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# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

## Priesthood celebrated, four ordained

BY TIM JOHNSON



JOE ROMIE

With the elect kneeling before him, Bishop Kevin Rhoades with hands outstretched, prays the Prayer of Ordination which is the essential form of the sacrament of Holy Orders.

FORT WAYNE — “With this priestly consecration, you will be given a mission, an awesome mission — to continue Christ’s personal mission as Teacher, Priest and Shepherd. You will be consecrated for this three-fold mission — to preach the Gospel, to celebrate the sacraments and to shepherd God’s people. You will be equipped for this holy mission by the grace you receive today and every day through the sacrament of Holy Orders,” said Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during his homily at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on June 6, just minutes before ordaining four new priests who will serve the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

On a day of historic proportions — the first ordination of four priests since 1984 — the cathedral resounded with joy, praise and thanksgiving as Royce Gregerson, William Meininger, Jonathan Norton and Matthew Soberalski were ordained to the Holy Priesthood by Bishop Rhoades. Family, friends and the faithful filled the cathedral in celebration of the day.

The Rite of Ordination began with the names of the candidates being formally presented by Father Andrew Budzinski, the vocations director of the diocese. Father Budzinski affirmed the readiness of the candidates.

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## St. John the Evangelist celebrates 175th anniversary

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — With trumpets resounding to accompany the choir and the Knights of Columbus in full regalia, St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen began its official celebration with great fanfare. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the anniversary Mass and as he began he said, “What a great day to celebrate the 175th anniversary — on the feast of the Solemnity of Corpus Christi!”

The church was full for the bi-lingual Mass with overflow seating in the parish center. Bishop Rhoades delivered his homily in both languages saying, “Today we celebrate with joy the great gift Jesus left us on the night before He died, the Most Holy Eucharist. And we celebrate with joy that the Holy Eucharist has been celebrated here in Goshen for the past 175 years.”

“Today we give thanks to God for all the faithful Catholics, priests, sisters and laity who built this parish and served here through the

past 175 years. They have left you a beautiful legacy of faith, a legacy the Lord calls you to continue through your own lives of dedication to Christ and His Church,” he told the congregation. “And the greatest legacy is the one the Catholics of Goshen have always treasured from the beginning: their devotion and love for the gift of the Holy Eucharist.”

Bishop Rhoades said, “It is an amazing mystery of our faith that the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross becomes present on the altar when we celebrate the Eucharist. Every time we come to Mass, Jesus shows us His love, a love to the end, a love which knows no measure. He gives us His Body broken for us and His Blood poured out for us.”

“In celebrating this 175th anniversary, I encourage your devotion to the Holy Eucharist at Mass and outside of Mass through your Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It is the Eucharist that makes us the Church — that makes us one Body in Christ. It’s the Eucharist that gives us the grace and strength to live our faith,

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KEVIN HAGGENJOS

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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# Peace demands passion, patience, hard work, pope tells Balkan nation

BY CAROL GLATZ

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (CNS) — To overcome fear, discrimination and conflict, people must have a deep desire to open themselves up to God and His mercy, and work actively for peace every day, Pope Francis said.

God's plan for creation is peace, "which always meets opposition from humanity and the devil," he said during a one-day visit to Bosnia-Herzegovina June 6.

The cold reality today is that the world is facing "a kind of Third World War being fought in piecemeal" amidst "an atmosphere of war" worldwide, he said on the 71st anniversary of "D-Day," the World War II anniversary of Allied forces landing in Normandy marking the liberation of Europe.

But the "ray of sunshine piercing the clouds" is Christ's appeal to work for peace, the pope said during an outdoor Mass in the capital's Kosevo sports stadium, where more than 60,000 people gathered from different parts of the Balkan region under a hot, hazy sky.

Signs of peace emerging from a war-torn nation stood out throughout the city, whose residents are mostly Muslim.

Small groups of well-wishers and cheering families lined the main avenues from the airport as armed military helicopters circled the sky.

