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Rites celebrate journey to the Church

FORT WAYNE — The Rite of Election of Catechumens and the Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates have been celebrated in the cathedrals of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, taking place in St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, on Feb. 15, and in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne on March 1.

Catechumens are those unbaptized individuals who will be entering the Catholic Church by receiving all the sacraments of initiation — Baptism, Confirmation and the Holy Eucharist — at the Easter Vigil on the night of April 4. Candidates are those who are already baptized and are now preparing to complete their initiation or enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

The catechumens and candidates come from parishes throughout the diocese. During the liturgy, each catechumen and candidate, as well as his or her godparent or sponsor, was presented for recognition to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

Altogether, several hundred catechumens and candidates — along with their godparents, sponsors, families and guests — attended the liturgies.

The catechumens inscribed their names within the “Book of the Elect,” which was presented for Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to sign in an event called the Enrollment of Names. After participating in the Rite of Election, the catechumens will be referred to as the “elect,” because they will have been officially declared ready to receive the Easter sacraments this year.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades spoke of the wonder and gratitude he felt: “The wonder at the working’s of God’s grace that has led so many to the Catholic Church; gratitude for the gift of faith that you have received and opened yourselves to. I also feel joy — joy that you are becoming part of the family that is God’s Church, that you will soon be joining all of us, your brothers and sisters, at the Eucharistic table of the Lord.”

Speaking of the second reading from St. Peter: “Come to the Lord, a living stone, …

Rites, Page 16

Rest in peace, Father Ted

NOTRE DAME (CNS) — Holy Cross Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, who led the University of Notre Dame through a period of dramatic growth during his 35 years as president and held sway with political and civil rights leaders, died Feb. 26 at the age of 97.

As the longest serving president of Notre Dame, from 1952 to 1987, Father Hesburgh built the university from a small college primarily known for its prowess on the football field into one of the nation’s premier higher education institutions.

In announcing the highly regarded priest’s death, the university did not cite a specific cause.

Visitation and prayer services were held March 3 with a funeral Mass celebrated in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and memorial tribute on the Notre Dame campus on March 4.

“We mourn today a great man and faithful priest who transformed the University of Notre Dame and touched the lives of many,” Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, Notre Dame’s current president, said in a statement. “With his leadership, charisma and vision, he turned a relatively small Catholic college known

Hesburgh, Page 8

Holy Cross Father Theodore Hesburgh, former president of the University of Notre Dame, died Feb. 26 at age 97 in the Holy Cross House adjacent to the university in South Bend. He is pictured in a 2006 photo.
The Gift of the Ten Commandments

ON THE approaching Third Sunday of Lent, we will hear the Exodus account of the Ten Commandments revealed by God to Moses. The Ten Commandments are called the “Decalogue,” meaning “ten words.” These “ten words” are said to be written “with the finger of God,” unlike the other commandments written by Moses (CCC 2056). Both the Book of Exodus (20: 2-17) and the Book of Deuteronomy (5: 6-21) hand on to us the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are truly a gift to us from God. In truth, God crafted the Ten Commandments in our hearts from the beginning. They express the requirements of the natural law. Though the Ten Commandments can be known by human reason, God chose to reveal them specifically since original sin has clouded human understanding. One of the effects of original sin is that human nature is now subject to sin. We think of the Ten Commandments as oppressive or even of Judaism and Christianity as oppressive religions because of their laws and norms. The opposite is actually the case. The more obedient we are to God and His commandments, the freer we are. God’s commandments help free us from selfishness and liberate us from egoism.

The Ten Commandments are displayed at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, and was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The Ten Commandments are permanent—like the Ten Commandments in our hearts from the beginning. They express the requirements of the natural law. Though the Ten Commandments can be known by human reason, God chose to reveal them specifically since original sin has clouded human understanding. One of the effects of original sin is that human nature is now subject to sin. We think of the Ten Commandments as oppressive or even of Judaism and Christianity as oppressive religions because of their laws and norms. The opposite is actually the case. The more obedient we are to God and His commandments, the freer we are. God’s commandments help free us from selfishness and liberate us from egoism.

The Ten Commandments are displayed at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, and was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The Ten Commandments are displayed at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, and was sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.
During Lent, pope offers handy tips for preparing for Confession

BY CAROL GLETZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As Catholics are encouraged to make going to Confession a significant part of their lives during Lent, Pope Francis offered some quick tips to help people prepare for the sacrament of Penance.

After a brief explanation of why people should go to Confession — “because we are all sinners” — the pope listed 30 key questions to reflect on as part of making an examination of conscience and being able to “confess well.”

The guide is part of a 28-page booklet in Italian released by the Vatican publishing house. Pope Francis had 50,000 free copies distributed to people attending his Angelus address Feb. 22, the first Sunday of Lent.

Titled “Saveguard your heart,” the booklet is meant to help the faithful become “courageous” and prepared to battle against evil and choose the good.

The unobtrusive booklet contains quick introductions to Catholic basics: it has the text of the Creed, a list of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. It explains the seven sacraments and includes Pope Francis’ explanation of “lectio divina,” a prayerful way of reading Scripture in order to better hear “what the Lord wants to tell us in His Word and to let us be transformed by His Spirit.”

The booklet’s title is based on a line from one of the pope’s morning Mass homilies in which he said Christians need to guard and protect their hearts, “just as you protect your home — with a lock.”

“Twpom often do bad thoughts, bad intentions, jealousy, envy enter?” he asked. “Who opened the door? How did those things get in?”

The Oct. 10, 2014, homily, which is excerpted in the booklet, said the best way to guard one’s heart is with the daily practice of an “examination of conscience,” in which one quietly reviews what bad things one has done and what good things one has failed to do for God, one’s neighbor and oneself.

The questions include:

• Do I truly turn to God when I’m in need?
• Do I take attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation?
• Do I begin and end the day with prayer?
• Am I embarrassed to show that I am a Christian?
• Do I rebel against God’s plan?
• Am I envious, hot-tempered, biased?
• Am I honest and fair with everyone or do I fuel the “throw-away culture?”
• In my marital and family relations, do I uphold morality as taught in the Gospels?
• Do I honor and respect my parents?
• Have I refused newly conceived life? Have I snuffed out the gift of life? Have I helped do so?
• Do I respect the environment?
• Am I part worldly and part believer?
• Do I overdo it with eating, drinking, smoking and amusements?
• Am I overly concerned about my physical well-being, my possessions?
• How do I use my time? Am I lazy?
• Do I want to be served?
• Do I dream of revenge, hold grudges?
• Am I meek, humble and a builder of peace?

Catholics should go to Confession, the pope said, because everyone needs forgiveness for their sins, for the ways “we think and act contrary to the Gospel.”

“Whoever says he is without sin is a liar or is blind,” he wrote.

Confession is meant to be a sincere moment of conversion, an occasion to demonstrate trust in God’s willingness to forgive His children and to help them on the path of following Jesus, Pope Francis wrote.

ASSYRIANS, PAGE 4

Assyrian Christians released, but many concerned for those still held

BY DALE GAVLAK

AMMAN, Jordan (CNS) — Christians in northeastern Syria, but expressed concern that more than 200 others remained in captivity.

“I can confirm the release of 19 persons (17 men and 2 women) who were captured by the Islamic State in the Khabur region,” said Father Emanuel Youkhiana, who heads the Christian Aid Program Northern Iraq, CAPNI.

“We pray and hope for the others to be released,” he added.

Bushri Saedi, a senior official in the Assyrian Democratic Organization, said all those released were around 50 years of age or older, suggesting that age might have been a factor.

Osama Edward, who heads the Assyrian Human Rights Network, told Vatican Radio that the Christians were released because jizya, an Islamic protection tax levied on non-Muslims, had been paid.

They are now “in the church of the city of Hassakeh,” Edward said.

Pope Francis talks with Jesus’ Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, after a meeting with Nechirvan Barzani, prime minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq, at the Vatican March 2.

The British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights also reported that an Islamic court had ruled the captives be freed, but it said the reasoning behind the decision was unknown.

On Feb. 23, Islamic State militants raided a cluster of villages along the Khabur River near Syria’s northeastern province of Hassakeh and abducted Assyrian Christian residents and other minorities.

There have been conflicting reports about the actual number of the captives still held by the extremists, and their fate remains unclear. The Observatory said there were 220. Other activists said the figure was higher than 260.

Sunni Muslim Arab tribal leaders have been mediating with the extremists in an attempt to secure the captives’ release. Many observers believe most captives were taken to Shaddadak, about 30 miles south of Hassakeh.

