

'I absolve you from your sins'

Path to Reconciliation

Pages 8-10

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

'The Light Is On For You' set March 5 Confessions in all parishes of the diocese 6-8 p.m.

St. Gregory of Narek

New Doctor of the Church

Page 2

Pope Francis' leadership style

Speaker offers insight at USF breakfast lecture

Page 3

Jason Evert at Notre Dame

Live courageously, choose purity

Page 6

Ash Wednesday visit

Bishop Rhoades visits Bishop Dwenger High School

Page 16

BY TIM JOHNSON

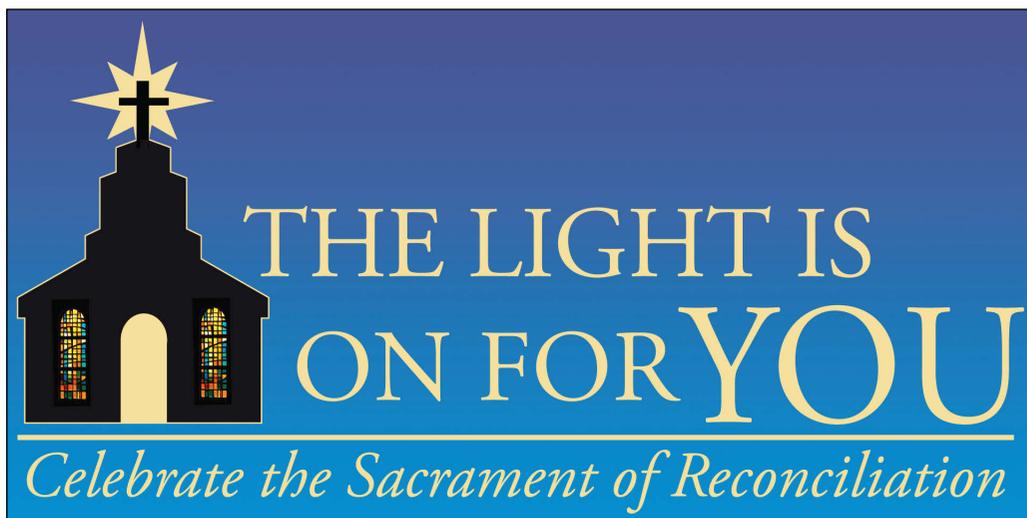
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades has designated Thursday, March 5, from 6-8 p.m., "as the date and time for all the churches of our diocese to be open for prayer and (I) am asking all our priests to hear individual confessions during that two-hour time period," the bishop wrote in a past letter to priests.

The initiative is called "The Light Is On for You" and will offer Catholics of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend the availability of the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Confession provides an opportunity to set aside sinful ways and to draw closer to the Lord.

For those who need special assistance in going to Confession, contact Mary Glowaski of the Secretariat for Evangelization and Special Ministries at mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org or call 260-399-1458 for accommodations.

"The Light Is On For You" is endorsed by the U.S. bishops and is an invitation to all Catholics of the diocese to stop in church for prayer and provides the opportunity for Confession. The program began in the Archdiocese of Washington and has been adopted by other dioceses with much success. With this program, all parishes in a diocese open their churches on a particular evening for



Confessions.

"The Light Is On For You" is for Catholics who frequent Confession, but is also an opportunity for Catholics who may be reluctant to come to the sacrament, have been away for some time, or just find it difficult to get to a Saturday afternoon Confession time. It is an opportunity for Catholics to reconnect with Christ and His Church.

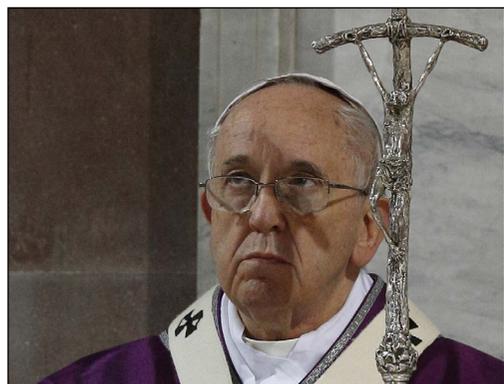
For those who have been away from the sacrament for some time, churches will have

Reconciliation brochures available for helpful "how-to" guidance.

The faithful are encouraged to invite their family and friends who have been away from the sacrament to take part.

"Imagine the sense of welcome and hope they would experience if they walked into a church filled with people praying and meditating in silence in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament," one bulletin promotion announcement said.

POPE FRANCIS CELEBRATES ASH WEDNESDAY MASS



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis celebrates Ash Wednesday Mass at the Basilica of Santa Sabina in Rome Feb. 18. Lent is a journey of purification and penance, a movement that should bring one tearfully back to the loving arms of the merciful Father, Pope Francis said at an Ash Wednesday Mass that began with a procession on Rome's Aventine Hill.

Pope: Don't let meatless Fridays be selfish, soulless, seafood splurge

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Real fasting isn't just restricting food choices, it must also include cleansing the heart of all selfishness and making room in one's life for those in need and those who have sinned and need healing, Pope Francis said.

Faith without concrete acts of charity is not only hypocritical, "it is dead; what good is it?" he said, criticizing those who hide behind a veil of piety while unjustly treating others, such as denying workers fair wages, a pension and health care.

Being generous toward the Church, but selfish and unjust toward others "is a very serious sin: It is using God to cover up injustice," he said Feb. 20 during his homily in a morning Mass celebrated in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae, where he lives.

The pope's homily was based on the day's reading from the Book of Isaiah in which God tells His people he does not care for those who observe penance passively — bowed "like a reed," lying quietly in a "sackcloth and ashes."

Instead, God says He desires to see His people crying out "full-throated and unsparingly" against injustice and sin, "setting free the oppressed,

breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless." In the reading, God also points out the hypocrisy of the faithful who fast, but treat their workers badly and fight and quarrel with others.

Pope Francis said Lent is about fulfilling all commandments both toward God and others, according to reports from Vatican Radio and the Vatican newspaper.

Lent is not about the formal observance of "doing a little whatever" and not eating meat on Fridays, while giving oneself free reign to "grow in selfishness, exploit others and ignore the poor," he said.

There might be someone who thinks, "Today is Friday, I can't eat meat, but I'm going to have a nice plate of seafood, a real banquet," which, while appearing to be an abstinence from meat, is the sin of gluttony, the pope said.

Another person might say: "I am a great Catholic, Father, I like it a lot. I always go to Mass every Sunday, I receive Communion," to which, the pope said he would reply, "Great, and how is your relationship with your workers? Do you pay them under the table? Do you give them a fair

MEAT, PAGE 3

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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St. Gregory of Narek: 'Speaking with God from the Depths of the Heart'

The newest Doctor of the Church hails from Armenia

BY MATTHEW BUNSON

St. Gregory of Narek was a saint, priest, mystic, composer, astronomer, theologian and poet, honored as the first poet of Armenia and revered by Armenians as a "watchful angel in human form." He is now also a Doctor of the Church.

On Feb. 23, the Vatican announced that Pope Francis had declared St. Gregory the 36th Doctor of the Church, the first new Doctor since 2012.

Armenia was the first state in history to adopt Christianity as its official religion, and the faith over the centuries has remained a central element in Armenian life. In the 10th century, the kingdom of Armenia was in what historians describe as a golden age, with great achievements in literature, art and architecture. That era of progress ended in the late 11th century with the invasion by the savage Seljuk Turks and then later the Mongols followed by centuries of war and bloodshed that climaxed with the genocide of 1.5 million Armenians during World War I by the Ottoman Turks. St. Gregory was a leading light in the era of the Armenian cultural renaissance and a source of comfort and courage in the often grim centuries that followed his death in 1003.

As Gregory wrote to God, "In the face of my darkness, You are light. In the face of my mortality, You are life."

Gregory grew up in a family of Church leaders. His father was a bishop and theologian and his uncle was abbot of the famed Narek Monastery on the shores of Lake Van in eastern Anatolia (in modern Turkey) that was a center of Armenian spirituality. Gregory spent most of his life as a monk, priest and teacher at Narek, but little else is known about him beyond the treasure of his writings.

His first notable work — written when he was still quite young — was a commentary on the Song of Songs that was commissioned by an Armenian prince. It revealed immense theological depth and was succeeded by letters, odes, songs, poems and Armenian liturgical chants. His masterwork was his last, the "Book of Lamentations," called also the "Narek" and simply "The



ST. GREGORY OF NAREK

Prayer Book." Gregory intended it to be his last testament, an "encyclopedia of prayer for all nations ... its letters like my body, its message like my soul."

The "Book of Lamentations" is a collection of 95 prayers in 366 chapters intended to express the sighs of a "broken and contrite heart" in a way that might be pleasing to God. Composed in old classical Armenian in 1003, probably as Gregory suffered from a terminal illness, it is a complete school of prayer for every Christian. It is deeply personal in tone and expresses the cry of the soul separated from God but also giving its Creator all due worship and praise. It combines the candor of St. Augustine's Confessions with the grandeur of the Psalms and the vivid images and themes of the wisdom books of the Old Testament with one goal: "speaking with God from the depths of the heart."

Gregory's "Book of Lamentations" was the source of consolation and guidance for

generations in times of immense suffering. His monastery survived for a thousand years but was destroyed by the Turks during the genocide. Armenians lost Narek, but they still have the book they call by that name in his honor, and many Armenians have traditionally slept with a copy of the work under their pillows.

The pope is scheduled to celebrate Mass for the Armenian-rite faithful on April 12 in St. Peter's Basilica. It will be a solemn commemoration of the Armenian genocide one century ago, but now it will also be a celebration of the newest Doctor of the Church.

The title of Doctor of the Church is bestowed on a saint because of his or her renowned holiness and also the significant contributions they made to the teachings of the faith. Typical of Pope Francis, the choice of Gregory as the 36th Doctor was entirely unanticipated. Francis accepted the recommendation of the Congregation for the Causes

of Saints that Gregory be named a Doctor and considers Gregory's teachings both timely and consistent with Francis' own hopes for the Church. Gregory's teachings have proven valuable to the Armenians and countless others over the last millennium, and the pontiff is encouraging Catholics to learn from this jewel of Eastern Christianity. It is also a gesture to Eastern Christians who are suffering so greatly in the face of Islamic extremism.

The words of Gregory, too, are consonant with Francis' call on all Catholics to reach out to God in our brokenness with humble and contrite hearts. As Gregory wrote in the Lamentations, "hear the prayers of my embattled heart for mercy, when I cry out to you, 'Lord,' in my time of need."

Matthew Bunson is OSV senior correspondent. Reprinted with permission from Our Sunday Visitor. For more information, visit www.osv.com.

Speaker details Pope Francis' leadership style to make better leaders

BY MARY KINDER

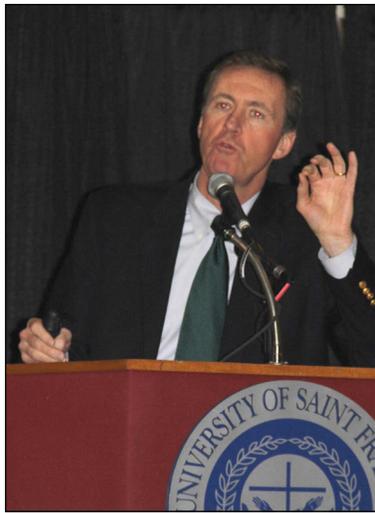
FORT WAYNE— There is no arguing the fact that Pope Francis is a compelling leader, helping to revitalize the Catholic Church in tough times. "Leadership Lessons from Pope Francis" was the topic of the third installment of University of Saint Francis' Servus Omnium Lecture Series with featured speaker Chris Lowney, author of "Pope Francis: Why He Leads the Way He Does."

Lowney's varied past seemingly makes him the ideal person to write this particular book. The current chair of the board of Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the nation's largest healthcare/hospital systems, Lowney is a former Jesuit seminarian who also served as a managing director of J.P. Morgan. His first book, "Heroic Leadership," was an international bestseller that has been translated into eleven languages.

The morning began with welcoming remarks from USF President Sister of St. Francis M. Elise Kriss, followed by a blessing and prayer for Pope Francis by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. Dr. Matthew Smith, USF vice president of institutional advancement, introduced Lowney after a Mardi Gras breakfast was served.

Lowney immediately set the tone for his lecture by asking everyone to spend one minute thinking of a living person who they would describe as an effective leader, along with a few characteristics that they believed that leader had. The audience was then given a short time to discuss their thoughts with others, which not only got everyone personally invested in the lecture, but also helped define effective leadership.

Lowney next shared the results of a recent nationwide poll that showed just how much the country mistrusted its leaders. The poll showed extremely low approval



Chris Lowney, author of "Pope Francis: Why He Leads the Way He Does," was the speaker at this year's Servus Omnium Lecture hosted by the University of Saint Francis in the Performing Arts Center on the downtown campus.

and trust ratings across all types of leadership — political, educational, business, even religious. He did a quick and informal poll of the audience, which mimicked the nationwide study.

Lowney stressed that compared to 30 years ago, people are far less trustful of their leaders. He drew a correlation that today's faster paced, more complex, constantly changing lifestyle contributes to this distrust. Today, a single person does not make decisions, as they have been made in the past. Leadership is no longer a single person, but has become a behavior. And, according to Lowney, forming new habits in leadership can change it. This led to the introduction of Pope Francis' leadership style.