Sleek modern glass and steel commercial buildings were scattered among rows of towering communist-era apartment buildings whose gray cement walls were riddled with bullet holes and gouged by shrapnel. The holes left behind are marked with large dark grey splotches where the newer concrete was troweled on and left unpainted. Flowers adorned some gravestones in a makeshift cemetery on a grassy plot between a snarl of highway bypasses. During the years of urban warfare, it was difficult to bury the dead in established cemeteries on the outskirts of town, so parks and roadsides became burial grounds.

More than 100,000 people died and millions more were displaced during the 1992-1995 conflict, which saw a Serb campaign of ethnic cleansing of Bosnian Muslims after the mostly Muslim nation declared independence from Yugoslavia in 1992.

"War means children, women and the elderly in refugee camps; it means forced displacement of peoples; it means destroyed homes, streets and factories; it means above all, countless shattered lives," the pope said in his homily.

While there are those who foment war and profit from it by selling weapons, he said, there are those who hear Jesus' words, "Blessed are the peacemakers."

"He does not say, 'Blessed are the preachers of peace,' since everyone is capable of proclaiming peace, even in a hypocritical or indeed, duplicitous manner," the pope said. "No. He says, 'Blessed are the peacemakers,' that is, those who make peace."

Peacemaking requires putting justice into practice, and it takes patience, passion, experience and the tenacity to never give up, every day, "step by step," he said.

A vital step, one that cannot be skipped, he said, is personal conversion since nothing in the world can change without a change in the human heart — one that makes room for God, His love and mercy.



CNS PHOTOS/PAUL HARING

People cheer before Pope Francis celebrates Mass at Kosevo stadium in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, June 6. The pope was making a one-day visit to Bosnia-Herzegovina to encourage a minority Catholic community in the faith, and to foster dialogue and peace in a nation still largely divided along ethnic lines.



Pope Francis greets the crowd as he arrives to celebrate Mass at Kosevo stadium in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, June 6.



Pope Francis stands near a cross punctured by ammunition during the 1992-1995 conflict as he celebrates Mass at Kosevo stadium in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, June 6.

Only with such change can a person see that former enemies "really have the same face as I have, the same heart, the same soul," he said.

Signs of unity were seen throughout the Mass. An ecumenical choir of 1,600 people from Catholic and Serbian Orthodox churches and the country's national choir were accompanied by the nation's military band. Behind the altar was an intricately detailed chair for the pope, hand carved from dark walnut wood by a Muslim father and son. A large cross placed near the altar still bore the punctures of ammunition from the three-year long conflict.

In just the first hours of his visit, the pope said he saw signs of hope in the joy and smiles of the Muslim, Jewish, Orthodox and Catholic children who greeted him at the airport.

He told government and religious leaders

during a morning meeting at the presidential palace, that "I saw hope today in those children. ... That is hope. Let's bet on that."

"In order to successfully oppose the barbarity of those who would make of every difference the occasion and pretext for further unspeakable violence, we need to recognize the fundamental values of human communities," values that help people communicate, forgive, build and grow, Pope Francis said.

"This will allow different voices to unite in creating a melody of sublime nobility and beauty, instead of fanatical cries of hatred," he said.



CNS PHOTOS/PAUL HARING

Pope Francis walks with Mladen Ivanic, chairman of the Tripartite Bosnian presidency, during a welcoming ceremony at the presidential palace in Sarajevo June 6.



Pope Francis meets with priests, men and women religious and seminarians in Sacred Heart Cathedral in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, June 6.

## Vatican ready to announce decision, guidelines on Medjugorje, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ

ABOARD THE PAPAL FLIGHT FROM SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (CNS) — Pope Francis said the Vatican was ready to make an announcement concerning the alleged Marian apparitions in Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith met recently to discuss the issue and “we’ve reached the point of making a decision and then they will say,” he told journalists on the flight back to Rome June 6.

The expected announcement will include “just some guidelines

(the congregation) will give to the bishops,” he said in response to a reporter’s question.

An international commission of cardinals, bishops, theologians and other experts, working under the auspices of the doctrinal congregation, was set up in 2010 to investigate the claims of six young people who said Mary had appeared to them daily beginning in 1981. The apparitions purportedly continue and thousands travel to the small town each month to meet the alleged seers and to pray.