The abductions have added to growing fears among religious minorities in the Middle East who have been repeatedly targeted by the Islamic State group, especially in Syria and Iraq. During the militants’ campaign in Syria and Iraq over the past year, minorities have been repeatedly targeted and killed, the Observatory said.

During the past year, minorities have been repeatedly targeted and killed, the Observatory said.

A popular and colorful teacher and a staunch pro-life advocate, on campus and nationwide, Rice co-authored numerous legal briefs involving right-to-life and right-to-die issues. He also was the author of 13 books, including “Freedom of Association,” The Supreme Court and Public Prayer; “The Vanishing Right to Life,” “Authority and Rebellion,” “No Exception: A Pro-Life Imperative” and, most recently, “Contraception and Persecution.”

Throughout his years at Notre Dame, Rice was a prominent coach, referee and faculty adviser of the university’s annual Bengal Bouts men’s boxing tournament, a fundraising event for the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh.

From 1981 to 1993, Rice was a member of the Education Appeal Board of the U.S. Department of Education. He has served as a consultant to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and to various Congressional committees on constitutional issues, and was an editor of the American Journal of Jurisprudence. He proudly served in the United States Marine Corps and was honored as an outstanding recruit by the Daughters of the American Revolution. He also served in the Marine Corps Reserve, retiring as a Lt. Colonel. He was a contributor and columnist for Today’s Catholic newspaper.

Rice is survived by his wife Mary, their 10 children and spouses, and grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was celebrated on March 2 at St. Joseph Church in Mishawaka.
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Restorative Justice: Face-to-face with the effects of crime

BY MADELINE RICHLEY

FORT WAYNE — “What kind of monster — what kind of human being — would pull out a gun into a parking lot, shoot a woman in the face, rob her, and leave her in a puddle of her own blood, and not even think about it? You’re looking at him.”

Keith, now well into middle age, reflected on the man he once was while standing beside his friend, Misty, who he met when they were both only 18, when he shot her in the face and left her on the pavement to die.

On the evening of Feb. 25, a group of 75 people or more gathered in the auditorium at the University of Saint Francis to listen to a lecture on restorative justice, led by a survivor of a violent crime and her offender-turned-friend. The audience was composed of ex-offenders, veterans of the criminal justice system, educators and students hoping to learn more about this revolutionary system: not only to punish offenders but to try to repair some of the damage that was done.

Misty Wallace was 18 in October of 1992, enjoying the company of her friends during senior year of high school. Misty had a full-ride scholarship to play softball at college. One evening, in the days before cell phones, she stopped at a parking lot to use the payphone to tell her parents that she would be late getting home. As she was speaking, a car pulled up and a man got out of the passenger side. As she hung up the phone, he shot her in the face.

Miraculously, she survived, but life couldn’t go on as before. Due to injuries, she lost her scholarship, but was lucky to have survived with her life. Eventually she married, but even that road was shaped by the crime that had almost killed her. Various encounters in courthouses with her offender were all she knew of him until one evening she reached out through Facebook. They exchanged phone numbers so she could finally get the answers to all her questions of why and how it had been her.

Now Misty and Keith are friends, working together to speak about their experiences and help other victims and offenders come to terms with the effects of crime through restorative justice. Bridges To Life, the program with which Misty works, connects offenders with victims of crimes similar to their own. The idea is to help offenders realize the true nature of their crime and see the ways in which it has impacted not only their victims, but the families and friends of the victim, society as a whole and even their own family and friends.

Keith, a product of this system, believes that restorative justice is more difficult than the average punishment dealt by the criminal justice system. He says that to serve his sentence of 20 years and never face Misty would have been easy. But to see her and know what he did to her was where the difficulty truly lies.

The small groups are mediated and often weeks or months of preparation take place before victims and offenders actually meet. But restorative justice offers something healing to both parties, which traditional justice does not. To offenders, it offers the chance to apologize, and to victims, it offers the chance to see their offender, confront their humanity and forgive them.

Restorative justice, such as that practiced by Bridges To Life, not only works to better the lives of victims and offenders, but also has a much wider reach. According to the Bureaue of Justice Statistics, a study in 2005 concluded that almost 76 percent of those who were released had been arrested within three years. Bridges To Life boasts only a 14 percent recidivism rate.

Overall, restorative justice offers a message of hope. It focuses on addressing the harms and needs of victims, offenders and their communities, calling to attention the responsibilities of offenders, and society as a whole; working together to address the problem; and above all, trying to make amends for the crime.

The University of Saint Francis School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Department of Philosophy and Theology, and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Jail Ministry presented the lecture.

ASSYRIANS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

driven from their homes, had their women enslaved and places of worship and cultural artifacts destroyed. The attacks along the Khabur took place weeks after video was released of Islamic State beheading 21 Egyptian Christians that it called “cruisers.”

At the Vatican, Pope Francis called on everyone to help the people of Syria and Iraq, many of whom are suffering because of their faith. After praying the Angelus with his cardinals and other groups, Francis said, “I ask everyone, according to their means, to work to alleviate the suffering of all those who are afflicted, often just because of their faith,” the pontiff said.

Norvan Barzani, prime minister of the Kurdistan regional government of Iraq, met Pope Francis at the Vatican March 2 to discuss concerns about Islamic State extremists and the fate of religious and ethnic minorities in the Middle East.

Bahtiyar Dedeh, Catholic Near East Welfare Association’s regional director for Jordan and Iraq, called the release of the first batch of Assyrian Christians “positive,” but said the attacks on Christians in Syria were troubling.

“We spoke about the problem of Hassakeh publicly for seven or eight months before this incident. We said that Hassakeh and the nearby villages are all surrounded by Daesh,” the Arabic term for Islamic State, Bahou told CNS. “Despite the warning, nothing happened to protect them.”

A prominent Syrian Christian, Bassam Ishak, president of the Syriac National Council of Syria, added that he raised concerns earlier about the Islamic State presence in the Hassakeh region as well in Washington, but no real measures were taken.

“If you go back to July 22, 2014, we warned publicly that Daesh will enter the Ninevah Valley, and it happened 14 days later,” Bahou said, referring to massive attacks on Islamic State villages that sent thousands fleeing for safety to northern Iraq and neighboring countries.

“Their pressure is so big. I think it will be a domino effect. It’s now happening in Syria. It’s happening in Egypt, in Lebanon,” Bahou added.

“Thank God we have stability in Jordan, and we hope it will continue. But we are losing Christians in our region,” he said.

Contributing to this story was Carol Glatz in Rome.
STATEHOUSE — Legislation allowing the use of a process to dissolve human remains as an alternative to cremation or burial was defeated in the House, 34-59. The Indiana Catholic Conference opposed the bill.

The legislation, House Bill 1069, would allow a process called alkaline hydrolysis to be used in Indiana, a process which is currently not authorized by law. The alkaline hydrolysis process uses chemicals to dissolve the human body. The liquefied person’s body is then drained into the sewer system. The remaining solid matter could be placed in an urn and returned to the family.

Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference testified in opposition to the bill during a public hearing before the House Public Health Committee. Tebbe said, “We believe that every human being, created in the image and likeness of God, deserves dignity.” He said that people deserve dignity when the person is living, and once the person has died.

“Flushing the fluid remains of a person down into the sewer system does not provide, in our opinion, the dignity due the person, nor the reverence due the body which is the temple of the Holy Spirit.”

Tebbe also said the Church questions whether having the liquid processed into the sewer table or through the municipal sewer system is acceptable either culturally or aesthetically. “For us it is offensive and we respectfully ally or aesthetically. “For us it is offensive and we respectfully ally or aesthetically.”

Tebbe added, “Given the unnecessarily disrespectful and offensive nature of this process to the dignity of the human person, the ICC will continue to monitor this issue.”

As the ICC tracks bills, the ICC posts legislative update on its Web page. To receive legislative updates via email pushes, join the Indiana Catholic Action Network (ICAN). These and other public policy resources are available at www.indianacc.org.

Bill to dissolve human remains defeated in House

The legislation was touted by advocates as a “greener,” more environmentally-friendly process of dealing with the dead. Corporate representative, Joe Wilson of Bio-Response Solutions, Inc., explained that his Indiana-based company is one of the leading manufacturers of the equipment to provide the alkaline hydrolysis human remains decomposing process. Wilson explained the reasons the alkaline hydrolysis process is superior to cremation or burial saying it is cheaper in the long run, easier and less labor intensive for the funeral director.

Rep. Jeffrey Thompson, R-Lizton, author of the bill, said Wilson, a constituent of his, came to him requesting that Indiana change the law to allow the use of alkaline hydrolysis. Thompson, a retired science teacher, presented his bill on the House floor said he was “completely comfortable with the science” of human decomposition with the alkaline hydrolysis, but said he had talked to a few of the legislators who were “uncomfortable for religious reasons.”