Rather than dissecting Pope Francis' leadership now that he is pope, Lowney instead presented what he called a "leadership case study." Lowney focused on the methods of leadership Pope Francis developed when

he was a Jesuit priest in charge of a seminary in Argentina. He reasoned that the tactics that then Father Bergoglio (currently Pope Francis) demonstrated as a Jesuit priest laid the groundwork for what he does today. In fact, throughout his presentation, Lowney referred to Father Bergoglio rather than Pope Francis.

Lowney called out three specific examples Father Bergoglio demonstrated: Doing the laundry, dusty shoes and monastery bells. In each instance, Lowney not only explained the example in detail, but also made the case for real world uses, both in business and spiritually. In this way, Lowney went beyond merely describing the leader Pope Francis is to showcasing how anyone can be a better leader — whether at work, throughout the community, or in the home. He reminded the audience that everyone has responsibilities, which means everyone is a leader at some level. He also defined leadership as "pointing out a way, then influencing others toward it."

Each of the three leadership examples led back to effective lessons in leadership: First, great leaders don't serve themselves, but give themselves to missions greater than self; Great leaders are internally free to make choices that serve a mission; and great leaders are in touch with those they lead and are able to find God in all things.

An interesting point was made about the leadership choices Father Bergoglio made during his time at the seminary. Lowney stressed that none of the steps the future pope took were manipulative in nature. He was just behaving in a way he thought was appropriate. That, Lowney said, is the trait of a true leader. It is also part of what makes Pope Francis such compelling leader who has gained the trust and admiration of people around the world.

"This is the distinction between formal and real," he said, which Jesus underlined, too, when He condemned the Pharisees and doctors of the law, who adhered to "many external observances but without the truth of the heart."

Unfortunately, he said, many "men and women have faith but they separate the tablets of law," that is, they obey the first commandments and obligations to God while ignoring or being selective about the rest of the commandments concerning others.

"They are united: love toward God and love to your neighbor are one, and if you want to practice real, not formal, penance, you have to do it before God and also with your brother and sister, your neighbor," he said.

The pope asked that during Lent people think about what they can do for people who are in very

difficult situations, for example, to help "children and the elderly who don't have the possibility of being seen by a doctor."

Perhaps they have to wait "eight hours to be seen and then they give them an appointment for the week after," he said.

"What will you do for these people? What will your Lent be like?"

He also asked people to make room in their hearts for those who have sinned, those who "have made mistakes and are in jail."

To those who may protest about associating with people who have been imprisoned, the pope said, "He is in jail, but you — if you are not in jail, it is because the Lord helped you to not fall." Pray for them, he said, so that the Lord may help them turn their lives around.



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, March 1, 2 p.m. — Rite of Election, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Monday, March 2, 8 a.m. — Meeting of Indiana Bishops and Religious Superiors, Fatima Retreat House, Indianapolis
- Tuesday, March 3, 7 p.m. — Little Flower Holy Hour, Saint Theodore Guérin Chapel, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m. — Mass at Parish Mission, Saint Therese Church, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, March 5, 10 a.m. — Bishop's Cabinet meeting
- Thursday, March 5, 6-8 p.m. — Confessions, The Light Is On For You, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. — Mass for Deanery Council of Catholic Women, Saint Mary, Mother of God, Church, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, March 7, 4:30 p.m. — Mass at Our Lady of Good Hope Church, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, March 7, 6 p.m. — Saints Alive Dinner and Auction, Bishop Dwenger High School

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.



Funds raised for World Meeting of Families stand at \$30 million

BY MATTHEW GAMBINO

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Officials for the World Meeting of Families this year in Philadelphia announced Feb. 20 that \$30 million in cash and in-kind donations has been raised to support the four-day event Sept. 22-25, capped by the visit of Pope Francis.

The congress will welcome top speakers and participants, Catholic and non-Catholic, from across the United States and the world to discuss ways of strength-

ening and supporting families and the challenges they face.

Independence Blue Cross CEO Daniel Hilferty, as co-chair of the Executive Leadership Cabinet of the World Meeting of Families, first revealed the fundraising results in a speech to the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce Feb. 19.

The \$30 million in pledges puts the fundraising effort at 67 percent of the estimated \$45 million budget to host the event.

FAMILIES, PAGE 4

MEAT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

wage? Do you contribute toward their pension? To their health insurance and social services?"

Some people may regularly make financial contributions to the Church, but, the pope asked, how generous are they toward their loved ones and their dependents? Are they generous and just to them, too, he asked.

People cannot "make offerings to the Church on the back of injustice," he said. "It is not a good Christian who doesn't do justice to the people who depend on him" and who does not "deprive himself of something essential for him in order to give it to another who is in need."

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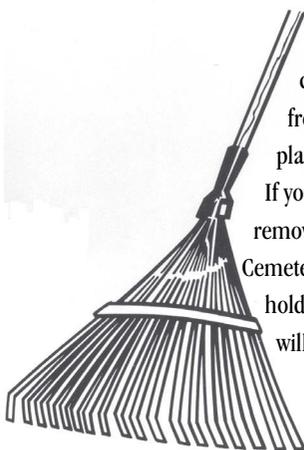
Notice of ANNUAL CLEANUP

at CATHOLIC CEMETERY

The Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne will conduct their ANNUAL CLEANUP of decorations from March 15 thru March 31. Please do NOT place any decorations during this entire time.

If you wish to save your decoration, please have it removed BEFORE March 15, or call the Catholic Cemetery Office, 426-2044, by March 10, and we will hold it for you no more than 30 days, after which it will be discarded. Decorations may be placed **AFTER MARCH 31.**

We thank you for your cooperation.



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FAMILY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Expenses will include security and safety measures, technology, transportation, labor and infrastructure enhancements including telecommunications cabling, and pedestrian-control barriers.

World Meeting planners expect to clarify costs for the event after they receive a formal itinerary from the Vatican of the papal visit, perhaps by the summer.

“Wonderful generosity and great enthusiasm for the World Meeting of Families and Pope Francis have defined our initial fundraising efforts,” said Philadelphia Archbishop Charles J. Chaput. “From those supporting this event, we have often heard about the fundamental importance of the family in strengthening our communities at-large, and regardless of faith, all have expressed a

desire to support the institution of the family, which is the cornerstone of our society.

“There is also great excitement about the visit by Pope Francis and how his presence in Philadelphia next September will bring people of all faiths together in conversation, service and ultimately, love,” the archbishop said.

The Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau estimates the regional economic impact of the congress and the papal visit to be more than \$418 million.

The World Meeting of Families is a nonprofit organization operating independent of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Planners expect to release detailed information on the names of donors after the conclusion of the event.

Sponsored by the Pontifical Council for the Family, the world family gathering is held every three years in a different city. St. John Paul II began the practice in 1994 in Rome. The event seeks to strengthen the bonds of fam-

ily across the globe and highlight the family's value to the good of society.

This will be the first time the international meeting is being held in the United States and will precede the first visit of Pope Francis to this country. He is also expected to visit New York City and Washington during his trip.

Editor's note: The Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend reports that registration for accommodations for the Theological Congress preceding the World Meeting for Families remains open until March 1. At the time of this writing, rooms are still available.

Matthew Gambino is director and general manager of CatholicPhilly.com, the news website of the Philadelphia Archdiocese.

New SVDP Thrift Store manager setting sights on service

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — Two things drew Tim Fagan to apply for the manager's position at the St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) Thrift Store in Fort Wayne: the love of working with people in a retail environment and the opportunity to help the needy through the Church and the Society of SVDP.

“Being able to marry those two things together is a really good opportunity for me,” said Fagan, who has nearly 27 years of retail management experience.

A native of Fort Wayne, he and his father built and operated Southwest Automotive for more than 12 years. After they sold the business in 2005, Tim worked in retail management for Kohl's, Phar-Mor and Target in Fort Wayne, and ran a Jiffy Lube in Indianapolis for two years.

At age 50, Fagan is the older of two other siblings: a sister, Sharon, of Franklin, Indiana, and a brother, Joe, of Fort Wayne. “We all were adopted through Catholic Charities,” noted Fagan. He and his wife, Jamie, will be married 30 years this spring. They are the parents of a daughter, Sarah, and grandparents of one grandson, Coleman, born on Valentine's Day last year. They are members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne.

The retail aspect and dealing with customers is very similar to his most recent experience at Target for the past six-and-one-half years, Fagan related. “The customer always comes first! You try to bend over backwards to make things right for the customer,” he noted. The biggest difference he's seen in his few weeks as the new store manager is that



TIM FAGAN

the store is not a full for-profit operation but a ministry.

Fagan cited as an example a gentleman who came into the store recently wearing the one set of clothes he owned. “We had the latitude to give him a store voucher and provide him with three outfits consisting of socks, pants and shirts. That's what we're here for and it's so much different from the Target environment,” he continued. “Here we get the opportunity to help people that need the help.”

“I love the work! Life circumstances change and you really don't anticipate what's going to happen. It makes you appreciate the things you have, it really does,” he emphasized.

One of the first things on the new manager's agenda is to reorganize the store and reformat the pricing.

“We want to generate as much income as we can to do as much good as we can for the community,” he stressed. “After we sold down the furniture fairly

quickly, God blessed us with a big donation from Delagrange, resupplying the furniture section with some good, quality pieces. We hope to get some money from the sales and use it toward our ministry.”

Fagan also cited some new products in the front of the store at 1600 S. Calhoun St., such as shampoos, toothpaste and toothbrushes purchased from drugstore closeouts a couple of months ago. “These items give our customers a way to get some of these everyday necessities and save money,” he said.

He also talked about two new electronic signs located on the north and south ends of the building that provide time, temperature, store hours and other messages — all computer programmed from his office.

Beginning on April 1, the thrift store will be open from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturdays instead of closing at 1 p.m., allowing more time for shopping.

In addition, a new website — svdpsfw.org — is in its beginning stages containing information about the store and the Society of SVDP with plans in the near future to create links to other Catholic websites.

And, finally, the store is looking to purchase a second truck in the next couple of months for its Stuff-A-Truck program, allowing more parishes to fill a truck with donated clothing items and small furniture on a weekend.

“Sales at the thrift store do two things,” Fagan concluded. “They help the poor by providing a place for people who can't afford things to come in and get items at a cheaper price, and the money others spend supports the St. Vincent de Paul Society mission.”

Banning abortion for gender selection or disabled fetus advances

STATEHOUSE — Legislation banning abortion when it is sought for gender selection or a genetically disabled fetus cleared a Senate panel by a 9-2 vote.

The legislation, Senate Bill 334, prohibits abortion if the pregnant woman is seeking it because of the sex of the fetus, or a diagnosis or potential diagnosis of the fetus having Down syndrome or any other disability.

Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference said, "We believe that public policy ought to protect all human beings from conception to natural death. It is in the best interest of society to protect its weakest members, including the physically handicapped, those with mental illness, all children and especially the defenseless infant in the womb," said Tebbe.

"Abortion of all babies is unacceptable," said Tebbe.

"Aborting a child because of his or her sex or handicapped condition is another illustration of people playing God, wanting to control one's life by determining the perfect child. All children are gifts from God, given for benefit of the family and the good of all in society," he said.

"Public policy should promote and support the growth and development of all children."

Three lawmakers including Sen. Travis Holdman, R-Markle, Sen. Amanda Banks, R-Columbia City and Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne authored the measure.

Sen. Brown presented the bill to the Senate Health panel. She said that in addition to aborting for reasons of sex selection or disability, the bill also addresses informed consent. Women seeking an abortion would be notified in writing 18 hour prior to the abortion being performed that Indiana law prohibits abortion solely for sex selection, fetal disability. It also applies to the termination of pregnancy form that the doctors must complete after each abortion whether the fetus has been diagnosed with or has a potential diagnosis of a disability.

According to Sen. Brown, 63 percent of OB-GYNs believe an abortion was justified, yet when they survey the women, 25 percent of the women with a diagnosis of Down syndrome fetus reported the doctor insisted they abort, and felt pressured into doing so.

"I think what we are seeing

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

today is a rush to judgment," said Sen. Brown. "Instead of looking at the value these parents have in making a choice, we have positions, and abortion providers in particular are pushing this 'choice' on women which in fact does not become a choice because they are not given all the facts. They are not making an informed choice," said the Fort Wayne lawmaker.

Citing Harvard professor Dr. Sen's book, "More than 100 Million Women are Missing," Sen. Brown said that there is a 60 percent reduction of women being born because they are not valued. "Here in the United States we do not subscribe to that judgment because gender and disability are protected classes. In this bill we are saying that women and the disabled are protected class-

es from conception to the end of natural lives," she said. "What this bill does is codify in law that these are constitutionally protected classes, and that if you have been labeled a potentially disabled child and or a woman should not be the inducement for a parent to abort you."

Sen. Vanetta Becker, R-Evansville, asked "Are you willing to put your money where your mouth is?" Sen. Becker questioned if they would be willing to provide more funding for the developmentally disabled.

In response, Sen. Holdman said, "I believe we get to a slippery slope when we begin to evaluate a child in economic terms only. We've seen that in fascist countries."

He said, "In our public policy, we want to say we value life over an economic choice. If we abort a child because of Down syndrome merely on the fact that it is going to cost somebody a lot of money, it's a slippery slope."

He added, "We want to be very careful in approaching that kind of public policy position."

Sen. Holdman said he "absolutely would be in favor of additional funding" if it's required to support children with a disability. "We need to have a policy of life rather than a policy of extermination," said Sen. Holdman.