After a few years, the commission completed its study in which the members “did a beautiful job, a beautiful job,” Pope Francis

said at the end of his one-day visit to Sarajevo.

For years the local bishop, Bishop Ratko Peric of Mostar-Duvno, has said he believes nothing supernatural is happening in Medjugorje.

While the Vatican has said dioceses should not organize official pilgrimages to Medjugorje, it has said Catholics are free to visit the town and pray there, and that the Diocese of Mostar-Duvno and the Franciscans should organize pastoral care for them.

Pope Benedict XVI had reaffirmed that the Church never requires the faithful to believe in apparitions, not even those recognized by the Church.



### PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, June 14, 11 a.m. — 125th Anniversary Mass at Saint Patrick Church, Fort Wayne
- Monday, June 15, through Friday, June 19 — Annual Priests’ Retreat, Potawatomi Inn, Pokagon State Park
- Friday, June 19, 4 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Charities, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, June 20, 10:30 a.m. — Jubilee Mass of Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration, Saint Francis Convent, Mishawaka
- Saturday, June 20, 4:30 p.m. — Mass with Dedication of New Altar, Saint Mary of the Annunciation Church, Bristol
- Sunday, June 21, 9 a.m. — Mass at Saint Mary of the Lake Oratory, Big Long Lake, Hudson
- Thursday, June 25, 6 p.m. — Bocce Tournament Benefit Event for Redeemer Radio, Fort Wayne



### Priest appointments, assignments

The Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following priest appointments, effective June 23, 2015:

- Reverend William Meininger to Parochial Vicar, Saint Pius X Parish, Granger.
- Reverend Jonathan Norton to Parochial Vicar, Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend Matthew Soberalski to Parochial Vicar, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne.

Bishop Rhoades has made the following summer assignment, effective June 15, 2015:

- Reverend Royce Gregerson to Parochial Vicar, Saint John the Baptist Parish, New Haven.

### Follow diocesan coverage of June 18 encyclical



“Let us be ‘protectors’ of creation, protectors of God’s plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment.”

— Pope Francis

### Are you wondering what will be in the encyclical? Does it really talk about climate change?

Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment, “Laudato Si” (Praised Be), a line from St. Francis of Assisi’s “Canticle of Creatures,” will be released June 18, the Vatican press office announced.

Encyclical coverage and talking points can be found on the diocesan website, [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org). Coverage of the encyclical will be included in the June 28 issue of *Today’s Catholic*.

Stay connected — visit [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org)

# ORDAIN

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After this Election of the Candidates, Bishop Rhoades addressed his homily to the elect, the soon-to-be ordained.

"My sons about to be ordained to the Priesthood, today you will be consecrated/sanctified in the truth and you will be sent by Christ into the world and into our diocese," Bishop Rhoades said. "You were already consecrated to the Lord when you were baptized."

He added, "Today, you are immersed in Him again, but in a new way. You will be consecrated to Christ as priests of the new covenant He established. He is not taking you out of the world, but He is removing you from belonging to the world."

When the men were ordained deacons, a bishop presented them with the Book of the Gospels. "This instruction is good to recall today since the first duty of the priest is to teach the Word of God," the bishop said.

"You are also consecrated today to celebrate the divine mysteries," he added. "You will carry out the ministry of Christ the Priest, the office of sanctifying, through your celebration of the sacraments."

Bishop Rhoades spoke of three of the seven sacraments — Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and the Eucharist.

In regards to Reconciliation, the bishop said, "How awesome and humbling it is to act in the person of Christ in this sacrament of mercy! The grace of God's mercy will flow from you to the penitent when you say: 'I absolve you from your sins.'"

"I urge you to have great care for

the souls of those who come to you in Confession, making it easier, not harder, for them to meet Jesus in this sacrament," the bishop advised the elect. "May you always be merciful priests in imitation of the One whom the letter to the Hebrews calls the merciful and compassionate high priest."

Teaching about the Anointing of the Sick, Bishop Rhoades said, "I pray that you will give witness to Our Lord's kindness toward the sick and the suffering. Think about how much time Jesus devoted to the sick and suffering during His public ministry. How important it is for priests of Jesus Christ to do the same, bringing them Our Lord's healing, compassion and comfort."