Thompson said, “If that’s the reason, I respect that. That’s a very valid reason to not vote for it.”

Rep. Ed Clere, R-New Albany, chairman of the House Public Health Committee, asked lawmakers during the floor debate to support the bill. Clere said that the members of the health panel gave the bill “careful consideration,” and that the bill passed committee in a 9-1 vote. Clere also pointed out that the manufacturer of the alkaline hydrolysis equipment is an Indiana company creating Indiana jobs, and there is a market for this process in the U.S. and abroad.

Rep. Richard Hamm, R-Richmond, gave an emotional plea during the House debate urging the members to vote against the measure. Hamm, who has worked in the funeral business for decades, said that there have been a lot of changes in the industry over the years. He noted that currently cremation accounts for about 50 percent of the funeral business. “When you cremate somebody, 20 percent doesn’t cremate,” said Hamm. “It must be crushed-up or beat-up with a hammer. Now we’re talking about how we’re going to put them in acid and let them dissolve away, and then we’re going to let them run down the drain, out into the sewers? We keep going backward, and backward in taking care of supposedly the people we love.” Getting choked-up, Rep. Hamm said, “You can tell I feel very passionate about this. I urge you to vote no.”

Shortly after Rep. Hamm’s comments, the House voted the bill down, defeating it by 34-59. In addition, to House Bill 1069, a similar bill dealing with alkaline hydrolysis, Senate Bill 333, failed to pass out of the Senate committee.

Tebbe said he was “surprised but very pleased” the bill was defeated. However, he said the session is only half-way over. “Although it is unlikely, it’s possible to resurrect a bill that has been defeated by stripping the contents of a live bill and replacing it with the alkaline hydrolysis language,” said Tebbe.

As the ICC tracks bills, the ICC posts legislative update on its Web page. To receive legislative updates via email pushes, join the Indiana Catholic Action Network (ICAN). These and other public policy resources are available at www.indianacc.org.
**Bishop’s communications chairman welcomes FCC vote on net neutrality**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Federal Communications Commission’s vote Feb. 26 to preserve an “open Internet” and safeguard net neutrality was welcomed in many quarters of the country, including by the chairman of U.S. bishops’ Committee on Communications.

“The Internet is a critical medium for religious speech. Radio, broadcast television and cable television are, in large part, closed to noncommercial religious messages,” said a Feb. 26 statement by Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City.

“From the inception of the Internet until the mid-2000s, Internet service providers were not permitted to discriminate or tamper with what was said over those Internet connections,” he added. “Today, the FCC restores this protection for speakers, protection particularly important to noncommercial religious speakers.”

The issue had heated up significantly over the past four months, after President Barack Obama in November called on the FCC to preserve an open Internet. Groups of all types and stripes bombarded the FCC with email messages and phone calls beseeking the agency to act decisively to prevent preferential treatment for some content providers and to keep the Internet from splitting off into “fast lanes” for those willing to pay. Among the groups advocating for net neutrality was an interfaith group, Faithful Internet.

Helen Osman, secretary of communications for the U.S. bishops, recorded her message to archdiocesan clergy who asked her to bring her video message to archdiocesan headquarters.

“You have a ‘second sailing,’” said the archbishop in a recent interview with Catholic News Service.

“Archdiocese brings hope amid changes, transition”

DETROIT (CNS) — Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron said the move from the old chancery to the new downtown home of the Archdiocese of Detroit two blocks from the new downtown home of the old chancery to the new downtown home of the new chancery building in the first half of June is bittersweet: “I feel the major transition for the archdiocese.”

Allen H. Vigneron said the move from the old chancery to the new downtown home of the new chancery building in the first half of June is bittersweet: “I feel the major transition for the archdiocese.”

Archbishop Vigneron said the move is bittersweet: “I feel sad about leaving behind those buildings which have been such an important part of the life of the diocese,” he said. The former chancery had served as the archdiocese’s central hub since 1926. However, the changes are “working cooperatively, knowing what we are doing and being able to contribute to one another’s work,” he explained. Msgr. Robert McClory, moderator of the curia, noted that the consolidation of the archdiocese’s central operations from multiple buildings into one is not unlike what many parishes have undergone in recent years.

**San Francisco archbishop forms theology teachers’ committee**

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone is forming a committee of theology teachers from the archdiocese’s high schools to expand and adjust the language of proposed statements on Catholic teaching on sexual morality and religious practice to be included in the faculty and staff handbooks of the four archdiocesan high schools. In a Feb. 24 letter to archdiocesan high school teachers, the archbishop said he would recommend that this committee submit a draft of their additions before the next school year. He also asked that they keep “what is already there” in the proposed statements he announced in early February. The addition of these detailed statements of Catholic teaching on sexual morality and religious is scheduled to take effect in the 2015-16 school year and is not part of the teachers’ contract. The statements cover issues teaching on abortion, same-sex marriage and artificial contraception, and other tenets of the faith. In the letter to teachers, Archbishop Cordileone stressed that Catholic schools provide a unique role in the mission of the Church: “equipping our young people to be spiritual and morally fit for life, serve faithfully in their parishes, and carry on the Church’s legacy of service to the poor, sick, marginalized, vulnerable and destitute in any way, as well as to respond to and faithfully persevere in the calling God gives them in their life.”

The archbishop praised Catholic school teachers for helping “young people attain these goals.”

**Pope Francis celebrates Mass at the end of a five-day Lenten spiritual retreat**

Pope Francis celebrates Mass at the end of a five-day Lenten spiritual retreat with members of the Roman Curia in Ariccia, near Rome Feb. 27.

2015.03.08 - POPE FRANCIS CELEBRATES MASS AT END OF FIVE-DAY LENTEN SPIRITUAL RETREAT

**News Briefs**

*Pope Francis celebrates Mass at the end of a five-day Lenten spiritual retreat*
**AROUND THE DIocese**

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL RECEIVES GENEROUS DONATION**

Grand Knight Dan Hampton presented Father Phil DeVolder, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, and Principal James Faroh a check for $1,000 from funds raised at the annual Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast during Catholic Schools Week. Sacred Heart School is appreciative of the Knights’ generosity to Catholic education over the years.

**Sacred Heart to host Day of Reflection**

WARSAW — “Bread of Life” Day of Reflection will be held at Sacred Heart Parish on Saturday, March 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mary Pohlmam, pastoral associate of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne, will be the presenter. The day will include continental breakfast and box lunch. Cost is a free will offering. Must be 18 years or older to attend. The event is co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Register by March 24, with sign up after Mass at Sacred Heart on March 7-8, 14-15, 21-22 or call the parish office at 574-267-5842. Sacred Heart Church is located at 125 N. Harrison St., Warsaw.

Opus Dei Deacons, Langan ordained

ROME — Bishop Javier Echevarria ordained 32 new deacons for Opus Dei, in St. Eugene’s Basilica in Rome. The ordained deacons, who will be ordained priests in six months time, come from 14 countries: Spain, Poland, Ecuador, United States, Nigeria, Mexico, Taiwan, Kenya, Brazil, Guatemala, Colombia, Austria and Argentina.

Jeffrey Joseph Langan, a member of the Opus Dei community near Notre Dame and served as a director, was one of the deacons ordained.

**Retreat for teens with Down syndrome offered**

FORT WAYNE — A retreat hosted by the Franciscan Brothers Minor and Franciscan Sisters Minor, for teens with Down syndrome will be held on Saturday, March 21, from 1-4 p.m. at St. Andrew Church, 2610 New Haven Ave.

This Lenten retreat “… Love one another. …” from John 13: 34-35, will include prayer, breakout sessions for teens and an opportunity for parents and caregivers to find support and community. A light snack will be provided.

Those interested in attending or for more information contact Missy Reuille at 260-466-8399 or mreuille2@comcast.net.

**St. Joseph Right to Life essay contest deadline set March 13**

SOUTH BEND — St. Joseph County Right to Life is sponsoring its fifth annual Right to Life Essay Contest. It is an opportunity for teens to win money towards college — $100 to $200 prizes given to four individuals — and offers teens a chance to articulate their pro-life beliefs.

This year’s topics are: “What would change in our country if abortion was illegal?” (seventh and eighth grades); “How would the pro-life movement change if abortion were to become illegal in our country?” (ninth through 12th grades). Essay rules can be found at the St. Joseph County Right to Life Facebook page or on the website, prolifeinmichiana.org/essaycontest. Teen participants may also contact the Right to Life office at 574-232-LIFE (5433). Deadline for entries is March 13. Winners will be invited to receive their awards at the Respect Life Prayer Dinner on April 14.

