeguard the dignity of the human person also in social and economic relations.” For the Polish pope, who had worked in a quarry as a youth and who constantly preached the dignity of labor, unemployment was the key test of whether Europe’s economic policies put people or profits first. On that score, Pope Francis is not expected to go light on the European Union or the Council of Europe, especially when it comes to unemployed young people and, particularly, so-called NEETs—those neither employed, enrolled in educational programs, or in training. Eurostat, the EU’s statistics office, reported that in September, the unemployment rates across its 28 member countries was 10.1 percent and the unemployment rate of people under age 25 was 21.6 percent. The youth unemployment rate ranged from 7.6 percent in Germany to 53.7 percent in Spain. In a July speech on economic reform, Pope Francis pointed to the statistics saying, “a generation of young people is being thrown away, and this is most serious!” Too many European youths “don’t study because they don’t have the means, they don’t work because there are no jobs. More waste. What will be the next thing thrown away?”

During a visit to Italy’s Molise region, Pope Francis sounded very much like St. John Paul when discussing the importance of work. “Not having work is not only to lack life’s basic necessities,” the Pope Francis said, pointing out there are many places to get a free meal or food handouts. “The problem is not being able to bring home the bread: This is serious, and this takes away dignity.”

**WORD ON FIRE**

**SCRIPTURE SEARCH**

**Gospel for November 16, 2014**

Matthew 25:14-30

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: the story of interest and no interest talents. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.
USF ATHLETICS EARN NAIA GOLD FOR CHARACTER  The University of Saint Francis athletic program has earned the highest NAIA honor possible for character on the athletic field and courts the office announced Nov. 6. NAIA introduced a tier system recognizing levels of achievement and USF is one of just 12 institutions to earn the highest possible earning “Gold” status in the NAIA Champions of Character Five-Star designation for 2013-14. USF, which is a member of the Crossroads League and Mid-States Football Association Mideast League, was one of 168 NAIA members to earn the Champion of Champions Five-Star Award.

Traditional chant blends with new technology

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — A new project from local artist Fernando Tarango is a marriage of the sacred and traditional with modern recording technology. “Dream Rodeo,” a meditation and chant album, is part of the producer’s world music project, whose goal is to record traditional music from around the world and set it to modern music production, tying in the old with the new.

Tarango, a Bishop Luers High School graduate, has made quite a name for himself in the music world. Recording artist, songwriter, actor, composer and producer, he has been seen or heard on national commercials for Old Spice, Southern Comfort, Lowe’s, Kruse’s Hardware, and Olay, has performed with Grammy-Award winning artists. As the producer’s world music project, each album representing a different culture or geographical region. Each album has a different vocalist, and each is in a different language.

Married the traditional with new recording technology is what this project is about,” said Tarango. The “Dream Rodeo” project was conceived years later, when Tarango met local producer Jon Gillespie, who shared his musical ambitions. The two formed a creative union, and have worked together since.

“Dream Rodeo” is a 33-album project, each album representing a different culture or geographical region. Each album has a different vocalist, and each is in a different language.

Tarango’s album is rooted in the concept of the Gregorian chant, which according to Gillespie is “gorgeous, powerful music, that has been around for centuries.” Tarango curated the chants based on the recommendations of fellow performer-friends. This project is just as much about embracing a different aspect of Church history, as it is about preserving culture. “There is a generation of people that has not been exposed to music that matters,” Gillespie said. “This is endangered music that has been preserved in a way modern audiences can relate to.”

The challenge was to put the music in a modern context, while preserving the cultural integrity of the composition. For example, they embraced a technique of maintaining youthful and innocent sounding voices. There is also a great deal of layering — overlapping of vocals and maintaining a distance from the microphone to create a specific sound, Tarango said.

“The presentation was just as much a part of the creative process as the technical aspect. The pieces are three to eight minutes long, an aspect of the composition. For example, the song ‘Adoration’ is a slow track where we are trying to put yourself in a (mental) space — whatever that is,” said Tarango.

“You don’t have to be Catholic to appreciate Gregorian chant,” he said.

Gillespie echoed this comment: “The power of the music transcends the literal. You don’t have to know what the singer is saying to understand the message.”

For more information about “Dream Rodeo” and to purchase the digital album, visit fernando-tarango.com.

Sister Maria C. González

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — Bishop Luers football claims sectional title FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers claimed the football sectional title after a 54-6 rout over the Garrett Railroaders on their home field, Friday, Nov. 7. Quarterback Noah Wezensky went 14-17 for 255 yards and three touchdowns, while Tyrell Johnson went 100 yards on four catches for two scores. The No. 3 Knights will face Yorktown Friday night in Class 3-A regional action. — Michelle Castelman

Correction of doubles tennis champions

In the Nov. 9, 2104 issue of Today’s Catholic the sports flag congratulated members of the Bishop Luers High School tennis team which earned a conference crown. The piece should have listed the doubles champions as Erik and Johnny Woehlker.
Cozy up to the fire with some comforting books for cold nights

**BY KAY COZAD**

The following are recently published books that have been sent to Today’s Catholic that can touch the fancy of Catholic and non-Catholic readers alike. Each book is reviewed using publishing house press releases and includes publisher name and ISBN number for ease of purchase at your local Catholic bookstore.


“Seven Saints for Seven Virtues,” by Jean M. Heimann takes her readers through the lives of seven exemplary people who were models for each of the seven virtues. Learning how these holy witnesses lived with temptation and problems will guide the faithful on their journey toward God. Her concrete suggestions for putting virtues in action makes this a practical guide for any Catholic. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-1-61636-845-4.