The summit of priestly life and ministry is the Holy Eucharist. The great miracle of love, which is the Holy Eucharist, is effected through the hands of the priest, the bishop said.

"Royce, Jonathan, Matt and Bill, the high point of your ministry, as every priest here can attest, will be when you say the words of Jesus, 'This is my body which is give up for you. ... This is the chalice of my blood which is poured out for you. ...'"

The bishop continued, "After you are ordained, I will present you with the paten and chalice with the bread and wine and say to each of you: 'Receive the oblation of the holy people, to be offered to God. Understand what you do, imitate what you celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord's cross.' To be men of the Eucharist is not just to celebrate Mass, but to



KAY COZAD

**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades is joined by newly ordained priests, from left, Fathers Jonathan Norton, Royce Gregerson, William Meininger and Matthew Soberalski on the plaza of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, June 6.**

live the Mass, to imitate what you celebrate."

The bishop addressed the elect: "Royce, Jonathan, Matt and Bill, you are ordained today not for yourselves, but for the Church, for the people you are called to lead to God the Father, through Christ, in the Holy Spirit. Like the Good Shepherd, may you tend God's people with care! Like the Good Shepherd, go after, seek, the lost sheep!"

"Don't stay in the rectory or the sacristy," Bishop Rhoades emphasized. "Go out, especially to those who have strayed from the flock and to those who have never even been part of the flock! The Church needs all of us, as Pope Francis says, to be missionary disciples and that includes priests."

The bishop emphasized that the mission of the priest only bears fruit by the grace of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. "We must

be united in deep friendship with the Lord. My sons, you will only be living icons of the Good Shepherd if you dwell in His love. If you pray every day, you will grow in the joy of friendship with the Lord. Always bring to Him your struggles and your joys, your successes and your failures. He will watch over you and give you strength!"

## New priests ordained

After the homily, the elect declared their intentions to assume the responsibility of the office of Priesthood and promised obedience and respect to the bishop and his successors.

The elect then prostrated themselves on the floor of the cathedral as a sign of their complete submission to the will of God, while the Litany of Saints was beautifully sung.

The elect knelt before Bishop Rhoades who laid hands on each of their heads in accordance with the apostolic tradition, and later the entire college of priests did the same. Then, with the elect kneeling before him, Bishop Rhoades prayed the Prayer of Ordination which is the essential form of the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Then the newly ordained priests were vested with the stole and chalice, signs of the priestly office, after which Bishop Rhoades anointed the new priests' palms with Chrism, a consecrated and perfumed oil that symbolizes wisdom and strength.

Family members — Karen Gregerson, Margaret Meininger, Nola Norton and Sue Soberalski brought forward the gifts of the people to Bishop Rhoades. They delivered the paten and chalice to Bishop Rhoades, who then handed them over to the newly ordained with the exhortation to discharge their priestly duties in imitation of Christ.

The ordination rite concluded with Bishop Rhoades giving the newly ordained priests the fraternal kiss of peace and welcoming them to the diocesan presbyterate. Then the entire presbyterate, along with the visiting clergy, gave the fraternal kiss of peace to the newly ordained.

## Bountiful blessings

At the end of the Mass, Bishop Rhoades asked for a blessing from the new priests.

Newly ordained Father Gregerson

told *Today's Catholic*, "For me, my ordination is a complete gift of myself to the Lord, the most perfect imitation of Him that I can offer. It is a turning over of all that I am, all that He has made me to be, all that I am capable of doing, and all that I am still, because of my own weakness, unable to do."

"I have given myself to serve as a priest because, first and foremost, I want to imitate Christ, who poured Himself out becoming completely obedient to the Father," Father Gregerson said. "My hope as a newly ordained priest is that I will be faithful to that calling, always striving to grow in imitation of Christ, never holding back any part of myself, but always placing everything that I have and am at the disposition of Christ and His Church."

Father Jonathan Norton noted, "Ordination day for me is just to be able to see finally the fulfillment of God's will in my life. Just to see all the pieces finally starting to come together and what my vocation is. And to the opportunity to give my life for love of Him and love of the Church."