**Notre Dame launches online theology program for Hispanic Catholics**

NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame’s Institute for Church Life (ICL) has launched a new online adult faith formation program for Hispanic Catholics.

The program, Camino, is a collaborative effort of ICL’s Satellite Theological Education Program (STEP) and the Southeast Pastoral Institute (SEPI).

“When Pope Francis addressed the Pontifical Council for Social Communications in the first year of his pontificate, he challenged those of us working in technology and social communications to consider how we use these tools to walk with others and lead to an encounter with Christ,” said Esther Terry, program director of Camino. “Ultimately, that encounter is the goal of Camino courses.”

Designed by university professors and national leaders in Hispanic ministry, Camino courses concern catechetical topics and particular needs in Hispanic ministry. Participants engage in the program through video lectures, homework assignments and interactive discussion forums.

More information on Camino is available on the program’s bilingual website at camino.nd.edu.
‘Making God known, loved and served’
A life of service to the University of Notre Dame, Church and nation

Remembering Father Hesburgh

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for football into one of the nation’s great institutions for higher learning.

“In his historic service to the nation, the Church and the world, he was a steadfast champion for human rights, the cause of peace and care for the poor,” he said.

Father Hesburgh was born May 25, 1917, in Syracuse, New York, to Anne Murphy Hesburgh and Theodore B. Hesburgh, an executive of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co.

He was educated at Notre Dame and Rome’s Pontifical Gregorian University. He was ordained a priest of the Congregation of the Holy Cross in 1943 in Sacred Heart Church, today the basilica, on the Notre Dame campus.

He received a doctorate in sacred theology from The Catholic University of America in 1945.

After doctoral studies he joined the university faculty, teaching in the religion department, and served as chaplain to World War II veterans on campus. In 1949 he was appointed executive vice president of Notre Dame. He became the university’s 15th president in 1952.

Under his presidency, the university budget grew from $9.7 million to $176.6 million while the endowment expanded from $9 million to $350 million. Enrollment increased from 4,979 students to 9,600 and the faculty expanded from 389 to 950.

In 1967, he oversaw the transference of governance of the school from the Congregation of the Holy Cross to a two-tiered, mixed board of lay and religious trustees and fellows. The school also admitted women to undergraduate programs beginning in 1972.

Father Hesburgh also played an influential role in national and international affairs both during and after his presidency. He held 16 presidential appointments over the years, tackling major social issues including civil rights, immigration reform, peaceful uses of atomic energy, campus unrest, treatment of Vietnam draft evaders and development in the world’s poorest nations.

He was a charter member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights when it was created in 1957 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He chaired the body from 1969 until 1972 when President Richard Nixon dismissed him over his criticism of the administration’s civil rights record.

The Holy Cross priest also served on President Gerald R. Ford’s Clemency Board, which was responsible for deciding the fate of Vietnam offenders.

His work on the two commissions led to the creation of the Center for Civil & Human Rights at Notre Dame Law School.

During a tribute on Capitol Hill in 2013, congressional leaders from both sides of the aisle honored Father Hesburgh days before his 96th birthday. Vice President Joe Biden said during the gathering that he ran for public office at the age of 29 in 1972 because of Father Hesburgh’s passion for civil rights.

“You’re one of the reasons I’ve been so proud to be a Catholic,” Biden told Father Hesburgh.

Biden praised Father Hesburgh as an inspiration for all people in public office.

Father Hesburgh served on the Committee on International Development, a private organization supporting interests in developing nations, beginning in 1971 and chaired it until 1982. He led efforts to overcome mass starvation in Cambodia in 1979 and 1980.

From 1979 to 1981, he chaired the Select Commission on Immigration and Related Policy, which issued recommendations which became the basis of congressional reform legislation several years later.

During the Cold War in the early 1980s, Father Hesburgh joined a private initiative which sought to unite internationally known scientists and world religious leaders in condemning nuclear weapons. He organized a 1982 meeting at the Vatican of 58 scientists from around the world who called for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Father Hesburgh served four popes, including three as the Vatican’s permanent representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna from 1976 to 1980.

Blessed Paul VI asked him to build the Tantur Ecumenical Institute in Jerusalem, which the university continues to operate. Father Hesburgh also served as head of the Vatican delegation attending the 20th anniversary of the United Nations’ human rights declaration in Tehran, Iran, in 1991.

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In 1983, St. John Paul II appointed the Holy Cross priest to the Pontifical Council for Culture.

He also served as a trustee and chairman of the Rockefeller Foundation. He became ambassador to the 1979 U.N. Conference on Science and Technology for Development, the first time a priest served in a formal diplomatic role for the United States.

In addition, Father Hesburgh served on several commissions and study groups in the field of education. He served as chairman of the International Federation of Catholic Universities from 1963 to 1970, leading a movement to redefine the nature and mission of contemporary Catholic education.

In 2009, the priest said he supported Notre Dame’s decision to invite President Barack Obama to deliver the commencement address that year and receive an honorary law degree. The invitation reignited a heated debate about maintaining the Catholic identity of U.S. Catholic institutions of higher education. About 80 U.S. bishops and others said Obama’s support of legal abortion and embryonic stem-cell research made him an inappropriate choice.

But Father Hesburgh backed the school’s invitation to the president, saying that the nation’s universities are meant to be places where people with different opinions can talk to one another.

Father Hesburgh held 150 honorary degrees and was the first priest elected to the Board of Overseers of Harvard University, serving for two years, from 1994 to 1995, as president of the board. He also co-chaired the Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics in its efforts to reform college sports, from 1990 to 2003.


He is survived by a brother, James. Three sisters preceded him in death.

Holy Cross Father Tom Jones, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Notre Dame, recalled Father Hesburgh — his devotion and joy. “A memory of Father Ted, which stands out for me is his commitment to excellence in Catholic education. The founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Blessed Basil Moreau, once commented to his fellow religious: ‘We are about making God known, loved and served,’” said Father Jones, adding, “Holy Cross priests, brothers and sisters have worked hard at this since we were founded in LeMans, France, in 1837. As a ‘spiritual son of Father Moreau,’ Father Hesburgh devoted his life’s work to helping others make a difference in people’s lives, especially in the lives of the poor and marginalized.”

Father Jones recalled the joy Father Hesburgh experienced as a priest. “Father Ted’s greatest joy was to be a priest, offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass daily, serving at Our Lady’s University, and making God known, loved and served,” he said. “To have known Father Ted, talked with him, learned from him, laughed with him, offered Mass with him — this has been a great blessing for so many of us. May the torch Father Ted has now passed continue to burn brightly in our lives ‘making God known, loved and served.’”

Holy Cross Father Theodore Hesburgh, center, former president of Notre Dame, died Feb. 26 at age 97 in the Holy Cross House adjacent to the campus. He is pictured in a 2013 photo with Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan, left, and Cross Father John J. Jenkins, Notre Dame’s president.

Father Theodore Hesburgh was a charter member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights when it was created in 1957 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He is shown with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Father Hesburgh was a charter member of the Congregation of the Holy Cross in 1943 in Sacred Heart Church, today the basilica, on the Notre Dame campus. He received a doctorate in sacred theology from The Catholic University of America in 1945.
'Making God known, loved and served'
A life of service to the University of Notre Dame, Church and nation

Holy Cross Father Theodore Hesburgh, center, former president of the University of Notre Dame, died Feb. 26 at age 97 in the Holy Cross House adjacent to the university in South Bend. He is pictured in a 2013 photo with Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York and Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, Notre Dame’s president.

NOTRE DAME ARCHIVE PHOTO

Father Theodore Hesburgh was a charter member of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights when it was created in 1957 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. He is shown with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades remembers Father Hesburgh’s priestly life

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend remembered Father Hesburgh’s spiritual wisdom, conviction and warmth.

“I first met Father Hesburgh five years ago at my installation as bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend. He warmly welcomed me and told me how welcome I should always feel at Notre Dame. In fact, every time I later met with him at Notre Dame, Father Ted showed me that same warmth. My conversations with him have been a wonderful blessing in my life these past five years. His strong conviction that there be a close relationship between the University of Notre Dame and me as local bishop impressed me greatly. He saw this as an essential part of Notre Dame’s Catholic identity,” Bishop Rhoades said.

“His spiritual wisdom has inspired me in many ways. What touched me the most was Father Ted’s deep faith and convictions about his priestly identity. Numerous times he shared with me the importance of daily Mass throughout his priestly life. Clearly he discovered his priestly identity in the Eucharist. He shared with me the many places throughout the world where he celebrated Holy Mass. It was clear to me that this is what immersed him in the mystery of Christ and stirred him to give so much of himself in service of the Church, Notre Dame, our nation and humanity. I was also struck by his intimate relationship with the Blessed Virgin Mary whom he experienced as his spiritual mother and the spiritual mother of Notre Dame. I think she gave him the strength to respond so generously and wholeheartedly to the demands of his priestly ministry, including his presidency of Notre Dame, which he always saw as a work of priestly ministry and not merely administrative leadership,” the bishop continued.