Dr. David Prentice, stem cell expert testified in support of the bill. He called it a bill about "preventing discrimination based on gender or genetic differences on preborn human beings."

He added that while abortion for sex selection does occur in the U.S., there aren't very good records. He said there are new studies coming out showing sex selection abortions are taking place in the US and Canada. As more advanced testing becomes available providing earlier results for sex and genetic defects, Dr. Prentice said more sex selection abortions will occur. While some medical advancement will be used as reason to terminate a pregnancy, Dr. Prentice said new treatments are coming online to correct some genetic defects in the womb including the use of adult stem cells.

St. Vincent De Paul opens new store, donation processing center in South Bend

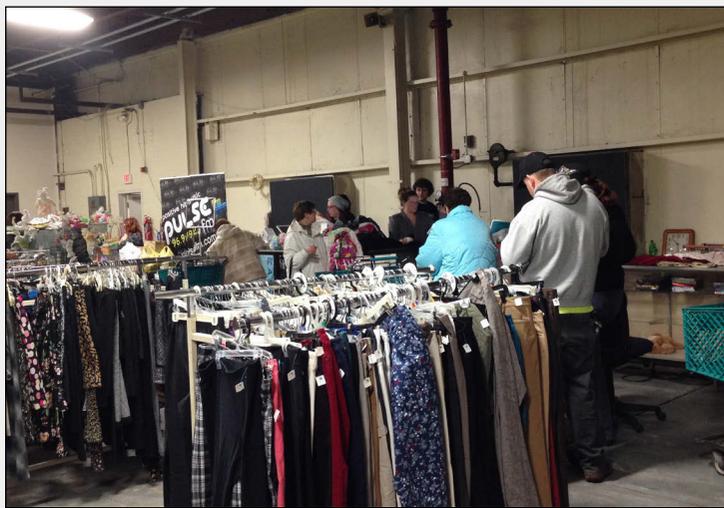
BY THOM VILLING

SOUTH BEND — The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County is opening its second new retail store in four months on South Bend's west side. The new store is located at 1827 N. Bendix Dr. and will also house the society's donation processing center.

The move is part of an overall realignment of retail operations that coincides with the replacement of the thrift store/processing center recently closed at LaSalle Square and being acquired by the City of South Bend. Four months ago, another store was opened on Western Avenue under the society's new Vinnie's retail brand. That store is located in Saint Vincent Plaza, formerly the Bellevue Shopping Center. The organization also has a retail store in Greenwood Shopping Center at the corner of Ironwood and State Road 23 in South Bend.

The new facility is a total of 48,000 square feet, of which 12,000 square feet will be dedicated to retail sales and the balance of the space used for collecting, sorting and pricing donations. The retail product mix will be the same as the LaSalle Square store with a wide selection of clothing, furniture, appliances, housewares, books, sporting goods, collectibles and more. The retail operation will share the Vinnie's Resale Store brand and will be managed by Aubrey Howell.

Grand opening festivities



THOM VILLING

The St. Vincent de Paul Society celebrated the opening of a new Vinnie's Community Store on Feb. 21 with a food drive, live radio remote and special deals for shoppers. Located at 1827 N. Bendix Dr. in South Bend, Vinnie's offers lightly used clothes, furniture, appliances and household goods at great prices.

were celebrated Feb. 21.

The announcement of the new store and processing center was made by St. Vincent de Paul Society Executive Director Anne Hosinski Watson.

"For the time being at least, the Bendix facility completes our expansion and realignment activities," said Watson. "We needed a much more modern and productive environment for both retail and processing services than the facilities we have been using. Our staff and volunteers are very excited about the move."

The products sold in the society's retail facilities are primarily secured through donations of used clothing and merchandise from South Bend-area residents through collection

drives and drop boxes located throughout the city. The donations are sorted by staff and society volunteers known as Vincentians, and prepared for purchase in the stores. The proceeds of the sales are used to support the society's mission.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is a Catholic lay organization that administers food, clothing, financial and other forms of direct assistance to the poor and those in need in St. Joseph County. The society also offers self-sufficiency initiatives including the Food for Thought, Bridges Out of Poverty "Getting Ahead" and Healthy Living programs and operates three community resale stores.

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Jason Evert encourages college students to live courageously, choose purity

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

NOTRE DAME — Jason Evert, an internationally known chastity speaker and author, was welcomed to campus Feb. 12 by more than 300 Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross College students excited to hear him speak on the beauty of relationships, marriage and God's love.

His talk, entitled "How to Save Your Marriage Before Meeting Your Spouse," integrated personal stories, humor and theological insights to provide a comprehensive approach for overcoming temptations and expectations of the culture and instead choosing to live with purity and offer self-sacrifice.

Evert, who has spoken on six continents to more than 1 billion people, began, "We are all looking for love, but how do we find love in a culture where more people hook up than even hold hands? The response is chastity, which orders sexual desires according to the demands of human love, freeing you from the utilitarian attitude and tendency to want to use others.

If I can't say 'no' to my own desires, then what good is my 'yes' worth? Chastity frees us to love, and frees us to know if we are being loved."

He continued, "Being chaste tests relationships. It allows you to determine whether the other person truly desires you or only seeks the pleasure they are getting at your expense." Evert cited statistical evidence showing that "the longer a couple waits to be sexually active, typically the longer the relationship lasts and the more likely it is to be stable and satisfying for both people."

Evert laid out a five-step plan for preparing students to build happier and healthier relationships. First, he implored them to "enjoy the season of single-ness." He explained, "We are pushed into relationships very early in life and often jump in too quickly. It is important to take time to learn about someone before beginning a serious relationship with them. What is the purpose of dating anyone else if you can't really see yourself marrying them one day and having children together?"

For his second point, he advocated, "The first place to look for love is not outside, it is within."

Evert explained, "It is not about finding the perfect person; it is about becoming the person the other one deserves. Is there something you need to root out of your life, like pornography, to have a healthy marriage? It is essential to realize that marriage is not the fulfillment of porn.



PROVIDED BY JASON EVERT

Over 300 students give a standing ovation following Jason Evert's talk at Notre Dame on Feb. 12. At the event hosted by the Notre Dame Right to Life Club, Evert challenged each person to take chastity seriously, to set high personal standards and to remain focused on the love of Christ.

If you train yourself year after year with lust, it will not magically turn to love. Rather, you must draw upon the strength of God in order to give strength to your wife in marriage. Build relationships based on mutual love and respect for one another and recognize that even if you've made mistakes that it's not too late to start over."

Thirdly, he directed the students to face their fears. Evert said, "Whereas the fears of man are initiating, committing and giving of themselves, many women need courage to learn how to trust again. St. John Paul II, who dedicated much of his pontificate to instructing men and women on practicing authentic love, steadfast fortitude, and building holy relationships, tells us constantly to 'be not afraid!' Seek counseling, go to God in prayer. Never enter a relationship looking for the love that only God Himself can give to you. Don't run after your future husband or wife, just run after God with all you have — and after a long time of running, look to your left and your right and see who can keep up with you."

Fourth, he encouraged, "Make commitment and communication clear."

Evert further impressed upon the men the importance and necessity of initiating purposefully. "Women want a man who has discerned if he is supposed to be in a relationship, then to pursue with sincerity and commit with clarity. Women are natu-



JASON EVERT

rally more verbally expressive, but men need to fulfill their masculine responsibility of taking the lead and initiating contact. Women will try to compensate when the man's commitment level is unclear. When that happens, they are more likely to give of themselves physically, which typically backfires because the man is drawn to the pleasure but is simultaneously disenchanted because there is a lack of a deeper respect and awe for her."

Finally, he reminded of the necessity to "try to keep the relationship pure."

Evert acknowledged the allure of the flesh, and said, "Sometimes it becomes tempting to justify lust because you believe you're going to get married. However, you cannot predict destiny by the intensity of the present emotions. It takes an awesome amount of responsibil-

ity and love to live up to this; it requires a sacrifice, a death of the self. Abstinence is not about waiting to love your girlfriend; it is about loving her perfectly tonight by caring for her body and soul for eternity.

He also touched on why he and his wife do not use contraception, but use NFP instead, "I happen to think that my wife's body is perfect, I don't think she needs drugs, shots, or pills, she needs to be understood. If we can understand her fertility, then instead of suppressing her body with chemicals to conform to our desires, we can form our desires to the way her body was created — to me this is authentic sexual liberation."

To live out a chaste life, he advised connecting with good friends, being active in faith, remaining close with family, attending Eucharistic Adoration, and returning to Christ through Reconciliation, which was available for students after the talk.

"After tonight, you might have some serious thinking to do; just remember that God loves you and will always be there to welcome you home," he said.

Afterwards, he stayed to speak with students, answer questions, take photos and hand out free books and CDs.

To purchase publications from Jason and his wife Crystalina, or to find further information on living and loving with purity, visit chastityproject.com.

Pope seeks prayers for Egyptians beheaded by Islamic State

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis called for prayers for the Egyptian Christians beheaded by Islamic State militants in Libya and asked that God recognize these men killed for their faith. He offered morning Mass Feb. 17 in the chapel of his residence for the slain Christians he termed "our 21 brother Copts" whose throats had been slit "for the sole reason of being Christians," and he requested people pray for the victims so "that the Lord welcome them as martyrs." He called on people to pray as well for the victims' families and for Egypt's Orthodox leader, Pope Tawadros II, "who is suffering so much." Pope Francis called Pope Tawadros Feb. 16 to express his sorrow over the deaths. At the end of his weekly general audience Feb. 18, Pope Francis urged the international community "to find peaceful solutions to the difficult situation in Libya." And Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, said, "the situation is serious and it demands a united response from the international community — a rapid response, the quickest possible from the U.N." Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a bilateral summit with Italian government authorities Feb. 17, Cardinal Parolin said they talked about Libya and "the importance of re-launching a diplomatic initiative, and that any kind of armed intervention always be done according to the norms of international law and, therefore, that it be a U.N. initiative." Egypt, meanwhile, continued to mourn its 21 nationals, who had been working in Libya when the extremist group kidnapped them. Their beheading was depicted in gruesome detail in a video released Feb. 15 on a pro-Islamic State website.

Texas judge blocks DAPA, DACA expansion; administration to appeal

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A little more than one day before an expansion was to take effect in a deferred deportation program known as DACA, a federal judge in Texas issued a preliminary injunction blocking the Obama administration's effort. In a 123-page memorandum released by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott late in the evening Feb. 16, District Court Judge Andrew Hanen granted the request of Texas and 25 other states to temporarily block a planned expansion of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals to certain people who were ineligible for the original 2012 program. The expansion of DACA was to be rolled out Feb. 18, but Jeh Johnson, secretary of Homeland Security, said Feb. 17 that the implementation would be delayed while the administration appeals. Meanwhile, organizations that have been helping people prepare to apply for the programs said they would continue that work, in anticipation of what they hope will be a reversal of the injunction. Rallies previously planned for the same week in dozens of cities to bring attention to the new programs were going on as scheduled. In some cases they picked up a new focus of protest against Hanen's ruling.

'Mercy Matters!' theme for Catholic Youth Summer Camp 2015

MILFORD — The theme of Catholic Youth Summer Camp this year will focus on mercy — “Be merciful just as your Father is merciful,” from Luke 6:36. A good Catholic life always involves mercy. Parents are encouraged to consider sending their child to experience this aspect of their Catholic life, mercy in motion, along the beautiful shores of Waubee Lake at Camp Mack in Milford, July 26-31.

St. Jude Parish, South Bend, Sacred Heart Parish, Lakeville, and St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, are camp sponsors this year.

Eligible campers are youth going into the fourth, fifth and sixth grades.

The cost will be \$385 per camper. Brochures and updates can be accessed at www.stjudeparish.net.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades said of Catholic Youth Summer Camp, “This is a great Catholic camp experience.”

The camp directors are Dave and Jan Torma from St. Jude Parish, South Bend. They may be contacted at (574) 291-3381 or fisherofmendjt@msn.com.

As the Tormas prepare for CYSC 2015, they are in need of volunteer adult staff, ages 18 to 24, and 25 years and older to serve as counselors, senior chaperones, nurses and musicians. They are also in need of junior counselors, 16-17 years old. They seek volunteers who are passionate about their Catholic faith, love children and want to share a week of camp life with a small group.

“We have a good basic schedule that integrates our Catholic spirituality and fun for the campers,” said Jan Torma. “We are hoping to build a staff that will bring a sense of joy, love, peace and creativity to assist us in implementing the program.”

Applications can be accessed at www.stjudeparish.net and the deadline is April 15.

Olivia Warden, a sixth-grade camper, wrote about her experience at CYSC in her blog, “Confessions of a Catholic Daughter”: “It was an amazing week. I really made memories that will last. Not only did the camp cause me to grow in friendship, but it also helped me grow in my faith.”

Seminarian Spenser St. Louis awarded Bronze Pelican for Scouting

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Bishop Frederick Campbell of the Diocese of Columbus presided at the annual “Scout Day with the Bishop” program on Sunday, Jan. 25, at the New Albany Church



SPENSER ST. LOUIS

AROUND THE DIOCESE

ASHES DISTRIBUTED AT ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH



CORINE ERLANDSON

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish celebrated four Masses during which it distributed ashes to parishioners on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18. Deacon Jim Kitchens applies ashes to a St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School student, with Father Jim Shafer, pastor, distributing ashes in the background.

of the Resurrection. The annual Scout Day liturgical celebration honors Catholic Scouts who have earned various religious emblems related to Scouting. Over 125 religious emblem recipients were recognized this year.