"I hope that in my Priesthood I'll be able to completely trust in Him in all things and just to be an image of God for all, especially reflecting His mercy and His love to all people and just depending completely on the image of God the Father," he said.

Father Matthew Soberalski said, "This ordination means a lot to me. It's a great joy. I'm extremely excited to begin. I really look forward to serving and really continuing to pour myself out, like we get to pour ourselves out today on this altar. I'm extremely excited and anxious to begin and really looking forward to serving the people and loving them."

And Father William Meininger said, "Ordination day to me is one of the most humbling days of my life. And it's the day I get to complete the laying down of my life for God's Church and His people."

"I consider it to be sort of the end of a rather short portion of my journey and hopefully the beginning of a long and wonderful, joyous journey for the rest of my life," he added. "I hope to bring the Gospel and share the Love of Jesus with other people and I'm most excited to be ordained in this year of mercy — such a beautiful thing. I hope to bring the love and mercy of Jesus to those that I encounter."

Mary Keefer, retired principal of Bishop Luers High School, attended in support of two graduates, Father Gregerson and Father Norton. "Two fine, fine men," Keefer said. "Just the joy and to watch their moms, their dads, it is such an honor to have a child (who becomes a priest), and I was just their principal and I'm so honored. The Church is very lucky to have these two young men."

Deborah Andrews, member of the Serra Club of Fort Wayne, volunteered at the ordination and said, "Ordination is exciting but to have four is just awesome. It allows me to witness to the power of prayer. People all over the world are praying for vocations. My heart is so full and joyful."

Kay Cozad contributed to this story.

More photos are on pages 10 and 11 and [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org)



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**Fortnight 2015:**

# Freedom to Bear Witness

The Fortnight for Freedom: Freedom to Bear Witness will take place from June 21 to July 4, a time when the liturgical calendar celebrates a series of great martyrs who remained faithful in the face of persecution by political power — St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, St. John the Baptist, Sts. Peter and Paul, and the First Martyrs of the Church of Rome. The theme of this year's Fortnight will focus on the "freedom to bear witness" to the truth of the Gospel.

## Religious liberty under attack: Discrimination against small church congregations

In 1994, New York City's Department of Education denied the request of the Bronx Household of Faith and several other churches to rent space from public schools on weekends for worship services, even though non-religious groups could rent the same schools for scores of other uses. Litigation began soon afterward, and now, nearly 18 years later, about 60-80 small church and synagogue congregations continue to fight for their rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. The church groups have been serving their communities for years and simply wish to be able to rent vacant school space as the city allows other groups to do.

In 2011, a federal appellate court upheld New York City's ban on private worship services meeting in vacant public schools on weekends. The court stated that a church could conduct a meeting in the NYC public schools that contained singing, praying, preaching and fellowship, but that they could not conduct a "worship service." But some denominations' worship services consist only of singing, praying, preaching and fellowship.

New York City claims that it only goes on the word of the religious group — that is, if the group says that it is not conducting a worship service, then it can meet. However, the churches claim that the city and school employees have been investigating what the churches do in the public schools and that the city has made its own assessments of whether the meetings constitute a "worship service" or not.

Many New York City churchgoers have been protesting the city's plans to evict them ever since the U.S. Supreme Court declined to take up the case in 2011.

In 2012, a federal district court issued a permanent injunction against the city's policy, ruling that the policy violated the Free Exercise Clause and the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution. However, the city won its case on appeal, and in March 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court again declined to take the case.

Now it is up to the Mayor of New York City to decide whether to reverse the policy or to render these

small church congregations homeless for their worship services.

While New York City's discrimination would not frequently affect Catholic parishes, which generally own their own buildings, this kind of discrimination can be devastating to many smaller congregations, who merely seek to rent vacant space in schools on weekends, as civic clubs and other organizations do. The city's policy is a simple case of discrimination against religious believers: people may assemble in vacant school space for any peaceful purpose — except worship.

Is our most cherished freedom truly under threat? Among many current challenges, New York City's policy severely diminishes many churchgoers' right to exercise freely and fully their religious beliefs. Without religious liberty properly understood, all Americans suffer.