“Father Ted gave me a copy of his autobiography a few years ago. I had some questions after reading it that Father Ted was so gracious to answer. He helped me to understand some of the issues and challenges he faced. I was especially grateful to discuss with Father Ted the Catholic identity and mission of Notre Dame.

“I remember with special gratitude a visit of my family and me with Father Ted in his office at the library. He was most gracious and we spent a very enjoyable hour together. My family was amazed to learn about some of Father Ted’s experiences. He did not boast of his accomplishments, but clearly he was excited about the opportunities he had to be involved in so many important events. He gave wonderful advice to my nephew and nieces about the call to service of the poor and living the faith through love. His words were impactful. I imagine he gave similar advice to students at Notre Dame through the years. I saw how he naturally related to young people and inspired them in their commitment to the Gospel.

“Throughout his life, Father Ted sought the face of God. He encountered Christ each day in the Eucharist under the forms of bread and wine. I pray that he will now meet Him face to face and celebrate at the heavenly banquet feast that the Eucharist foreshadows. And may Mary, our Mother, welcome her faithful son to the communion of saints in heaven!” Bishop Rhoades said.
It takes parish and family to prepare young people for Reconciliation, first Communion

BY TIM JOHNSON

First Reconciliation and first Communion can easily be described as a rite of passage for young people. Preparing for these two special days is a vital role in their lives.

Katie Pleus, a second-grade teacher at St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne, told Today's Catholic, “The students come into second grade on the first day of school knowing that this is a very important year for them religiously. They are very excited about preparing for these two special days in their lives.”

Elise Bohl, who teaches religion to all the grade levels at St. Aloysius School in Yoder, and Brittany Baldus, who teaches the sacraments, told Today's Catholic that reading and acting out the Scripture stories of the Lost Sheep, the Prodigal Son, the Lost Coin, and the Good Samaritan would incorporate the liturgical celebrations. “The children act in skits during Advent and Lent.”

Cynthia Kinney, a second-grade religious education teacher at St. John the Baptist Parish encourages her public school students to use the quiet time in the classroom “to talk to Jesus in their heart during this time.” They also use their valuable religious education class time learning about the sacraments, practicing and learning to spend time with God. “Tell Him how much I love Him, how much I need Him, how much I thank Him and how much I praise Him,” noted Kinney. At St. John the Baptist, the school has incorporated “letters from family, friends and other students encouraging the second graders in their religious journey,” Katie Pleus said. “This is important because they can see that people they know have been through this, to be nervous is normal and the great joy that comes in receiving the sacraments.”

Msgr. Bernard Galic, pastor at St. Aloysius, visits the classes and talks with the students. And Father Daniel Whelan, a member of the Sons of St. Philip Neri, a community-in-formation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri and pastor at St. John the Baptist, and Father Matt Coonan, pastor, and Father Zak Barry, parochial vicar, at St. Vincent are also very involved in the process. This helps relieve some of the “jitters” a young person might feel about first Reconciliation and first Communion.

“Father Matthew and Father Zak both have a gift for relating with our children,” said Palmer, “and making them feel comfortable in many circumstances. They are fully engaged in the catechesis of our children and have a great relationship with children and the catechists.”

And families are a part of the preparation as well. At St. John the Baptist, Kinney noted, “The family helps prepare by taking their children to Sunday Mass. They help the child memorize the Act of Contrition. We also come together on Gathering Day for Bible study, making of bread, painting the craft activities and eating lunch as a family and class.”

The Baldus sisters would like to spread the word that first Communion clothing is worn for a matter of hours and is very exciting and something that they say has come in throughout the year.

Father Daniel said, “We emphasize the importance of first Reconciliation and encourage the parents to lead by example by going themselves and making regular Confession a part of spiritual life of their families.”

At St. Vincent de Paul, parents are updated at meetings throughout the year on their child’s progress and are notified of upcoming activities. “We also stress the importance of the parents making their home a spiritual place for their children by praying the Bible as a family,” Palmer said.

He added, “We emphasize that the home is the domestic church and catechesis needs to take place every day and not just Sunday.”

At St. Aloysius, Bohl noted that prayers are sent home for practice and ideas for discussion and a weekly topic or extra activities are sent home for preparation for the sacraments.

She noted, “It’s amazing how the students truly get these sacraments. Adults may tend to question their faith — drifting from the sacrament of Reconciliation or questioning the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist — but the children have such faith. They understand and fully accept these gifts and believe in the power of God in these sacraments.”

St. Joseph Communion Closet offers garments

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — As northwestern Indiana anticipates spring, preparation for the reception of first Communion is being made in east Indiana anticipates spring, FORT WAYNE — As northwestern Indiana anticipates spring, preparation for the reception of first Communion is being made in Catholic elementary schools and parishes across the area. The special day not only calls for meaningful instruction on the Eucharist for these excited second graders, but also distinctive attire. Traditionally, white gowns and veils adorn the girls, while the boys dress in neatly pressed suits. “First we went to family and class,” said Georgia.

During their discussion they realized that first Communion clothing is worn for a matter of hours and is sometimes at an enormous cost. “Parents shouldn’t have to worry about if their son or daughter looks the same on that special day,” said Georgia.

So the sisters began a workable campaign to solicit dresses and suits. “First we went to family and friends,” said Georgia. “Then we got the parish involved.”

The first year, inventory included an assortment of new and used Communion dresses, veils, suits, shirts, pants, ties and shoes — among the garments, two like new dresses lovingly worn in years past by the Baldus sisters. Georgia reported that donations, all of which are stored in the Baldus basement during the year, have been generous and she and her sister are grateful for all assistance including those handmade veils made by a family friend and shoes donated by Shoe Carnival. Monetary donations have gone to the repair and cleaning of the garments.

The Communion Closet was open for the first time on two dates in March of 2014 prior to first Communion Masses at St. Joseph. “We set up the inventory in the basement after 11:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph,” said Georgia, who added that several students took advantage of the closet. “We hope this year it will grow,” said Georgia, adding that she and her hoped other parishes will adopt this exciting initiative as well.

The clothing and shoes, in a variety of sizes, are displayed in the church gathering room where students can try on any desired item for proper fit. A deposit of $25 is required for use of an item and is refunded when the clothing is returned. This year, Georgia reports the inventory has grown with a donation of 20 new dresses by a parishioner who worked at St. Vincent de Paul as well as several other items that she says have come in throughout the year.

Bulletin announcements have served as advertisement for the closet in the past, but the Baldus sisters would like to spread the word that the Communion Closet is not just for parishioners of St. Joseph Parish. Parishioners of any Catholic church in the area are invited to participate in the Communion Closet.

“I want any one that feels a need to come. I don’t want them to have to spend so much money when it’s not needed,” said Georgia.

Georgia plans to graduate from Snider High School this May and is grateful that her sister CeCe, a junior, will carry this project into the future with the hope that “a new generation” will take it on when she is ready to graduate next year.

The Baldus sisters, Georgia, left, and Georgia, prepare for guests at the second annual Communion Closet, held at St. Joseph Parish on March 1. The girls collected new and used Communion garments and accessories to loan to families in need.

Parishioners of any Catholic church in the area are invited to participate in the Communion Closet.

The Baldus sisters plan to offer a junior, will carry this ministry into the future with the hope that “a new generation” will take it on when she is ready to graduate next year.
Bear claws, nose rings and rock bands: the hidden lives of Catholic sisters

B elinda Monahan has analyzed more than 100,000 animal bones in Armenia dating back from the Bronze Age (1,200 B.C.) to the medieval period. For the 44-year-old archaeologist from New Jersey, there is never any waste. “When you look at a Stoíc’s lower-leg bone,” she says, “it’s about as long as my lower-leg bone. It’s a very effective start! And it’s always fun to look at bears. I look at their claws and think, ‘Oh, those are cool!’”

This is Belinda’s impres- sive resume — including a doctorate from Northwestern University and her current job as a research assistant at the University of Chicago — picked up another distinction: fully pro- fessed Catholic sister. She made her final vows as a Benedictine Sister of Chicago, becoming perhaps the only person on the planet who is both an expert on paleozoology of the Bronze Age and the Rule of St. Benedict.

Her work in archaeology deepens her faith, Sister Belinda told me. “Seeing the different patterns and the different ways people live makes me aware of God’s move- ment in human life.”