“Dark light of Love,” John S. Dunne’s 23rd book, was written before his death in 2013 and examines darkness as a metaphor for unknowing and the unknown. In this meditative work Dunne engages music, theology, and personal essays with realism and personal authenticity to continue in their challenging work of educating the young. The reflections were written by members of University of Notre Dame’s Alliance for Catholic Education. Ave Maria Press, ISBN: 978-1-59471-484-1.

“Sacrament: Personal Encounters with Memories, Wounds, Dreams, and Unruly Hearts,” by Patrick Hannon brings the sacraments to life by offering engaging personal essays with realism and compassion. Each chapter is a metaphor of one of the sacraments with personal narratives from Father Hannon. Ave Maria Press, ISBN: 978-1-59471-544-0.

“Encounter Jesus: From Discovery to Discipleship,” by Father Dave Pivonka and Deacon Ralph Poyo is a guide from the first discovery of faith to rejection of sin, and prayer to learning to live for others. The team has written each chapter in his turn and delivers Scripture, faith education and inspiring vignettes from which to learn to live as true disciples. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-1-61636-789-3.


“Joan of Arc: A Life Transfigured,” by Kathryn Harrison is an inspiring and fully documented saga of this young peasant girl who was moved to rally the French nation against British invaders in 1428. This tale offers a Joan of unshakable faith, courage and self-confidence in the face of her death by burning. Doubleday, ISBN: 978-0-385-53120-7.


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TOP YOURS CATHOLIC

November 16, 2014

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**What’s Happening?**

**Tenderloin dinner supports Haiti**
Decatur — The Haiti Committee of St. Mary’s Parish will have a tenderloin dinner on Tuesday, Nov. 18, from 5-7 p.m. or until gone. Breaded or grilled tenderloin and french fries for $7 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1703 High St. All proceeds support the sister parish in Haiti.

**Bishop Luers to host Turkey Trot**
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will host a Turkey Trot Sunday, Nov. 23, from 6-10:30 p.m. at Columbia Street West, 135 W. Columbia St. An early bird ticket is $20 until Nov. 16, $25 after and can be purchased in the Athletic Office, or by contacting Lisa Palmer at 260-438-0482. Tickets include food, wine, soft drinks and live music by “Actual Size.”

**‘Not Your Grandma’s Bazaar’**
Churubusco — The Rosary Society of St. John Bosco Church, 216 N. Main St., will host a bazaar on Friday, Nov. 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 22, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy baked cinnamon rolls and coffee in the morning and soup, sandwich and dessert lunch all afternoon. Handmade crafts, hand rolled noodles and homemade baked goods. Raffle for a quilt sewn by the ladies of the parish and other prizes.

**Holiday bazaar**
South Bend — Corpus Christi Parish will have a holiday bazaar. Saturday, Nov. 15, from 9 to 3 p.m. Over 50 craft vendors and the eighth grade will offer lunch. The Altar and Rosary Society will hold a raffle for unique items.

**THANKSGIVING DINNERS**

**Thanksgiving dinner to be offered to seniors**
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451 will have a Thanksgiving dinner for all seniors Thursday, Nov. 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reservations are requested to 260-493-1914 by Nov. 20. There is no charge, but donations are welcome.

**Community Thanksgiving dinner**
Bremen — St. Dominic Parish along with Horizon Ministries, the Bremen United Methodist Church and St. Paul United Church of Christ are co-sponsoring a free Thanksgiving dinner at St. Isidore Hall, 803 W. Bike St., from noon to 3 p.m. on Thanksgiving day. All are welcome for fun, food and fellowship. For more information, call 574-546-3601 or email office@stdominic.info.

**Theology on Tap**

**Theology on Tap**

**Theology on Tap**

**Mishawaka** — Speaker Lisa Marino will be at Theology on Tap Monday, Nov. 17, from 7-8:40 p.m. at the Knights Hall. Free cappuccino for all teens.

**Craft Show**
November 22, 2014 • 9:00 am-3:00 pm
St. Therese Parish
2304 Lower Huntington Road, Fort Wayne

**The CrossWord**
November 16, 23 and 30, 2014

**PRE-ARRANGEMENT SPECIAL**

**10% OFF**
In-Ground Grave Spaces, Opening/Closings and Vaults or $250 off Single Crypt Spaces (Above Ground Entombment) or $75 off Single niche (cremains) spaces.

**Graves now available in the new Garden of Our Lady of Guadalupe-Section Q.**

The Catholic Cemetery is a sacred place, long since consecrated according to our Catholic tradition. The Catholic Cemetery has beautiful, tree-lined areas available for burial. Respond now if you would like these lovely areas for your final resting place.

In addition to in-ground lots, the Catholic Cemetery has many other burial options available including garden crypts, cremation niche columbariums, and mausoleum entombment spaces.

We invite you to consider your burial needs thoughtfully and without pressure before the need arises, relieving others of those difficult decisions.

Call Larry Fisher at 260.426.2044 for an appointment or visit the Cemetery Office at 3500 Lake Avenue from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**www.catholic-cemetery.org**

**Promotion ends December 12, 2014.**

**Pre-arrangement savings**

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**Craft Show**

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1 Data for March 2013 was obtained from online beneficiary database maintained by the U.S. Social Security Administration’s Office of the Chief Actuary, available at www.ssa.gov/oact/ProgData/icp.html (last accessed April 2013)
3 Gen Re. U.S. Group Disability Rate & Risk Management Survey 2012, based on claims closed in 2011