The Columbus Catholic Committee on Scouting presented its Bronze Pelican award to individuals who have performed exceptional service to Scouting through their contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youth. This year's Bronze Pelican honorees included Spenser St. Louis of Fort Wayne. St. Louis, who is a senior at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, was recognized for his participation the last four years serving as a tour guide for Scouts visiting the Josephinum as part of their religious emblem requirements and spending time answering the questions from the Scouts and leaders who participated. He has also enjoyed working in his apostolic assignments all four years at the Pontifical College Josephinum where he has been working with the youth of local Columbus parishes, including home school students, the Life Teen Program and currently assisting with religion classes at Bishop Watterson High School.

St. Louis has been an active member in Boy Scouts since join-

ing Troop 2, sponsored by St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne, in January of 2004. He has received the Light of Christ, Parvuli Dei, Ad Altare Dei and Pope Pius XII religious awards. He is a vigil honor member in the Order of the Arrow where he has served as Lodge Chief for two terms and was elected Section C-6B Chief in May of 2010.

St. Louis graduated from Bishop Dwenger High School in 2011 and entered the seminary at the Pontifical College Josephinum that fall. He will graduate from the Josephinum in May 2015 and will attend the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome for his theological studies.

Bishop Luers announces Top 10 students

FORT WAYNE — The following students have dedicated themselves to academic excellence for the past four years and have earned the honor of being named to the “Top 10” list. For the Class of 2015 the top 10 are Gabrielle Bearman, Audrey Deiser, Aubrey Feipel, Jonathan Gladding, Isaiah Klotz, Madeline Kriesel, Ellen Robbins, Luke Scheer, Michael Vankoski and Erik Woehner.

Catholic Charities announces board leadership changes

FORT WAYNE — Mike Handlin has recently been appointed the new board president of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Handlin is no stranger to the agency, having served as the board's vice president in 2014 and as a board member since 2011.



MIKE HANDLIN

Handlin's tenure with Catholic Charities dates back much further, to the year 2007, when he worked at the agency as a counselor.

“It's an honor to be serving the agency in this new position,” says Handlin, “because I believe Catholic Charities plays an integral role within the social service community and so fulfills the social justice mission of the Church.”

As president, Handlin hopes to act as a facilitator between the agency and the board, encouraging board members to be as active in the organization as they wish to be. In addition, he hopes to be a good communicator, keeping the board informed so they can make prudent decisions.

“It's vital that we govern prayerfully,” he says, “because when we work with the marginalized, the poor, and the suffering, we are standing on holy ground.”

Catholic Charities is also grateful to Pat Houlihan for his years of service as board president.

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE SCHOOL DISPLAYS 101 REASONS DOCUMENT



PROVIDED BY ANNE RICE

St. Thomas the Apostle School, Elkhart, Principal John Wiggans, left, and pastor Father Jason Freiburger, stand next to the 101 Reasons to Choose St. Thomas document on display in St. Thomas' school commons area. The document, inspired and sourced in part by Deacon Nick Senger, took over a year to complete and was displayed just before Catholic Schools Week.

A penitent's reflection on Reconciliation

BY CATHY MCLEISH

Pride keeps me from asking for help. Fear tells me I might lose what I have and so I scoff at letting anything go. I struggle to be genuinely happy for others who have more than me; and appropriately concerned for those who go without. Disconnected and callous, I must justify myself. I fill my life with avarice, spiritual sloth and self-centeredness. Yet, ironically, all this bounty leaves me feeling incredibly empty.

Through pursuing the illusion of control and flaunting my freedom to choose for myself, I have shackled my own spirit. I long for a peaceful day, a quiet mind and a lighter step; but I neither want to be disciplined nor controlled. It will take a humble heart for me to accept this spiritual truth: *God is not about control, He is about liberation and He gives us the sacrament of Reconciliation to set us free.*

Life experience has taught me that humility is a great asset; one that was vital in my recognizing the infinite value of the sacrament of Reconciliation in my life. The most applicable definition I have found: *Humility amounts to a clear recognition of who and what I really am, followed by a sincere attempt to become what God would have me be.*

If God has any anger associated with my sins, it is because they have kept me from becoming all that He created me to be. The love, comfort and peace I sought eluded me until I accepted that I would only experience happiness by aligning my will with His. I found it humbling to be open to guidance, both intellectual and spiritual. This elusive concept eventually evolved into a simple (but not always easy) series of daily choices.

Our examination of conscience before receiving Reconciliation matures as our understanding of Catholic teaching and Scripture increases. For me, it has evolved from a quick checklist in the pew to a nightly inventory of the preceding day. Where was I selfish, sharp-tongued, envious or dishonest? Prayerfully, I ask God for guidance to help me right the wrongs and adjust my behavior.

St. Pope John Paul II urges us to form our consciences by "a continuous conversion to what is true and what is good." Through this process, what I bring to the confessional is *not* what I recall 30 minutes before, but the reoccurring selfish and hurtful actions my conscience has helped me identify in my prayer life. God is calling me to meet Him with these in sacrament — for my benefit, not His.

While it is humbling to voice my failings in the presence of a

priest, my spoken words reinforce my need for change and accountability. A loving God instituted a means through which my honesty can open the door to forgiveness. The grace I receive strengthens me for when my free will must choose once again. Resentment, regrets and a touch of humility are met with acceptance, forgiveness and grace for life's trials. Most importantly, I am reconciled and reconnected with God and those around me.

Receiving the sacrament regularly, I became more comfortable with one particular confessor. With a sincere desire to see me move forward he addressed me directly one afternoon. "Cathy, Cathy, Cathy" he said in the most loving but convicting way, "Haven't we been here before?"

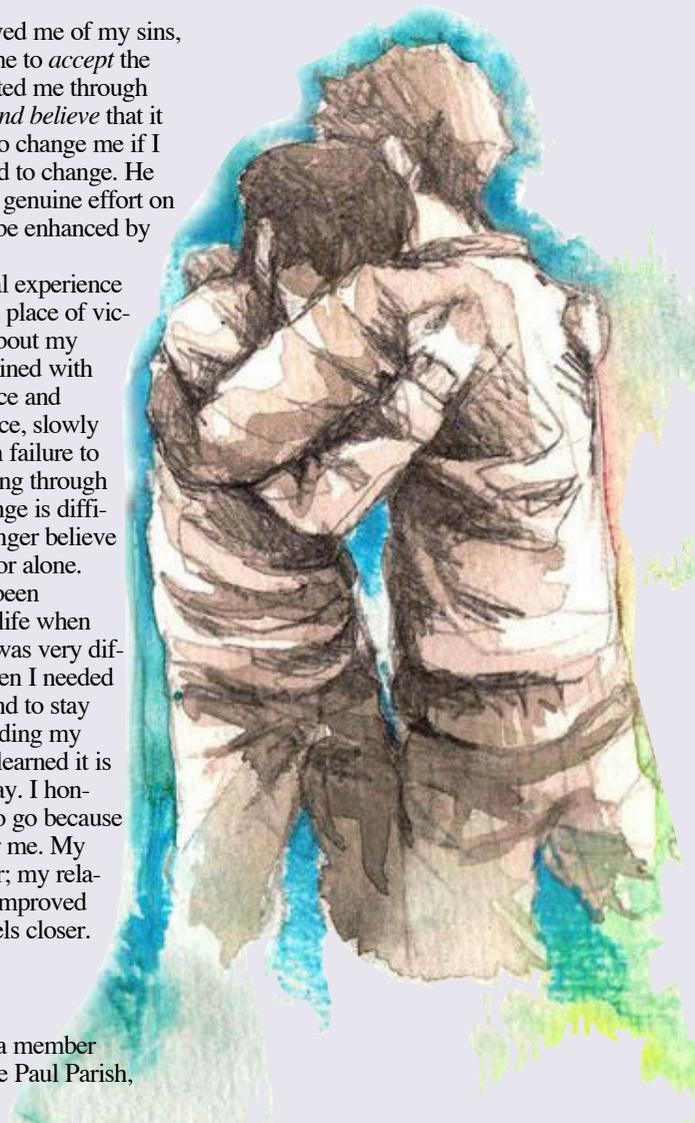
It was true. I had come to accept that I would never be free of certain behaviors I confessed repeatedly. Noting my frustration, he shared the following spiritual insight, which changed my approach to Reconciliation from *obligation to desire*. "Do you not believe that God can take you to a better place? He is offering you the grace and strength to rise above these problem areas you struggle with. You are a woman who has trusted God through serious surgeries, yet you won't believe He wants you to be free from these iniquities that block your daily walk with Him."

As he absolved me of my sins, he challenged me to *accept* the grace God granted me through the sacrament *and believe* that it had the power to change me if I sincerely wanted to change. He assured me that genuine effort on my part would be enhanced by God's grace.

This personal experience brought me to a place of victory. Honesty about my struggles, combined with spiritual guidance and sacramental grace, slowly moved me from failure to freedom. Walking through continuous change is difficult, but I no longer believe I am incapable or alone.

There have been intervals in my life when Reconciliation was very difficult. Why, when I needed it most, did I tend to stay away? After finding my way back, I've learned it is easier not to stray. I honestly continue to go because of all it does for me. My burden is lighter; my relationships have improved and my God feels closer.

Cathy McCleish is a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.



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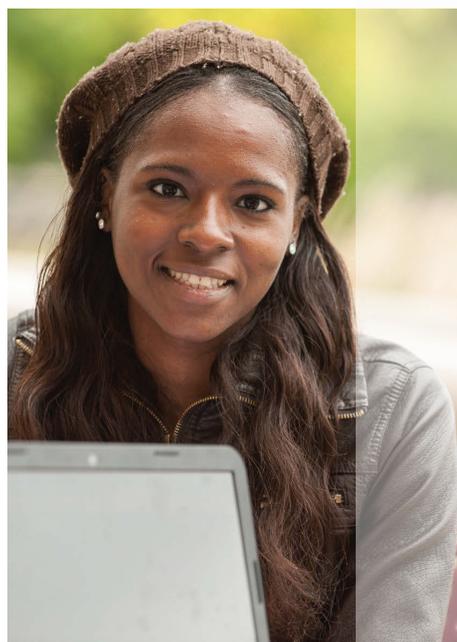
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Most Precious Blood

1515 Barthold St.
Lenten Penance Service on Tuesday, March 10, 7 p.m.

Our Lady of Good Hope

7215 Saint Joe Rd.
Confessions: Fridays, 9:30-10 a.m. and 7:30-8 p.m.; Saturdays, 3:30-4:15 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 24 at 7 p.m.

Queen of Angels

1500 W. State Blvd.
Holy Week Confession schedule:
Monday, March 30, 6:30-6:50 p.m.
Holy Thursday, April 2, 5-6 p.m.
Good Friday, April 3, 2-4 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 18 at 7 p.m.

Sacred Heart

4643 Gaywood Dr.
Confessions: Saturday, 8:30-8:55 a.m.; Sunday, 9:30-9:55 a.m.; Wednesday, 5:30-5:55 p.m.; Friday, 6-6:25 p.m. before the Stations of the Cross; By appointment — 260-744-2519

St. Charles Borromeo

4916 Trier Rd.
Confessions: Every Saturday, 2:30-4:30 p.m. — held in the chapel
Holy Week Confession schedule:
Wednesday, April 1, 2:30-4:30 p.m.; 7:30 p.m. until finished
Holy Thursday, April 2, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Good Friday, April 3, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Holy Saturday, April 4, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 25 at 7 p.m. in the church

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

10700 Aboite Center Road
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. Henry

2929 Paulding Rd.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. John the Baptist

4525 Arlington Ave.
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:30-4:15 p.m.; Sundays: 9:30-10 a.m.; Fridays, Feb. 20, March 6, 13, 20, 27 — 7-7:30 p.m.; Good Friday, April 3, 11 a.m. to noon

St. Joseph

2213 Brooklyn
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel

11337 Old U.S. HWY 27 S
Confessions: Saturday, 3:30-4:30 p.m.; First Friday 9:15 a.m.; Wednesday evenings 4:45 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 23, 7 p.m.

St. Jude

2155 Randallia
Confessions: Monday through Saturday, 7:30-8 a.m.; Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 5-5:50 p.m.; Saturdays, 9-10:30 a.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Holy Week:
Monday, March 30, 5-6 p.m.
Tuesday, March 31, 5-6 p.m.
Wednesday, April 1, 5-6 p.m.
Holy Thursday, April 2, following Mass Good Friday, April 3, following the Service of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday, April 4, 9-10:30 a.m.

St. Mary Mother of God

1101 South Lafayette St.
Confessions: By appointment

St. Patrick

2120 S. Harrison St.
Confessions: Lenten Confession for the whole parish will be on March 5 from 6:45-8:45 p.m. (The Light is On For You) Lenten Reconciliation for the Vietnamese community during the Lenten retreat will be Saturday, March 7, in the church, from 8:30 p.m. until finished.

St. Peter

518 E. DeWald St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. Therese

2304 Lower Huntington Rd.
Confessions: During Lent after weekday Masses and Saturday at 4 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 3 at 7 p.m. as part of the parish mission.

St. Vincent de Paul

1502 East Wallen Rd.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

South Bend area

St. Matthew Cathedral

1701 Miami St.
Confessions: Monday through Saturday following the 7 a.m. Mass and Saturday, 11 a.m. to noon; also during Lent Wednesday evenings, 6-8 p.m.