About 1,000 women are in formation, said Sister Belinda. I’m fascinated by the colorful experiences they bring to religious life. Sister Dian Hall was the only woman in a rock band — and the drummer, no less, at a time when drummers were always men. On stage, the self-proclaimed introvert came alive.

“We thought we were stars,” she said.

She cherished the camarade- rie, whether they were practic- ing Beatles songs in a garage or driving around the outskirts of Atlanta for low-paying gigs.

Now the 61-year-old Georgia native has joined another band, one that is helping her become her “best self,” she says: Last August she made temporary vows with the Sisters of St. Joseph. “I believe in our community. I believe we’re making a difference in the world.”

CAPECCHI, PAGE 12

**Gospel establishes Jesus as God’s voice**

**THE SUNDAY GOSPEL**

**MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION**

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**3rd Sunday of Lent**

**Jn 2:13-25**

T he Book of Exodus is the source of the first biblical reading this weekend. This book is about the Hebrew people, enslaved and delivered from Egypt. Eventually they escaped from Egypt and found their new homeland.

None of this good fortune, of escaping and of ultimate settlement in a land of their own, happened as a result of coincidence, luck or human strategy. Rather, God’s power led the Hebrews to a success- ful escape from Egypt. Moses, their leader in this endeavor, was God’s representative, chosen by God for the task.

As the flight was underway, and as the people wandered across the bleak Sinai peninsula in search of the land God had promised them, Moses received from God, and gave to the people, what long has been called the Ten Commandments.

By observing these command- ments, the people fulfilled their obligations under the covenant. They also followed the path to peace and justice in life given in the Commandments, a path that they themselves could not have devised.

St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Corinthians supplies the second reading. For persons living in the first century, the proclamation, and beyond this — the deification, of a convicted felon was hard to accept.

**Reflection**

Lent reminds us of our human- ity, but, everlastingly, it is hard for humans to admit their human limi- tations. Admitting our limitations frightens us.

So, we celebrate our human accomplisments. We congratulate ourselves, for example, on the brilli- ant design of spaceships. Then, not knowing how to deflect potentially dangerous asteroids reminds us that we never think of everything or control everything. Epidemics, such as Ebola, leaves us at the mercy of forces greater than we. Humans also are shortsighted and irrational.

God loves us. Amid our inade- quacies, He forgives us and redeems us, as the ancient Hebrews escaped Egypt. He has given us Jesus, the Son of God, as our Savior. How do we attain this blessing? In the Ten Commandments, God gave us the pattern of our lives. Obey the Commandments. Obey God.

**CRS and Niger**

D id you know that one out of every four children is stunted in his or her growth and development due to a lack of nutritious food? According to the World Food Programme, it only takes about 25 cents a day to provide a child with porridge, rice or beans, which lays a great foundation for a healthy life. The work of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Niger is focused on providing the emergencies needed to make sure all people have the food they need.

Niger, a country in West Africa, ranked last out of 187 countries in the latest Human Development Index with 71.3 percent of people living below the poverty line. Because of recent extreme weather conditions, nearly half of the country of Niger suffers from food insecure- rity. They struggle to provide any healthy food for their families. Due to the length of growing seasons in Niger, every year there is a hungry season when food supplies run out. Many farmers travel during this time in order to find work and food for their families.

Guided by the principle of the dignity of work and rights of work- ers, CRS has started the Bonbatu project, in English — “I become stronger.” This program employs farmers to dig reservoirs during the hungry season. This allows farmers to earn income while creating a reser- voir that will prepare the ground for planting and provide irrigation. Last year, CRS distributed seeds to 4,176 households, provided income- generating projects and grants to 2,400 individuals, and distributed small livestock to 2,000 women through the Bonbatu project.

Our contribution to CRS Rice Bowl helps programs like this improve the lives of people all over the world. God often asks us to trust in things we cannot see. Farmers in Niger must trust that the changing seasons will bring new opportunities for work. Our faith compels us to act for justice in the world through projects like Bonbatu. We can look to St. Joan of Arc as another example of trusting in that which we cannot see and acting in faith.

**SAINT OF THE WEEK**

St. Joan of Arc heard St. Michael, St. Catherine and St. Margaret telling her she must save France from its enemies. Joan over- came many obstacles to make this happen. She led French troops to drive the English out of Orleans, France, in 1429. When she was only 19, she was wounded in a battle and was captured. She was subsequently sold to the English who put her on trial as a heretic, which led to her burning at the stake in 1431. St. Joan of Arc trusted in the voices of the saints. This week, pray this prayer in recognition of St. Joan of Arc’s dedication to God’s will.

**Angela of the Cross**

1846-1932

Feast March 2

Maria de los Angeles Guerrero Gonzalez, called Angelita, grew up in Seville, Spain. With little formal education, she was placed in a cobbler’s workshop making shoes. But she was drawn to reli- gious life and tried the Discalced Carmelites and Sisters of Charity, before illness forced her return to home and the shoe factory. After patiently discerning a call to be poor among the poor, Angelita and three like-minded women moved into a small rented house in 1875, forming the Company of the Cross. They prayed and meditated, but were always available to serve the poor and dying. By the time of her death, Madre Angelita’s Company had spread from Spain to Italy and Argentina. She was canonized in 2003.
Confession for what ails us

In an essay he wrote in 1984, Robert Coles observed an unfortunate tendency to substitute psychoanalysis for the sacrament. “I am tired of watching ministers or priests mouth psychiatric pieties,” he said, “when ‘hard praying’ (as I used to hear it put in the rural south) is what the particular human being may want, and yes, urgently require.”

There are sick minds in need of healing, but it is a mistake to treat our sins as symptoms of a disease. They are usually just sins, not evidence of some “complex” or of some deeper neurosis. With advances in neurochemistry comes a slightly more modern version of the psychological dodge. We will hear that a person who cheats on his wife — not just once or twice, but often really liked the ideal addiction. Poor guy, he can’t help it, his neuroptides are out of balance.

There are two things wrong with turning our sins over to the brain doctors. First, it ignores the role of free will in our lives. It is strangely unpopular to say nowadays, but others are things we choose to do. It is (not my subconscious or my brain chemistry) who is at fault. Second, when we make the wrong diagnosis, we will prescribe the wrong cure. What we really need, in order to feel (and be), is forgiveness.

Pope Francis has preached about mercy and forgiveness from the day he became pope. His message is the short-form statement of Christian belief: Jesus suffered, died and rose again to redeem us. We affirm that lesson when we say in the Nicene Creed that we believe in the forgiveness of sins. We put that belief into action when we receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. And if we really believe, we confess frequently — not from some overweening guilt complex, but because we know it is good for us.

God has made His mercy available. Who would not take advantage of that, on the other hand, we seek out a priest just for deeper self-awareness, then what we will get is a session of free amateur doctoring. There is something to be said for that, but in these days of affordable care, a good health plan will pay for such things. For the forgiveness of sins, there is no substitute for the confessional.

John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America.

Caring for widows and orphans

Rusty Staub never stopped being a New York Met. And more than that, Rusty Staub never stopped being a New Yorker, either. The onetime baseball slugger, now 70, has thrown himself entirely behind the families of the city’s firefighters and policemen, and it’s why he’s so dedicated to the widows of two fallen heroes.

“We’re waiting till things settle down a bit,” Staub told Denis Hamill of the Daily News. He was speaking of the fatal shooting late last year of NYPD Officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu as they sat in their patrol car, and of his plan to personally call all those who have received a check for $25,000 each.

The funds will come from the New York Police and Fire Widows and Children Benefit Fund, which Staub helped get started in 1984.

The hefty gifts are only the beginning. “Every October for the rest of their lives they will receive a $4,000 check,” he said. “We’ve been doing this for 30 years and in that time we’ve raised $120 million for fallen heroes of first responders, including EMS workers. Their names go on our Wall of Honor in Battery Park.”

Staub, a New York restaurant owner for many years after he retired from baseball, got started on this incredible charity when he befriended Pat Burns, then an officer of the Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association. “I’d give him Mets tickets for police families or kids from the PBA,” Staub said. Then in 1984 a cop was killed in the line of duty. He had a lovely wife and three kids under age five. I felt he received too little fanfare. I called Pat Burns, invited him to my restaurant and told him I had some ideas to raise money for this fallen hero’s family. He really liked the idea.

The plan took off, and the widow benefit fund was born. It started modestly, with picnics in the bleachers of Shea Stadium, but when the PBA, the firefighters’ union and City Hall gave it their support. The Mets’ Foundation joined in. In time it grew bigger than Staub dared to hope.

His own family background played a role in the organization too. Staub’s brother Hamill was an officer who had joined the New Orleans police force was killed in the line of duty and received very little. “I remember how terrible it was for our grieving family,” he said.