Christ the King

52473 S.R. 933
Confessions: Every Wednesday after 5:30 p.m. daily Mass; Every Saturday at 9 a.m.

Corpus Christi

2822 Corpus Christi Dr.
Confessions: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.; Sundays after the 5 p.m. Evening Prayer.

Holy Cross

1050 Wilber
Confessions: Fridays, 2:10 p.m. Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions; Saturdays, 4-5 p.m.; March 31, April 1, 7 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 26 at 7 p.m.

Holy Family

56405 Mayflower Rd.
Penance Service is February 28 at 11 a.m. March 31 Confessions following 6:30 am Mass and from Noon-1 pm
April 1 Confessions from 6-7 p.m.
April 2 Confessions following the 7:30 pm Mass and Adoration until 11 p.m.
April 3 Confessions following the 1 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of the Passion
Confessions following the 6 p.m. Stations of the Cross and Tenebrae Service at 9 p.m.
April 4 Confessions at 11 a.m.

Our Lady of Hungary

829 W. Calvert St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Sacred Heart of Jesus

63568 U.S. 31 South, (near Lakeville)
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. Adalbert

2505 W. Grace St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. Anthony de Padua

2114 E. Jefferson Blvd.
Confessions: Tuesday, Thursday at 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 9 a.m.; Saturday, 3:30-4 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 18 at 7 p.m.

St. Augustine

1501 W. Washington St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

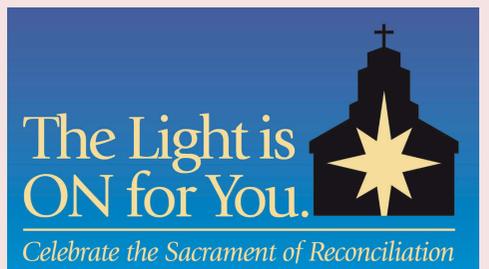
St. Casimir

1308 W. Dunham St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. Hedwig

331 S. Scott St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

THE LIGHT
IS ON
FOR YOU



This Lent, every Catholic parish in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will have Confessions available on Thursday, March 5, from 6-8 p.m. If you have been reluctant to come to the sacrament, have been away for some time, or just find it difficult to get to a Saturday afternoon Confession time, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and His Church.

If you or someone you know needs special assistance in going to Confession, please contact Mary Glowaski at mglowaski@diocesefwsb.org or call 260-399-1458.

A guide to Confession

What is Reconciliation?

Reconciliation (also known as Confession or Penance) is a sacrament instituted by Jesus Christ in His love and mercy to offer sinners forgiveness for offenses committed against God. At the same time, sinners reconcile with the Church, because it is also wounded by our sins.

Every time we sin, we hurt ourselves, other people and God. In Reconciliation, we acknowledge our sins before God and His Church. We express our sorrow in a meaningful way, receive the forgiveness of Christ and His Church, make reparation for what we have done, and resolve to do better in the future.

The forgiveness of sins involves four parts:

- **Contrition:** a sincere sorrow for having offended God, and the most important act of the penitent. There can be no forgiveness of sin if we do not have sorrow and a firm resolve not to repeat our sin.
 - **Confession:** confronting our sins in a profound way to God by speaking about them — aloud — to the priest.
 - **Penance:** an important part of our healing is the “penance” the priest imposes in reparation for our sins.
 - **Absolution:** the priest speaks the words by which “God, the Father of Mercies” reconciles a sinner to Himself through the merits of the Cross.
- The Light Is On For You materials provide the following examination of conscience.

Examination of conscience

Recall your sins. Prayerfully ask yourself what you have done with full knowledge and full consent against God's and the Church's commandments.

Do I pray to God every day? Have I thanked God for His gifts?

Did I put my faith in danger through readings contrary to Catholic teachings or involvement in non-Catholic sects? Did I engage in superstitious practices: palm reading or fortune-telling?

Did I take the name of God in vain? Did I curse or take a false oath?

Did I miss Mass on Sundays or holy days of obligation through my own fault? Am I attentive at Mass? Did I keep fast and abstinence on the prescribed days?

Did I disobey my parents and lawful superiors in important matters?

Did I hate or quarrel with anyone, or desire revenge? Did I refuse to forgive? Was I disrespectful?

Did I get drunk? Did I take illicit drugs?

Did I consent to, recommend, advise or actively take part in an abortion?

Did I willfully look at pornography, entertain impure thoughts, or engage in impure conversations or actions? Did I use artificial means to prevent conception?

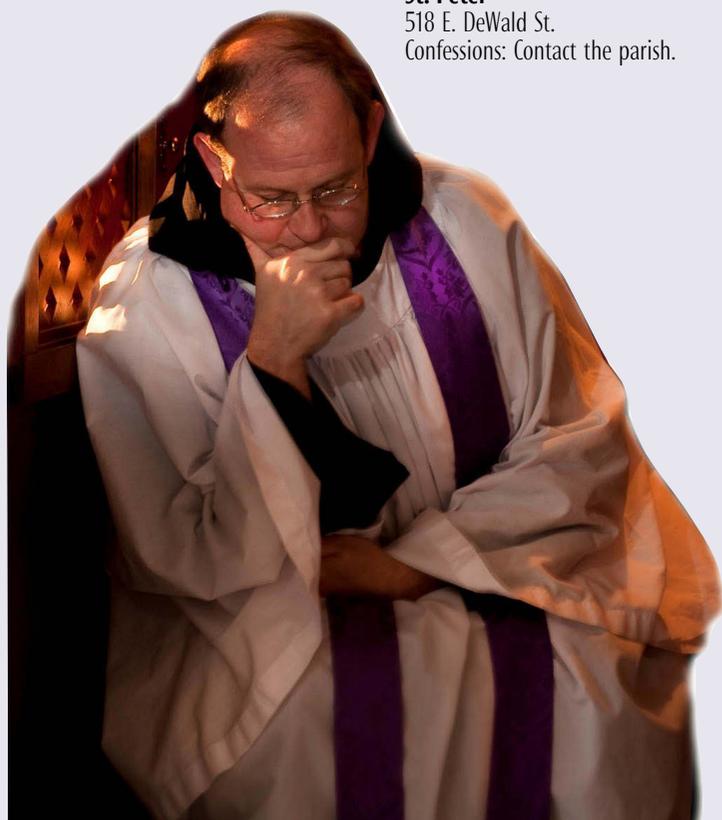
Was I unfaithful to my spouse? Did I engage in sexual activity outside of marriage?

Did I steal or damage another's property? Have I been honest and just in my business relations?

Have I been responsive to the needs of the poor and respected the dignity of others?

Did I tell lies? Did I sin by calumny, or detraction, of others? Did I judge others rashly in serious matters?

Have I envied other people?



SCHEDULE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

St. John the Baptist

3526 St. Johns Way
Confessions: Weekdays 7-7:30 a.m.;
Saturdays, 7-7:30 a.m.; 8-8:30 a.m.;
4-4:45 p.m.

St. Joseph

226 N. Hill St.
Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration and
Confessions Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 10 at 7 p.m.

St. Jude

19704 Johnson Rd.
Confessions: Saturdays, 3 p.m.; by
appointment
Lenten Penance Service: March 24 at 7 p.m.

St. Patrick

309 S. Taylor
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. Stanislaus

415 N. Brookfield St.
Confessions: Saturdays, 8:45-9:45 a.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 26 at 7
p.m. at Holy Cross

St. Therese, Little Flower

54191 Ironwood Rd.
Confessions: Monday through Friday after
the 8:30 a.m. Mass; Saturday, 8:30-9:30
a.m., 4:30-5 p.m.; April 2, after the 7
p.m. Mass; April 3, after the 1:30 service
and after the 5:30 Stations of the Cross;
April 4, 9-10:30 a.m.
Lenten Penance service: March 31 at 7 p.m.

Area parishes

Albion

Blessed Sacrament
2290 N. State Road 9
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Angola

St. Anthony of Padua
700 W. Maumee St.
Confessions: Every Saturday 4-4:55 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 24 at 7 p.m.

Arcola

St. Patrick
12305 Arcola Rd.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Auburn

Immaculate Conception
500 East Seventh St.
Confessions: One-half hour before week-
day Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday and Saturday; one-half hour
before weekday Masses on Monday at 6
p.m., and Friday at 11:30 a.m.; Saturdays,
4-4:45 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 11 at 7 p.m.

Avilla

St. Mary of the Assumption
228 N. Main St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Bluffton

St. Joseph
1300 N. Main St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Bremen

St. Dominic
803 W. Bike St.
Confessions: Thursday, 5-5:45 p.m.;
Saturday, 3-4:30 p.m.

Lenten Penance Service: Feb. 28 at 10 a.m.
All Confessions can be heard in Spanish
or English.

Bristol

St. Mary of the Annunciation
411 W. Vistula St.
Confessions: Contact the parish at
574-848-4305.

Churubusco

St. John Bosco
216 N. Main St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Clear Lake

St. Paul, Clear Lake
8780 E 700 N
Confessions: See St. Anthony of Padua,
Angola

Columbia City

St. Paul of the Cross
315 S. Line St.
Confessions: Mondays, 5:30-6 p.m.;
Thursdays, 5:30-6 p.m.; Fridays, 11:30 a.m.
to 12:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30-10 a.m.,
3:45-4:45 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 10 at 7 p.m.

Culver

St. Mary of the Lake
124 College Ave.
Lenten Penance Service: March 7 at 10 a.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 10 at
7 p.m. at the Culver Military Academy
Chapel

Decatur

St. Mary of the Assumption
414 Madison St.
Confessions: Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. until finished;
Saturdays, 5:15 p.m. until finished; Palm
Sunday 1 p.m. until finished
Holy Week Confession schedule:
Monday, March 30, 8:45 a.m. until fin-
ished
Tuesday, March 31, 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m.
until finished
Holy Thursday, April 2, after Mass until
finished
During Good Friday Liturgy and after
until finished and 4 p.m. until finished
Holy Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m. until
finished
Anytime by request
Lenten Penance Service: March 16 at 7 p.m.

Ege

Immaculate Conception
700 E and 400 S
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Elkhart

St. Thomas the Apostle
1405 N. Main St.
Confessions: Saturdays, Feb. 28, March 7,
21, 28, April 4, 9-10 a.m.; March 26, 4-5
p.m.; Good Friday, April 3, 4-5:30 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 14 at 11 a.m.

St. Vincent de Paul

1108 S. Main St.
Confessions: Tuesdays at 7 p.m.;
Saturdays, 8:30-9 a.m., 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 21 from 11
a.m. to 1 p.m.

Garrett

St. Joseph
300 W. Houston St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Geneva

St. Mary of the Presentation
5790 E 1100 S
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Goshen

St. John the Evangelist
109 W. Monroe St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Granger

St. Pius X
52553 Fir Road
Confessions: Saturdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m.
and 4-5 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 28, Penance Service for
Confirmation Retreat, 1:45 p.m.
Monday, March 2, Penance Services for
Religious Education students, 3:45 p.m.,
5:30 p.m., and 7 p.m.
Wednesday, March 4, Penance Service for
Religious Education students, 3:45 p.m.
Saturday, March 7, Penance Services for
First Reconciliation, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Tuesday, March 10, Penance Services for
school students, 12:15 p.m. and 1 p.m.
Tuesday, March 24, Parish Lenten Penance
Service, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, March 30, 3-5 p.m.
Tuesday, March 31, 3-5 p.m.
Wednesday, April 1, 3-5 p.m., 7-9 p.m.
Holy Thursday, April 2, 3-5 p.m., 9-11 p.m.
Good Friday, April 3, 3-6 p.m., 8-10 p.m.

Huntington

St. Mary
903 N. Jefferson St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Ss. Peter and Paul

860 Cherry St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Kendallville

Immaculate Conception
319 E. Diamond St.
Confessions: Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. to
noon and 3:30-4:15 p.m.; March 3, 6-8
p.m.; March 16, 18, 23, 25, 30 and April 1
following 8:30 a.m. Mass; April 3, follow-
ing Good Friday service.

LaGrange

St. Joseph
050 N — 100 E
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Ligonier

St. Patrick
300 Ravine Park Dr.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Mishawaka

Queen of Peace
4508 Vistula Road
Confessions: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,
7:30-8 a.m.; Saturday, 3:30-5 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 10 at 7 p.m.

St. Bavo

502 West Seventh St.
Confessions: March 5, 6-8 p.m.;
March 7, 9-10 a.m.; March 14, 9-10 a.m.;
March 21, 9-10 a.m.; March 28, 9-10 a.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 26 at 6:30
p.m. at St. Bavo

St. Joseph

225 S. Mill St.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

St. Monica

222 W. Mishawaka Ave.
Confessions: March 3, after 8 a.m. Mass;
March 4, after 8 a.m. Mass; March 5, after
8:15 a.m. Mass; March 6, after 8 a.m.
Mass; Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m., 3:30-
4:10 p.m., after 4:30 p.m. Mass; March 10,
after 8 a.m. Mass; March 11, after 8 a.m.
Mass, 6-7 p.m.; March 12, after 8:15 a.m.
Mass; March 13, after 8 a.m. Mass; March
14, 9 a.m., 3:30-4:10 p.m., after 4:30
p.m. Mass; March 17, after 8 a.m. Mass;
March 18, after 8 a.m. Mass, 6-7 p.m.;
March 19, after 8:15 a.m. Mass; March 20,

after 8 a.m. Mass; March 21, 9 a.m., 3:30-
4:10 p.m., after 4:30 p.m. Mass; March
22, after 7:30 a.m. Mass, after 11 a.m.
Mass; March 24, after 8 a.m. Mass; March
25, after 8 a.m. Mass, 6-7 p.m.; March
26, after 8:15 a.m. Mass; March 27, after
8 a.m. Mass; 12-1 p.m.; March 28, 9 a.m.,
3:30-4 p.m., after 4:30 p.m. Mass
Lenten Penance Service: March 26 at 6:30
p.m. at St. Bavo
Holy Week Confessions: Consult parish
bulletin

Monroeville

St. Rose of Lima
Confessions: Contact the parish.

New Carlisle

St. Stanislaus Kostka
55756 Tulip Road
Confessions: Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
and Saturdays, 3-3:45 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: To be announced.

New Haven

St. John the Baptist
943 Powers St.
Confessions: Thursdays, 4:30-6:30 p.m.;
Saturdays, 8-9 a.m., 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Week before Holy Week and Holy Week,
call parish office at 260-493-4553.
Lenten Penance Service: March 26 at 7 p.m.

St. Louis, Besancon

15535 Lincoln Hwy. East
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Nix Settlement

St. Catherine of Alexandria
9989 S. State Road 9
Confessions: Saturday at 3:15 p.m. at St.
Joseph, Roanoke, or by appointment; At
St. Catherine before the 9:15 a.m. Mass or
by appointment.

North Manchester

St. Robert Bellarmine
1203 State Road 114 East
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Notre Dame

Sacred Heart
104 The Presbytery
Basilica of the Sacred Heart and Sacred
Heart Parish Crypt
Confessions:
Week of Feb. 23; March 2
Basilica Confessions: Monday through
Thursday, 11-11:30 a.m.; 4:45-5:15 p.m.;
7-7:30 p.m.; Thursday, March 5 only,
11-11:30 a.m.; 4:45-5:15 p.m.; 6-8 p.m.;
Friday, 11-11:30 a.m.; 4:45-5:15 p.m.;
Parish Crypt Confessions: Saturday, 10-11 a.m.
Week of March 9-14 (Spring Break)
Basilica Confessions: Monday through
Friday, 11-11:30 a.m. (only)
Parish Crypt Confessions: Saturday, 10-11
a.m.
Week of March 16; March 23
Basilica Confessions: Monday through
Thursday, 11- 11:30 a.m.; 4:45-5:15 p.m.;
7-7:30 p.m.; Friday: 11-11:30 a.m.; 4:45-
5:15 p.m.
Parish Crypt Confessions: Saturday, 10-11 a.m.
Week of March 30
April 4 (Holy Week)
Basilica Confessions: Monday through
Wednesday, 11-11:30 a.m.; 4:45-5:15 p.m.;
7-7:30 p.m.; Holy Thursday, 11 a.m. to 12
noon; 7-8 p.m.; Good Friday, 11 a.m. to 2
p.m.; 7-8 p.m.; Holy Saturday, 12-1 p.m.;
3-5 p.m.

Parish Crypt Confessions: Good Friday,
2:30-3:30 p.m.

Pierceton

St. Francis Xavier
408 W. Catholic St.
Confessions: Mondays, 5:30-6 p.m.;
Wednesdays, 5:30-6 p.m.; Fridays 5:30-6
p.m.; Saturdays, 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Plymouth

St. Michael
612 N. Walnut St.
Confessions: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon
and 3-4 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: March 24 at 7 p.m.

Roanoke

St. Joseph
641 N. Main St.
Confessions: Saturday, 3:15 p.m. at
St. Joseph or by appointment; At St.
Catherine before the 9:15 a.m. Mass or by
appointment.

Rome City

St. Gaspar del Bufalo
10871 N. St. Rd. 9
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:30-4 p.m.
Lenten Penance Service: To be announced.

Syracuse

St. Martin de Porres
6941 E. Waco Dr.
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Wabash

St. Bernard
207 North Cass Street
Lenten Penance Service: March 24 at 7 p.m.

Walkerton

St. Patrick
807 Tyler St.
Confessions: Fridays, Exposition and
Confession at 5:30-6:30 p.m. in church
Stations of the Cross every Friday at 6:30
p.m. in church
Lenten Penance Service: March 5 from
6-8 p.m.

Warsaw

Our Lady of Guadalupe
225 Gilliam Dr.
Confessions: Saturday, 3:30-4:30 p.m.;
Monday and Thursday following the 5:30
p.m. Mass; first Saturday of the month
following the 8 a.m. Mass.

Sacred Heart

125 N. Harrison
Confessions: Contact the parish.

Waterloo

St. Michael the Archangel
1098 County Road 39
Confessions: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays
and Fridays during Lent through March 20
at 7:30 a.m.; Every Friday through March
20 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 5 p.m.; Sundays
after 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses
Holy Week times to be announced.
Lenten Penance Service: March 15 at 5 p.m.

Yoder

St. Aloysius
14623 Bluffton Rd.
Confessions: Eucharistic Holy Hour on
Thursdays, 6-7 p.m., with Confessions
during that hour; Saturdays, 4-5 p.m.; by
appointment

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Try hard, love much

“She tried hard and loved much.”

Not to be morbid, but I hope that can be truthfully put on my tombstone. I'm not planning on dying any time soon, but I've been thinking about this a lot. Over the years I have come to realize that a great way to live is to really consider my own death. What is important in life? How could someone sum up what I've done in my short time (hopefully 99, give or take, “short” years of course) on this earth? In a busy world of seemingly endless demands and constant choices which must be made almost instantly, what should I strive for most? What, in short, really matters?

I self identify strongly to labels such as homemaker, wife, educator of my children, writer. These are my life's work. But in the end, I realize none of these simple facts will mean I have

done them well, even if they are memorialized in a permanent, pretty font on a piece of formal grey granite protruding from the earth where my body will some day lie.

She kept a clean house.

I suppose that could be said. But so what? Did my children laugh in my home? Were they loved there? Cared for there? Were they encouraged and challenged and valued? Did I spend time with them? Did I put other less important work before them? Did my husband enjoy coming through the door at the end of a hard day? Was he welcomed warmly and loved passionately and much? Was I a true helpmate to my husband in the journey back to heaven and through life's struggles or was I distracted with an agenda of my own and overly attentive to personal interests and pleasures



HERESA A. THOMAS

EVERYDAY
CATHOLIC

and accomplishing something “in the world”?

She was an author. She wrote a column.

Both could be written about me. But truthfully, who cares? Anyone can put down his own opinions on paper. In fact, today with blogging, almost everyone does. And studying English grammar and literature can help many people develop a way with

EVERYDAY, PAGE 12

Lent requires absolute faith, trust and commitment



THE
SUNDAY
GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

2nd Sunday in Lent Mk 9:2-10

This weekend's first reading, from the Book of Genesis, is about Abraham, a very important figure in the process by which Jews reach a sense of their ethnic and personal identities, as he is regarded as the father of the Hebrew people.

Genetic links between Jews of any age and Abraham are not the only consideration. The ancient Jewish faith is another. Abraham is seen as the great example of faith in God and of obedience to God.

Because of his faith, Christians, and even Muslims, also revere Abraham. Scholars believe that Abraham actually lived at one time. He is not a myth.

Seventy years ago, Pope Pius XI said that Christians fall within the category of children of Abraham, since Christians descend from him as a spiritual father, because of his faith.

In this reading, God promises divine protection to all of Abraham's descendants.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans furnishes the second reading. It was written amid a context similar to the circumstances surrounding each of the other Pauline letters.

While Christians certainly were increasing in number in the last quarter of the first century A.D.,

they still at this time formed only a tiny minority in the population of the Roman Empire, and, because of their total commitment to the Gospel of love, seemed either foolish or threatening to the great majority of their contemporaries.

Critically, rejecting the Roman pagan religion, they soon were regarded as enemies of the state.

Amid all this, many Christians surely were uneasy. Paul reassured them. In this reading, he called them to faithfulness regardless of the “hardships” that easily, even likely, would come their way.

He said that their knowledge of God was their advantage, and privilege. God would save them. Christ had defeated death, and in the Lord they would prevail over every adversary.

A reading from the Gospel of Mark is the third lesson. It tells the story of the Transfiguration, a story found in the other Synoptics as well.

In the Transfiguration, the Lord's identity as Son of God was magnificently displayed. Rich symbols abound. Each has unmistakable roots in the Old Testament. Jesus is atop a high mountain, as bright as the sun. God's voice sounds from above. Each makes clear the fact of Christ's divine identity.

The further lesson is that God shares with humans the very essence of being within the Holy Trinity, so that we all may know God.

Reflection

Lent will be meaningless unless it includes a total and free dedication to molding ourselves into the image of Jesus, as Paul urged the Roman Christians. It requires absolute faith, trust and commitment.

We express this sincere dedication in prayer and penance.

Is it worth it? Through the words of Paul, the Church reminds us of life amid hardships. Outright persecution does not beset Christians in America, but American disciples of the Lord face their obstacles. Fears, doubts and our own smugness confound our ability to see things clearly and to act in what truly is our best interest.

In these readings from Genesis and Matthew, the Church details the message of Romans, that Christ sustains us. Regardless of everything and anything, we have nothing to fear.

God's care for us, in Christ, is the product of God's love for us. The wondrous revelation to the Apostles of the Lord's divinity, seen in the Transfiguration, tells us of God's love.

God is with us in Jesus, the eternal Son of God.

Although almighty, however, Jesus overwhelms no one. We freely must respond. Lent is the process by which individually and voluntarily we intensify our response to the Lord.

READINGS

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Ps 116:10, 15-19 Rom 8:31b-34 Mk 9:2-10

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10 Ps 79:8-9, 11, 13 Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23 Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20 Ps 31:5-6, 14-16 Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a Ps 105:16-21 Mt 21:33-43 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 Ps 103:1-4, 9-12 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

CRS in Nicaragua

In 2007 in Nicaragua, the largest country in the Central American isthmus, bordering Honduras to the north and Costa Rica to the south, more than 45 percent of the population lived on less than \$1 per day. The highest concentration of people in Nicaragua who are poor, live in coffee-producing rural areas. Many farmers depend on the coffee crop for nearly 80 percent of their income. This dependency brings to the forefront the Catholic social teaching focus of care for God's creation. This principle reminds us that everything has been created by God and is good. We find God in that which He made, so taking care of creation is a priority.

For family farmers in Nicaragua, the ability to grow coffee has been threatened by coffee leaf rust. This fungus can destroy a crop and leave a family with nothing to sell at market. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is helping farmers learn how to protect their plants from leaf rust and to diversify their crops.

Some farmers are also becoming beekeepers. Others have begun raising hens for eggs. The money earned through this process helps farmers feed their families and also invest. CRS supports savings groups that allow farmers to save their money to invest in farms in the future. This program with coffee farmers is also happening in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. Program-wide, CRS is working with 2,714 small-scale coffee farming families. Your assistance, through contributions to CRS Rice Bowl, helps to continue this program.

This week, our focus on caring for the natural environment points us toward St. Juan Diego. Juan Diego walked to daily Mass while enjoying the beauty of nature. On one of these walks on Dec. 9, 1531, Juan heard music playing. He climbed a hill to find a beautiful woman dressed in Aztec garments who told him she was the Virgin Mary. Mary asked Juan to have a shrine built where they were standing. He went to the bishop to share the message, but the bishop asked for a sign to know this shrine was

CRS
RICE BOWL

MELISSA WHEELER

true.

On Dec. 12, Mary once again came to Juan and provided the sign. Juan found roses growing in the frozen ground and at Mary's encouragement, he put the roses into his cloak (tilma) and brought them to the Bishop. Upon opening his cloak, the roses fell to the ground and an image of Our Lady — now known as Our Lady of Guadalupe — appeared on the cloak. With this sign, the bishop was convinced and the shrine was built.

Just like in Nicaragua, we can see in the story of Juan Diego that the land is important. Juan finds roses growing, even in the cold. This week, think about how you have met God through creation. Has God spoken to you or impacted your life through nature?

During your Lenten prayer this week, consider your place in God's creation and how it can help you achieve humility. We are stewards, called to serve and uphold the dignity of the entire created world. To keep this goal close to you, pray this prayer.

God of all nations, may we serve You as St. Juan Diego served You. Humble and poor, Juan did not have influence, money or power. But to You, these things do not matter. Juan had a special mission in life, and so do we. May we hear Your voice as You guide us on our journeys. May You teach us humility, that we, like St. Juan Diego, may also have the courage to persevere in doing Your will. We ask this through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, our Blessed Mother. Amen.

Melissa Wheeler is the diocesan director for Catholic Relief Services.

Saint of the Week



Oswald of Worcester

died 992
Feast February 28

Descended from a Danish military family, Oswald was educated by an uncle who was the archbishop of Canterbury, in England. He was a canon at Winchester Cathedral before becoming a priest and dean there. After continuing his studies and becoming a Benedictine in France, he returned to England and was named bishop of Worcester in 961. He founded monasteries, promoted scholarship, established a great musical tradition in Worcester, replaced secular canons with monks, and also administered the Diocese of York from 972 until his death. Devoted to the poor and revered for his sanctity, Oswald died after washing and kissing the feet of 12 poor men, his annual Lenten custom.

World Christianity by the numbers

The annual "Status of Global Christianity" survey published by the International Bulletin of Missionary Research is a cornucopia of numbers: some are encouraging; others are discouraging; many of them are important for grasping the nature of this particular moment in Christian history.