At the moment, relations are strained between the NYPD and City Hall, a fact that has Staub upset.

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004.

Scripture Search

For a 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.

Intelligent and Virtue

John Garvey

The Catholic University of America.
MARIAN CAPTURES NIC BOYS HOOPS CHAMPIONSHIP

Marian High School’s boys’ basketball team, ranked No. 1 in 3-A in the state, beat Penn, 69-51, on Feb. 24 to capture the Northern Indiana Conference Regular Season Championship. The boys’ sectional began March 3.

CATHOLIC SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS JOIN NOTRE DAME SQUAD

The University of Notre Dame cheerleaders hosted a pre-game clinic for area Catholic school cheerleaders on Jan. 22. The cheerleaders were then asked to join the ND squad and cheer during “You Can Lend A Hand Night” at a women’s basketball game.

St. Joseph Eagles named ICCL champs

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — As the snow fell and the west winds bellowed, Saint Joseph High School acted as a sanctuary for the Inter-City Catholic League as it played host to the championship game between the Crusaders of Holy Cross and the undefeated Eagles of St. Joseph Grade School.

The St. John Bosco Division brethren had skirmished earlier in the campaign with the Eagles winning the fourth quarter and the contest giving the Crusaders their only blemish of the season. The contest started out with St. Joseph attacking the rim with the quartet of Connor Ratigan, Chris Smith, Brennan Horvath and their high-energy guard, JP Raster, as they jumped out to an 8-0 lead.

The Crusaders would not be outdone as they regrouped and relied on the play of their big men — Charles Black and Tion Ottbridge — and a talented guard Jordan Ivy and stormed into the lead after one, 12-11.

An old-fashioned World War I dogfight broke out as the two adversaries mixed aerial moves, hit and runs, bombs from outside all in an attempt to secure the coveted prize.

Both teams’ assaults accumulated 23 personal fouls between them causing problems with their respective rotations; however the violations paved the way for a march to the charity stripe, which favored the Eagles as they assumed the lead going into halftime, 29-24.

The third quarter would be much of the same as the teams counter punched their way towards the fourth never giving an inch highlighted by the Crusaders finding Mitch Coleman running the floor for an easy layup and the Eagles’ Raster threading the needle to Chris Smith for a bucket.

The back breaker of the stanza was a put back by Eagle Cam White as time expired reminiscent of a last second shot to end the third in their first contest, now pushing the lead to eight.

Late three-point field goals by Miguel Zyniewiez and Ivy were too little too late as the Eagles carried through by remaining diligent from the foul line and icing the game and the championship by a score of 50-41.

“Our hat is off to Holy Cross. They gave us a good game and made us play to our full potential,” explained St. Joseph Coach Brian Ratigan. “We have talked all season about the importance of free throws in a tight ball game and the team was patient and converted. I couldn’t be prouder.”

“They were quick, well coached and spread us out defensively and that was the difference,” remarked Crusader Skipper Jason Ball. “We were able to make a couple runs on them but they were too few. But it was a great year for us and I’m just happy to be called coach by these players.”

A stat not enjoyed at the scorer’s table but a reminder to those in attendance was that Holy Cross outscored St. Joseph 2-0 in the category of priests in attendance as Pastor Holy Cross Father Robert Epping joyously proclaimed with a smirk.

The Blazers of St. Matthew won the consolation game by defeating St. Pius X, 42-32.

In the Colors Championship game, Christ the King Blue outlasted St. Pius X Green, 34-27, behind the scoring of Adam Wolinski and Sam Rose. The Lions Reagan Jackowiak had 17 in the defeat.

Fort Wayne-South Bend diocesan boys’ basketball tournament

Place: Indiana Tech College/Schafer Center Gymnasium 1600 E. Washington Blvd, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46803

Admission: adults $5, students $1

Hosted by St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School

Special thanks to Indiana Tech for use of their facilities.
FORT WAYNE — The unveiling of a new diocesan seventh- and eighth-grade religious education curriculum and new Confirmation program was showcased to catechists, teachers, religious education directors and pastors at presentations offered in both Fort Wayne and South Bend last week.

The curriculum called “Alive in Christ” has the intentions of helping children and young people to know, love and live the Catholic faith. Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington, was the presenter at showcases across our diocese by using the multimedia-centered program will offer resources to help young people know, love and live the Catholic faith. It will be implemented in parishes and schools in the fall.

Valerie Vogel, a sales manager who represents the “Alive in Christ” curriculum at Our Sunday Visitor, was the presenter at showcases in Fort Wayne and South Bend last week introducing the seventh- and eighth-grade curriculum, including the exclusively made Confirmation candidate book and program for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The multimedia-centered program will offer resources to help young people know, love and live the Catholic faith. It will be implemented in parishes and schools in the fall.

“I’m my vision to provide the solid foundation to all students in seventh- and eighth-grades across our diocese by using the seventh- and eighth-grade levels of the ‘Alive in Christ’ religion series in combination with this new Confirmation program that was custom-made for use in our diocese.”

The showcases last week at the Bishop Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne and Saint Joseph High School in South Bend introduced the curriculum. Jane Sandor, co-director of the diaconal Office of Catechesis, worked closely with the program. She noted that the new curriculum came about through a concern of Bishop Rhoades’, who after visiting all parishes for Confirmations, “wanted to make sure his students were able to say, ‘this is a normal process, but here is a need that is immediate. Let’s put our heads together and come up with an immediate solution so that we can have everything they need in a timely manner.’”

Valerie Vogel, an OSV sales manager who presented the showcases, said she is most excited about the partnership that was developed between the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Our Sunday Visitor and the people implementing it.

“There is a synergy,” she said. “There was a need. The bishop wanted to respond to the need. Our Sunday Visitor was able to support him and respond. And now it is about the implementation.”

Vogel said, “I’m really excited to see the transformations that will occur in parishes and schools because of ‘Alive In Christ.’ I want to hear the stories of excited catechists and parents and young people being comfortable and confident on reflecting on Scripture and applying it to their lives. I want to see — two, three or four years down the road — that the process and that it’s made a difference and I have confidence that it will.”

Sue Sherburne, a director of religious education at St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne, along with Teresa Cross from South Bend, will help guide catechists in implementing the curriculum. Sherburne noted what she found most useful was “having that weblink for the catechist to use so that they have the OSV sales representative for Indiana, will also be assisting parishes in implementing and ordering the book.

“There is so much wonderful information there for the catechist to fulfill the vision that Bishop has in order to pull the kids into that full discipleship,” Sherburne told Today’s Catholic after the morning showcase at the Noll Center on Feb. 25.

In addition to the actual book, there are online resources.

Vogel noted that one couple with whom she spoke after the Fort Wayne morning showcase was happy to see the curriculum had a multimedia aspect — even incorporating YouTube videos in the lessons.

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There is so much wonderful information there for the catechist to fulfill the vision that Bishop has in order to pull the kids into that full discipleship,” Sherburne added, “so that’s going to give catechists a firm foundation so that they can go forth and bring their students into a full foundation.”

Sherburne also emphasized that the program is family-oriented. “We’re helping families to live out their job of being primary educators of their child’s faith life,” she said.

Christensen added that there are elements “online available to meet parents where they are, meet the kids where they are and utilize the flexibilities of the formats to really deliver a product that is useful.”

Another component that will be placed into the seventh- and eighth-grade curriculum is the theology of the body, which will support the Confirmation component.

The theology of the body component will be built on the Ascension Press version, according to Sandor, but the diocesan Office of Family Life will use eight additional lessons on chastity.

In June, there will be in-service training on how to use the curriculum. A followup session will be held next fall in October.

Fish & Chicken Strip Dinner ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH & CHICKEN

Friday, March 13, 2015 - 4:00 - 7:30 P.M. Cornerstone Youth Center 19819 Monroe Road, Monroeville, 46773 Adults: $8.50 / Youth 6 to 10: $5.50 - 5 & under: Free
Dine-in and Drive-thru Meals include scalloped potatoes, applesauce or cole slaw, roll/butter and dessert.
Adult meals only for Carryout - No kids or free meals. Questions? 260-623-3972

A portion of profits are matched by the East Allen Chapter of Thrivent Financial.
**FISH FRIES**

**Lenten fish fry planned**

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 Ironwood Rd., will have a Lenten fish fry on Friday, March 6, and on all Fridays during Lent, from 5-7 p.m. Adults $8.50, children 5-12 $4.50 and children 5-12 $3.50. Shrimp are also available for $9.

Dan’s Fish to be served at St. Joseph Bluffton — St. Joseph Parish Knights will have a fish fry Friday, March 13, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the church, 1300 N. Main St. Tickets are $9 for adults, $6 for children 6-12 and children 5 and under free.

**Jonah fish fry**

Mishawaka — St. Bavo Parish will host a Jonah fish fry Friday, March 20, from 4-7 p.m. in the school gymnasium. Pre-sale tickets can be purchased for a discount with high school and junior high students, organizing the necessary parish set-ups. Tickets are $9, children ages 6-12 and children 4 and under are free. Carry-out at adult price only.

**Fish fry planned**

Rounoke — St. Joseph Parish will have a fish fry on Friday, March 20, from 5-7:30 p.m. in the American Legion, 1122 North Main St. Adults are $9, children 5-12 are $4 and children 4 and under are free.

**Dinner for charity planned**

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd. will have a spaghetti dinner to benefit the Gibault School on Wednesday, March 18, from 5-6:30 p.m.

**Las Vegas Night**

South Bend — Holy Family Parish Ushers Club, 56405 Mayflower Rd. will have a Las Vegas Night Saturday, March 7, from 6-11 p.m. in the parish center. Tickets are $8 in advance and $10 at the door. Tickets includes sandwiches, beverages and a chance in a $1,000 drawing. Lic No. 136655.

**NAMI offers a free Mental Illness course**

South Bend — A free course on mental illness is being offered by NAMI Tuesdays from 6:30-9 p.m. beginning March 10 at the St. Vincent de Paul Society, 520 Crescent Ave. Call 574-259-3564.

**Mass mob**

Columbia City — The Mass Mob will be at St. Catherine of Alexandria, 9989 S. STR 9, Sunday, March 8, at 9:15 a.m.

**Card party, euchre tournament planned**

Yoder — St. Aloysius Knights will have a card party and euchre tournament Saturday, March 7, in the school basement. Tournament fee is $5. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Food and beverages available for free will be offering. Contact 260-638-4882 for information.

**Catholic schools community**

The Catholic Schools Office is accepting applications for

**St Vincent’s Elementary School Principal**

Enrollment: 750

Grades: K-8

* Daily faith-filled interaction and strong service emphasis
* Consistently outperform state averages on ISTEP+ 95% PASS RATE
* 16:1 student to faculty ratio
* Strong academic environment where award winning teachers provide a compassionate and challenging learning environment
* iPad device for every student in Grades 3-8
* My Big Campus - Google for Education School
* Full range of extracurricular activities including athletics, fine art and service opportunities

We are seeking a candidate who is a strong vibrant Catholic, knowledgeable in the faith.

Who possesses:

* A commitment to maintaining a strong Catholic identity
* Strong Leadership Skills
* Strong financial and personnel management skills
* 5 years teaching experience
* An elementary administrative license

For more information and application, contact:

Phone: 260-422-4611 Fax: 260-426-3077

Applications available online at

http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Administrative-Application

Completed application deadline: MARCH 31, 2015

Employment begins July 1, 2015

**St Vincent’s Elementary School**

Located at 1702 Witten Rd, Fort Wayne, IN

http://www.saintv.org/school/

BUILDING A COMMUNITY IN CHRIST FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

**Famous Lenten FISH FRY!**

At St. Pius X Church, Granger

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Adults $8.00 • Children $4.00 • Under 6 FREE

ALL YOU CAN EAT!

New this year: Drive-thru Pick-Up!  Follow signs in parking lot

Brought to you by Father Badin Council KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Pius X Church, 52553 Fir Road, Granger 46530

**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

54191 Ironwood Road, South Bend, IN 46635

(574) 217-8848 or email: fathertom@littleflowerchurch.org

**Famine Famine**

St. Pius X Church, Granger 46530

**Bremen**

Mary P. Parker, 85, St. Dominic

**Culver**

Norbert R. Boguslawski, 76, St. Mary of the Lake

**Decatur**

Mgr. Vincent L. Lengerich, 96, St. Mary of the Assumption

**Fort Wayne**

John H. Hensley, 90, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

**Tom Cronin, 53**

St. Charles Borromeo

Trudy M. Pierson, 88, St. Charles Borromeo

William Russell Ebbs, 85, St. Henry

Manuel E. Laguna, 84, Queen of Angels

Thomas John Trumper, 57, St. John the Baptist

Florence Christine Hoevel, 90, St. Jude

Lawrence W. Kelly, 81, St. Charles Borromeo

**Granger**

Catherine M. Rapalski, 92, St. Plus X

**Mishawaka**

Margie Kish, 81, St. Bavo

Charles Edward Rice, 83, St. Joseph

**New Carlisle**

Evelyn V. Arendt, 73, St. Stanislaus

**Notre Dame**

Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC 97, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

**South Bend**

Pauline V. Grochowski, 93, Holy Family

Envin E. Nowaczewski, 82, St. Hedwig

Mary Lou Kovatch, 88, St. Matthew

Valentine S. Ambrozak, 99, St. Adalbert

Jeanette M. Potter, 93, St. John the Baptist
March 8, 2015

The Hall family — Adam and Amber Hall, their daughter Alyssa and son Ashton and two infants — will be joining the Church at the Easter Vigil at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne. The family is shown with their sponsors at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Sunday, March 1.

**RITES**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ,” the bishop told the catechumens that when they are baptized, “you will be consecrated as a spiritual house and a holy priesthood by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. You will join us in offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

“This means that you will be able to join in the offering of the Eucharist. Becoming part of the common priesthood, you will exercise that priesthood by receiving the sacraments, as well as by living lives of prayer, charity and holiness,” the bishop added.

“This is how all of us live our vocations,” he said, “by making an offering of our daily lives to the Lord. This is what St. Peter calls ‘the royal priesthood.’ You will participate in the mission of this priesthood of Jesus, bearing witness to Him in the world. As St. Peter writes: this is ‘so that you may announce the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.’”

At the Rite of Election, the catechumens enter a period of purification and enlightenment.

“During these weeks before Easter, you prepare more intensely for your Christian initiation,” Bishop Rhoades said. “At the Easter Vigil, the Easter fire will be lit and from it the Easter candle will be lit. You will enter into dark churches in parishes throughout our diocese. And the light of the Easter candle will spread throughout the churches. The darkness reminds us of the state of the world and of the human family before the coming of Christ. The new fire and the candle symbolize the light coming into the world.”

“You and also the candidates here who have already been baptized, who will be entering into full communion in the Catholic Church — all of you have received the great gift brought by Jesus: the light of faith. It is this light that will illumine your lives,” Bishop Rhoades noted.

Bishop Rhoades also spoke about the sacrament of Confirmation the catechumens and candidates will receive.

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you and will dwell within you,” Bishop Rhoades said, “strengthening you along the journey of life, strengthening you with His gifts so that you will walk as children of the light, living your faith with conviction, intentionally, opening ourselves each day to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The life of faith is a beautiful journey when we live it with conviction, intentionally, strengthening you along the journey of life, living your faith with conviction.”

“Bishop Rhoades also spoke about the offering of our daily lives to the Lord. This is what St. Peter calls ‘the royal priesthood.’ You will participate in the mission of this priesthood of Jesus, bearing witness to Him in the world. As St. Peter writes: this is ‘so that you may announce the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.’”

RITES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The majority of the retreat will be spent in the Chapel of St. Felix. The retreat will offer women the opportunity to get away to pray, share, listen and rest in God’s love.

Organizers say, “It is a casual day for women of all ages to come spend time in prayerful reflection. There will be music and talks, but mainly time to be like Mary at sit at the feet of Jesus to be strengthened for our work and journey. Women should bring Bibles, a notebook or journal and writing instrument.”

Diocesan speakers include Mary Glowaski and Cindy Black. Other speakers will be announced.

Cost is $20 and includes simple lunch and dinner. For information visit www.diocesefwsb.org/Adult-Faith-Formation.

**Diocesan women’s retreat planned March 21**

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., in Huntington. The retreat with the theme “Women Encountering Jesus,” will focus on Scriptural stories of Jesus with various women.

The majority of the retreat will be spent in the Chapel of St. Felix. The retreat will offer women the opportunity to get away to pray, share, listen and rest in God’s love.

Organizers say, “It is a casual day for women of all ages to come spend time in prayerful reflection. There will be music and talks, but mainly time to be like Mary at sit at the feet of Jesus to be strengthened for our work and journey. Women should bring Bibles, a notebook or journal and writing instrument.”

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Cost is $20 and includes simple lunch and dinner. For information visit www.diocesefwsb.org/Adult-Faith-Formation.

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This is your moment. Join us for Campus Visit Day on Saturday, April 11 at 9 a.m. Reserve your spot today at go.sf.edu/usf-visit or 260-399-8000.

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