This year's survey works from a baseline of 1900 A.D., and makes projections out to 2050. Within that century and a half there's some good news about the global human condition that ought to be kept in mind when remembering the bad news of the 20th century and the early 21st. For example: in 1900, 27.6 percent of adults in a world population of 1.6 billion were literate. In 2015, 81 percent of the adults in a global population of 7.3 billion are literate, and the projection is that, by 2050, 88 percent of the adults in a world of 9.5 billion people will be literate — a remarkable accomplishment.

Of the 7.3 billion human beings on planet earth today, 89 percent are religious believers, while 1.8 percent are professed atheists and another 9 percent are agnostics: which suggests that Chief Poobah of the New Atheists Richard Dawkins and his friends are not exactly winning the day, although their "market share" is up from 1900.

There were some 267 million Catholics in the world in 1900; today, the world Church counts 1.2 billion members, with a projected growth to 1.6 billion by the middle of the century. Yet in the last quarter of the 20th century Catholicism was displaced by Islam as the world's largest religious community, as the global Muslim population grew from 571 million in 1970 to today's 1.7 billion.

The most extraordinary Christian growth over the past century has come in Africa: home to 8.7 million Christians in 1900, 542 million today, and perhaps 1.2 billion by 2050, when there will be as many African Christians as Latin America and European Christians combined. Twenty-first century Christianity is also a far more urban reality than a century ago. In 1900, 29 percent of the world's Christian population lived in cities; it's 65 percent today, although that's projected to decline to 59 percent by 2050. But perhaps the most astonishing numbers in the survey involve Pentecostal and Charismatic Christians. There were 981,000 of these souls in 1900; there are 643,661,000 of them today; and there are projected to be over 1 billion Charismatics and Pentecostals in 2050. In raw numbers, then, Charismatic and Pentecostal Christianity is the fastest growing phenomenon in world religious history.

These three phenomena — African growth, urbanization and the rise of Pentecostalism — also help account, I suspect, for the greater fragmentation of the Christian world. What might be called entrepreneurial Christianity — founding your own church — is very much a part of all three, and that helps explain why the number of Christian denominations grew from 1,600 in 1900 to 45,000 today, with projections of 70,000 in 2050.

For all the admirable growth noted in the survey, Christianity seems stuck in something of a rut, if the measure is Christians-as-a-percentage-of-world-population. Christians were 34.5 percent of global population in 1900, 33.3 percent in 1970, 32.4 percent in 2000, and 33.4 percent today, with projections to 33.7 percent in 2025 and 36



THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

percent in 2050.

Figuring out how much of this is due to the decline of European Christianity as a percentage of world Christianity would require number-crunching beyond my capabilities. But it's worth noting that, in a century of dramatic, aggregate Christian growth, European Christianity had the lowest annualized growth rate (0.16 percent), and the European share of world Christian population has shrunk from 66 percent in 1900 to 23 percent today — thus raising more questions about the warrant by which European Christian leaders, Catholic and Protestant, pass judgment on the pastoral practice of fellow-Christians around the world.

One more disturbing number: according to the survey's projections, only 14 percent of non-Christians today know a Christian — a number that speaks to both the isolation of religious groups from each other and the failures of evangelization. So there's a lot of work to do in fulfilling the Great Commission, especially with those who have no contact with the faith.

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

of the knowledge and experience or worse and less? Are they better people because of what they have learned and the opportunities they have had? That is what counts. That is the stick by which I will be, and should be, measured.

My children's catechism book asks: Why did God make us? And the answer is: God made us to show forth His goodness and to share with us His everlasting happiness in heaven. The next question asks: What must we do to gain the happiness of heaven? And the answer is simple: We must know, love and serve God in this world.

That sounds an awful lot like putting family first and prioritizing in love.

Mother Teresa once said, "What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family." Wow. She really made an insightful point.

If we take Mother Teresa's words to heart does this mean ambassadors should not work to find solutions to world problems or to bring agreements to foreign governments or that social efforts and projects of inclusion and understanding should cease? Of course not. But peace (and

love, and understanding, and agreement, and inclusion and offering truth in love) does begin in the home, and those who receive it there can more easily give it in the world.

Pope Francis recently said that it is within the family that we first learn how to open ourselves to others and become good brothers and sisters. What we learn from them goes on to benefit society as a whole.

So it really does go back to trying hard and loving much.

And so, I revisit what I stated at the beginning of this column. My goal is that the phrase "She tried hard and loved much" can someday be put on my grave, and that it will be the truth.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for March 1, 2015

Mark 9:2-10

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Second Sunday of Lent, Cycle B: the revelation of Jesus' glory to three disciples. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	PETER	JAMES
JOHN	LED THEM UP	DAZZLING
WHITE	BLEACH	ELIJAH
MOSES	RABBI	LET US
THREE	A CLOUD	A VOICE
AROUND	ANYONE	DOWN
SON OF MAN	RISEN	FROM THE DEAD

A GLIMPSE

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

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EVERYDAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

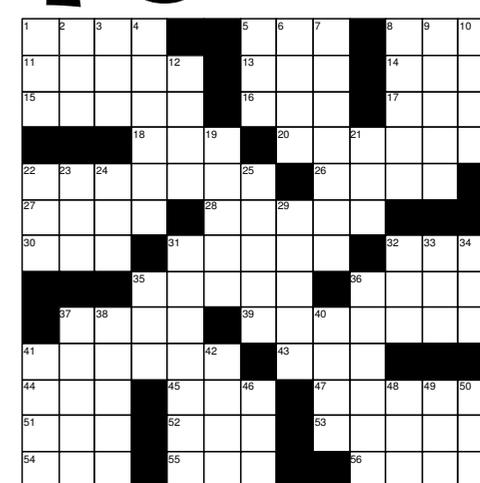
words. The important question will be: Did I seek to share truth in my words? Did I have something substantial to say? Did I think before I said it? Did I help? Did I use my personal gifts and talents wisely? (Mt. 25:14-30) Did my words uplift and encourage? Were they sincere? Kind? Did I seek benefit or to benefit? Did I try?

She educated her children.

Yep, I did. I spent a lot of time doing this. But, you know, so do a lot of people. The important question is this: In what did I, with my spouse, educate our offspring? Did I educate them in truth, in morals and virtues and values, in the things that last for eternity? Or was I caught up solely in an academic or fine arts education devoid of meaningful context? Do my children know God better and love more because

The CrossWord

March 1,
8 and 15, 2015



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Based on these Scripture Readings: Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10 and Ex 20:1-17; 1Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25 and 2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10 and Jn 3:14-21

ACROSS

1 Wagon
5 Pouch
8 Hovercraft
11 Tutu
13 Past
14 That girl
15 Mount of the Transfiguration
16 Abbess
17 Isaac to Abraham
18 Legume
20 Accompany
22 US dry units
26 ___ upon a time

27 God's ___ begotten Son
28 Labors
30 Male child
31 Idols are
32 "Holy is ___ name"
35 "Ave ___"
36 Gospel writer
37 Gab
39 Former name for Benin
41 Cough drop
43 Stray dog
44 Chicken
45 Before, poetically
47 Gold king
51 Hoopla

52 Crude
53 "As the ___ of the seashore"
54 Neither partner
55 Compass point
56 Poetic "has"

DOWN

1 Clock time
2 Precedes an alias
3 Eve came from Adam's
4 Prizes
5 ___ Francisco
6 Malaria
7 Comfort
8 Association (abbr.)
9 Job
10 Air intake
12 Another name for "The Cross"
19 Communion table
21 Nervous system
22 Float up and down
23 Card game
24 Cunning
25 Firm
29 Abraham's son
31 Ancestors
32 Easter meat
33 Wrath
34 Jesus rose into
35 Scots nickname
36 Mountain of sacrifice
37 "We believe"
38 Revere your mother and father
40 Drones
41 Other ___
42 Long time periods
46 Female sheep
48 Deoxyribonucleic acid (abbr.)
49 Spots
50 Supersonic transport

Answer Key can be found on page 15

Sports

CYO boys crown league champions

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles had two teams victorious in the 79th running of the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) year-end tournament with St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel (SJHC) being crowned the third champion to be etched into the official record books on Saturday morning, Feb. 21.

First up for the three leagues was the seventh grade or White League championship pitting No. 2 St. Vincent against the top seeded Cardinals. Despite being down at the end of all three quarters, St. Charles came back to win, 43-36, over a tough Panthers squad. “St. Vincent played a great game and we were fortunate to come out on top. They moved the ball well and kept their offense running, looking for the open shot,” Cardinal Coach Sean Digan admitted.

Digan credited each and every one of his 13 players, starters or non-starters, with the win. “We had a group of good kids who pulled for each other throughout the season,” he said. “Even those who did not get into the game contributed to the team’s success this season by coming to practice and playing hard. We would not have been in the championship without their unselfish attitude.”

Patrick Finley had an outstanding performance with exceptional defensive play, including several steals, numerous rebounds and 18 points.

“Finley and Patrick O’Keefe both played with high intensity and did not get rattled by St. Vincent’s full court pressure. Jason Kochanski made a big impact in the second half and hit three key free throws late in the game,” Digan detailed.

“Overall this team had really good chemistry and were fun to coach. They have a lot of natural athletic talent and come together with a common focus and purpose to play their best once they step on the court.” Digan summarized.

The Cardinals finished with an impressive 24-5 overall record. In the loss, Hunter Burns led the Panthers with 13 points.

In the small school showdown,



The St. Charles eighth-grade team was the winner of the large-school CYO championship.



The St. Charles seventh-grade team won the CYO White League championship.

long-time powerhouse St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel beat a fundamentally sound group from Most Precious Blood (PB) en route to their eighth straight Blue League championship under the direction of Coach Jim Knapke. The Reds came out strong leading 7-4 after the first quarter, but it was all Hessen Cassel from there.

Knapke was very complimentary of his opponent, and said, “PB played a great game. We make teams turn over the ball, and they didn’t.”

Norman Knapke led all scorers in the contest with 12 points, cousin Walter chipped in another six and Jack Sweeney had eight off the bench for the Squires.

Gardner Barile had 10 for the Reds, who hadn’t been in a CYO championship game since 1997. On the road to the championship, the Squires beat St. Aloysius and St. Mary while PB slipped by St. Rose/St. Louis in their opener and downed the No. 2 seed and league co-champs, Queen of Angels, in the semifinals.

Finally in the large school, eighth grade matchup, St. Charles defeated St. Jude. The Cardinals not only won the CYO league and tournament, but also continued their winning streak with an amazing 27-0 record downing middle school teams from all over northeast Indiana and Ohio.

“We purposely set up a hard schedule to challenge these boys and it paid off,” Coach Dan Sordelet explained.

This talented group has won the tournament each year of their CYO careers. The Cardinal roster is deep and many of the team play together in the off-season, evident in their success this season and how well they work as a team.

“This group always gets along. They have been playing together for a long time. They don’t care who scores. They are very, very unselfish,” Sordelet concluded.

The Eagles finished 18-5 in Dave Westendorf’s final season after 20 years coaching in the CYO.

CYO JUNIOR VARSITY CHAMPIONSHIP (FIFTH-SIXTH GRADE) LEAGUE WINNERS



St. Vincent de Paul boys won the sixth-grade CYO championship.



The St. Charles girls won the sixth-grade CYO championship.



The St. Therese fifth- and sixth-grade boys won the CYO small school championship.



The St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne, fifth- and sixth-grade girls won the small-school championship.

Saints and Lions vie for St. Martin de Porres win

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — A monumental weekend that was the Inter-City Catholic League’s annual postseason tournament saw heartache and jubilation as squads saw their championship dreams dashed, and others — an extended campaign with hopes of glory.

The two-weekend tournament pitted all 14 teams in a one-game elimination winner-take-all

format that leads to the crowning of a champion that represents that league against the Catholic Youth Organization of Fort Wayne’s king.

One of the weekend’s most intriguing matchups was the contest between the Saints of Mishawaka Catholic and their intra-divisional rivals, the Lions of St. Pius X.



The game would be the first meeting between the St. Martin De Porres foes.

The scheduled duel was snowed out last year with regular-season repercussions as the Lions finished just ahead of the Saints in the final

Former cathedral organist, music director Judith Throm dies

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — Judith E. Throm, organist and music director for the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, for 24 years before retiring six years ago, died Feb. 1, at Parkview Hospital Randallia, Fort Wayne. She was 75.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Feb. 5 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Father Ben Muhlenkamp celebrating, with burial in Catholic Cemetery.

Surviving are her granddaughter, Cassidy Throm, and daughter-in-law, Tammy Schillace. She was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Evelyn Harding; husband, Edward Throm; son, Edward N. Throm; and daughter, Katherine Throm.

Born in Rushville, Indiana, she received a bachelor's degree from Butler University and served as music director for several Catholic

churches in Fort Wayne before she and her late husband, Edward, teamed up in 1985 to handle the music responsibilities at the cathedral. Following his death on March 15, 1991, she assumed the position of music director until her retirement in 2009.

She enjoyed reading and traveling, and spending time with her family and granddaughter.

"It is safe to say Judy could command a room, a choir, an organ, an orchestra — and perhaps the U.S. military if called upon," exclaimed Deacon Jim Kitchens in his homily at the funeral Mass. "One of my favorite stories about Judy is when we lost our music director (at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish) a week before Holy Week in 2010. I called Judy and she will-



JUDY THROM

ingly stepped in and accompanied our three choirs as I stepped back into choir directing. She sight read a lot of music, guided me and helped our parish out to make Holy Week as normal as possible."

"Judy was a very talented and faithful director of music and liturgy for the cathedral," added Msgr. Robert Schulte, rector. "She continued in that position after her husband, Ed, an equally gifted musician, choir director and also composer, died at too young an age. Judy had a hearty laugh, which was never too far away in conversation. Taking pride in her personal, professional appearance, she brought dignity and a prayerful atmosphere to our worship at Mass and prayer at other times. Her great and very human faith was one of her notable traits."

"I had the privilege to cantor with Judy for several years at the cathedral," said Lois Widner, principal of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School. "Judy was a gifted musi-

cian who gave her heart and soul to her ministry. She also was a dear friend who was devoted to her Church, family and friends."

"Judy dedicated her life to the music ministry of the Catholic Church," said Beverly Rieger, music director at St. Therese Church. "When she was at the cathedral she not only prepared the music, rehearsed and played for the all of the parish Masses, sacraments, funerals and weddings; she also was the music director for the diocese. That meant she provided music education and retreat opportunities for musicians throughout the diocese, and at the same time prepared the music, rehearsed and directed the diocesan choir and instrumentalists for all diocesan liturgies. ... It was my privilege to work with her when I was Office of Worship director. Sometimes I wondered when she slept! Well done, good and faithful servant. You will be remembered."

ICCL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

standings.

Both teams boasted strong interior offenses as the purple-and-gold-clad Saints had the duo of Zack Whitfield and Hunter Remer. And the Lions laid claim to the biggest of big men with their towering giant — Alex Mossey.

The defensive effects of Mossey showed early as he swatted, deflected, altered and rebounded with a presence that pushed the Saints from the painted area on hardwood surface.

As Mossey was patrolling the paint, his teammates — John Branch and Mark Heistand — attacked the basket on the offensive end making two-footer after two-footer jumping out to a first quarter lead, 12-4.

Remer finally got things going for the Saints getting to the rim and hitting a layup. Both teams played to a stalemate for the first three minutes of the second quarter exchanging buckets.

The pressure of St. Pius paid dividends down the stretch as they hit their bunnies in transition and what seemed to be their only shot outside of six feet as Heistand connected on a three-pointer.

The Saints countered with a march to the charity stripe as nine of their first half points kept them in the contest, 33-15.

Coming out of the locker room both squads brought heat in the form of a full court man-to-man press. The Saints countered by going to their season-long main weapon in Whitfield.

The counter punches were too much for the battle weary Saints as the Lions held pat through the third and finishing the job in the fourth by a final margin of 49-28.

"We hadn't played yet, and Mishawaka Catholic has the players to put up numbers so we really needed to play well," explained Lion Skipper Mike Padnos. "We focused on points in the paint and fortunately we made the shots today and look forward to playing next week."

"St. Pius was well prepared and played well, I would like to compliment their players and coaches and wish them success," remarked Saint Coach Greg Schultheis. "I couldn't be prouder of the core group of players we have, they gelled as a team and are good kids from great families."

The other three teams heading into semifinal action are the Eagles from St. Joseph, the St. John Bosco Division Champions, Holy Cross, and courtesy of a buzzer beater against Christ the King, the Blazers of St. Matthew. Saturday's games begin at Marian High School at 3 p.m. and the finals will be played at Saint Joseph on Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

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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.

FISH FRIES

St. Patrick Church fish fry

Arcola — St. Patrick Parish will have a fish fry Friday, March 13, from 4-7 p.m. Drive through and carry out available. Tickets are \$9 for adults, Seniors 60 plus \$8, children 6-10 \$4 and children under 6 free.

Queen of Angels fish fry - Forbing Fish

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish, 1500 W. State Blvd., will have a fish fry Friday, March 6, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Family style — fast seating. Tickets are \$9.50 for adults, \$4 for ages 6-10, and free for children 5 and under. Carry-outs available.

St. Vincent scouts plan fish fry

Fort Wayne — St. Vincent Venture Scouts will have a fish fry Friday, March 6, in the St. Vincent school cafeteria at the corner of Wallen and Auburn roads from 5-8 p.m. Carry-out available. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-11 and children under 6 free.

Fish fry at St. Charles

Fort Wayne — St. Charles Parish will have a fish fry Friday, March 6, from 4:30-7 p.m., in the cafeteria, door 9. Carry-out available at door 8. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children age 6 to 12 and children under 5 free. Proceeds benefit St. Charles Athletic Association.

Fish fry planned

South Bend — The Our Lady of Hungary Holy Name Society, is planning a fish fry on Friday, March 6, from 4-6:30 p.m. in the school gym, 735 W. Calvert. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$4.50 children 6-12, children under 6 free. Carry-out available.

Jonah fish fry planned

South Bend — Corpus Christi Parish will have a Jonah fish fry Friday, March 6, from 4-7 p.m. in the school gym, 2817 Corpus Christi Drive. Carry-outs available. Tickets are \$9, children 6-12 \$4 and children under six, free. For information call 574-272-9982.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

South Bend — The Saint Joseph High School Drama Club proudly presents Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Feb. 26-27, at 7 p.m. and Feb. 28, at 2 p.m., at the Everest-Rohrer Chapel/Fine Arts Center at Bethel College. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

Tickets still available

Fort Wayne — The "Maximilian — Saint of Auschwitz" production is Saturday Feb. 28, at 1 and 7 p.m. at the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center 431 W. Berry St. Tickets are \$10 lower level and \$5 upper level or \$15 family pass (upper level), and will be available at the door. Proceeds will benefit the Seminarian Vocation Fund.

St. Anthony de Padua plans Catholic family events

Angola — St. Anthony de Padua will offer family Game Nights Fridays from 7-9 p.m. in classroom 6. Friday, Feb. 27, will be "Faithful Feud" a spin on Family Feud; Friday, March 13, Holy Holy Holy Squares. A spin on Hollywood Squares; Friday, March 27, Catholic Pictionary will be held with a pizza party in the parish hall.

Diocesan Women's Retreat

Huntington — A diocesan Women's Retreat will be Saturday, March 21, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at St. Felix Catholic Center, 1280 Hitzfield St. Get away to pray, share, listen and rest in God's love. Cost is \$20 and includes simple lunch and dinner. For information visit www.diocesefwsb.org/Adult-Faith-Formation.

The CrossWord

March 1, 8 and 15, 2015

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S	K	I	R	A	G	O	S	H	E
T	A	B	O	R	N	U	N	S	O
			P	E	A	E	S	C	O
B	U	S	H	E	L	S	O	N	C
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REST IN PEACE

Albion

Doris M. Mangus, 89, Blessed Sacrament

Bluffton

Thomas B. Skurner, 85, St. Joseph

Fort Wayne

Michael Mozzone, 74, Precious Blood

Lois G. Turrin, 90, Our Lady of Good Hope

Debra A. Dobias, 63, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Adam James White, St. Jude

Sharon K. Radu, 65, St. Jude

Michael Shawn Price, 45, St. Vincent de Paul

Jane Zachman, 63, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

James E. Chapman, 76, Sacred Heart

Sabina Rose Sabo, 93, St. Charles Borromeo

Huntington

Thomas J. Dennie Sr., 87, Ss. Peter and Paul

Mishawaka

Raymond E. DeCloedt, 85, St. Joseph

New Haven

Jerome S. Erpelding, 53, St. Louis Besancon

Mary Angela Kidd, 66, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Gertrude M. Wettergren, 94, Basilica/Sacred Heart

South Bend

Lottie B. Litka, 91, St. Adalbert

Geraldine Bennett, 84, St. Matthew

Donald Alfred Cornelis, 86, St. John the Baptist

Jerome A. Plencner, 81, Holy Family

Susie A. Riggs-Matamoros, 48, St. Therese-Little Flower

Kimberly A. Workman, 52, Christ the King

Find where the fish is fried.
Visit www.diocesefwsb.org for the calendar.

Jonas Family Game Night Benefit

Albion — Blessed Sacrament Church will host a family game night dinner benefit for Wendy and Zachary Jonas medical expenses, Saturday, Feb. 28, 5-8 p.m. An ice fishing tournament will be held from 6:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Catholic Business Network Group

Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, March 6, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel. Refreshments provided by Caroline Dewey of USA Resume.

Director of Youth Ministry

PART-TIME

St. Therese, Little Flower Catholic Church in South Bend has an opening, beginning in May, for a part-time Director of Youth Ministry. Hours are flexible, with an expectation of 20 hours per week. Candidates should have the following qualifications:

- Active and practicing Catholic
- Good working knowledge of Catholic teaching and practices.
- Good relational skills, especially with youth.
- Ability to organize and lead with creativity and with minimal supervision.

Duties include organizing and leading faith formation opportunities with high school and junior high students, organizing the necessary parish support, working with parish staff, and working with parents of youth.

Send resumes or inquiries to:

Fr. Tom Shoemaker, St. Therese, Little Flower Parish
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Becoming 'Citizens of Two Worlds'

Bishop Rhoades makes pastoral visit to Bishop Dwenger High School on Ash Wednesday

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The Bishop Dwenger High School community marked the beginning of the Lenten season with a special Ash Wednesday Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades along with the school's chaplain, Father Jacob Meyer, in their newly renovated gymnasium on Feb. 18. The Mass opened Bishop Rhoades' annual pastoral visit to the Fort Wayne high school.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades spoke to the rapt congregation of the 40-day penitential season of Lent, acknowledging the spirit of compunction that is needed for an internal conversion. The bishop reminded the students that the ashes they would receive on their foreheads were a sign of their mortality and the call of Jesus to repent. He challenged those gathered to consider the three ways the Church offers to fight the spiritual battle against sin and evil — prayers, fasting and almsgiving.

Bishop Rhoades invited those present to pray for their "brothers and sisters who are suffering for their faith, especially in the Middle East," and offered his gratitude for the school's support of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) programs that assisted those persecuted. Bishop Dwenger is one of 13 schools nationwide that has been invited to partner with CRS at the platinum level of the Global High School Program in service and solidarity for the global poor.

Bishop Rhoades concluded his homily by asking the students and staff to pray for him as he promised to pray for the Bishop Dwenger family throughout the Lenten season.

Following Mass, Principal Jason Schiffli offered his gratitude for the bishop's visit as the congregation erupted in a round of applause. He recognized special guests, Marsha Jordan, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Carl Loesch, Secretary of Catholic Education and Bishop Dwenger school board members.

Following his plea to the students to participate in the CRS Rice Bowl program for Lent, he presented Bishop Rhoades with a \$650 check for the seminarian fund, "in honor of the 13 seminarians from Dwenger," said Schiffli.

Bishop Rhoades addressed the congregation in gratitude for the gift as well as for the dedicated Dwenger staff. "My deepest gratitude to the superb faculty, staff and administration for their commitment to Catholic education," said Bishop Rhoades. He then revealed to the enthused student body the five male and five female saints who were voted to be commemorated in the stained glass windows of the soon-to-be constructed school chapel.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades administers ashes to a Bishop Dwenger High School student during Mass celebrated on Ash Wednesday in Bishop Dwenger's newly renovated gym.

PHOTOS BY KAY COZAD

The morning was then punctuated by visits to junior and senior level theology classes where Bishop Rhoades learned about the studies of each class and opened the floor to student questions that ranged from "What do you think of the movie 'Fifty Shades of Gray'" to "If God knows everything why does He allow bad things to happen."

Bishop took a break from academics to lunch with student council members that included Karen Eckrich, senior class president, Abby McGraw, senior class vice president, Kelsey Kinniry, student body president, Nick Houk, sophomore class president, and Maggie Schroeder, freshman student activities coordinator. Following lunch the bishop visited the Great Catholic Thinkers Class where a rousing discussion of saints ensued.

The bishop concluded his pastoral visit by meeting with the theology teachers, Principal Schiffli and the chapel committee.

Bishop Dwenger High School, currently the largest of the four diocesan high schools, has provided an exemplary, nationally-recognized Catholic education since 1963 to freshman through senior level students, of which 62 percent currently earn academic honor diplomas. The Christ-centered school boasts not only regular and honors academics, but religion classes, fine arts, music, athletics, business, resource, vocational programs, club and service opportunities and much

More photos are available in the photo gallery at www.diocesefwsb.org



Bishop Dwenger High School students pass the collection basket at Ash Wednesday Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during his annual pastoral visit, Feb. 18. The collection will benefit Catholic Relief Services.

more. Campus ministry led by Jason Garrett is alive and well at Dwenger as well.

Principal Schiffli reports that new at Dwenger this year is a men-only philosophy class added to the school's curriculum after the success of the women-only class over the past two years. Dignity of Men Honors class explores the teachings of St. John Paul II, including excerpts from Theology of the Body.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades poses with student council members of Bishop Dwenger High School during his pastoral visit there on Feb. 18.



Schiffli is enthused about not only the growth of the school's academic prowess and Catholic identity but of the expansion of the campus as well. Spring promises to see preparation for the site where the new Bishop Dwenger Chapel will be constructed. Donations for the funding of the construction are now being accepted.

Schiffli also anticipates involving the student body in gardening on campus in partnership with CRS's theme "food security" to provide foods for St. Mary's Soup Kitchen and other area food ministries.

Of the bishop's visit, Schiffli said enthusiastically, "I feel the bishop has a very special connection with the teens. He ignites something in these kids. ... Our school is just a wonderful school. I'm happy to showcase Dwenger and hope the bishop will be even more proud of what we do here. ... It's about the kids. They love to be with the bishop."