**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will conclude the Fortnight for Freedom with the celebration of Mass on Saturday, July 4, at 9 a.m. at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.**

**All are welcome.**

## International religious freedom: Protecting religious minority rights in Pakistan

Being a member of a religious minority is dangerous in Pakistan. It's not just that the cards are stacked against you when it comes to getting an education or a job. It's that you face harassment and attacks. Like Asia Bibi, a Christian mother of five unjustly accused of blasphemy in 2009, you may be arrested, convicted and sentenced to death. Bibi remains jailed pending an appeal, her family in hiding. And even if you are found not guilty of blasphemy, you can be gunned down in broad daylight. If you are a young Christian or Hindu woman, you may be kidnapped, forcibly converted and married off to a Muslim, but dare not protest, lest your family be targeted.

It doesn't matter if you hold a high-level position. The federal Minister for Minority Affairs, Shahbaz Bhatti, who happened to be a Christian, and Punjab Governor Salman Taseer, a Muslim, were assassinated for encouraging changes to the draconian anti-blasphemy laws that are used to justify attacks on religious minorities. Taseer was killed by his own bodyguard and some imams have called the bodyguard a hero.

Ordinary Pakistani minorities



live in constant fear of violence. Churches, temples and mosques, homes, schools and businesses are burned, and livelihoods destroyed. Blasphemy laws make it easy to denounce minorities, often to gain economic or personal advantage or to take revenge. Police are reluctant to register complaints by minorities.

In 2014, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom declared that "Pakistan represents the worst situation in the world for religious freedom," given "chronic sectarian violence targeting mostly Shi'a Muslims, but also Christians, Ahmadis and Hindus." The government of Pakistan appears unable or unwilling to respond effectively to these attacks on religious minorities so a climate of impunity prevails.

According to a worldwide study, Pakistan has the highest level of social hostilities involving religion, meaning it takes very little to mobilize a mob when a charge of blasphemy is broadcast.

That's what happened in November 2014 to a young Christian couple. An accusation of blasphemy led to them being burned alive in the very brick kiln where they worked. This tragedy and others, such as the September 2013 suicide bombing at All Saints Church in Peshawar, which killed 81 people and injured over 130, and the assassination of noted human rights attorney, Rashid Rehman, who was defending blasphemy cases, have led Catholic bishops to assert that the "increase in violence and religious intolerance threatens social and civil life in Pakistan."

The Pakistan Catholic Bishops' Conference has asked their government to apprehend those responsible for attacks, better protect all places of worship, and address the growing religious and sectarian intolerance that threatens the security of all Pakistanis. They have said that "intolerance in the name of religion has gone far beyond the rule of law. Such incidents reflect a lack of governance, the failure of the civil and the judiciary administration, which ensure the impunity of these crimes against humanity."

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has written letters of solidarity to the Pakistani bishops as well as letters asking the Department of State to urge Pakistan to restore the rule of law and promote tolerance in that country. Pope Francis, responding to the Peshawar attack, prayed that "the Virgin always help us to work for a better world, to take the path of construction, the path of peace, and never the route of destruction and war."

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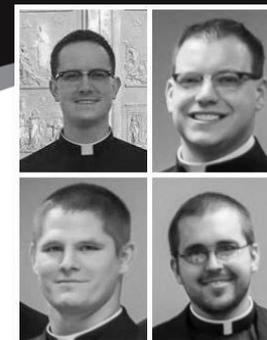
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## Church's outreach ongoing for immigrants crossing border

MCALLEN, Texas (CNS) — “My family and I were on the wrong side of the political fence,” said Rita of Honduras in Spanish. Her last name has been omitted for her safety. “We received death threats, we were detained by the police for absolutely no reason. Had we not left, I don’t know if we would have survived.” Rita is one of the more than 18,000 immigrants who have passed through the immigrant respite center at Sacred Heart Parish McAllen since it opened June 10, 2014. The immigrants, mostly from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, are dropped off by U.S. Immigration and Customs agents at the McAllen bus station a few blocks away from the church after being detained and processed. They are given a court date and granted permission to travel to their final destination. Many of the immigrants were sleeping on the floor of the bus station and had no food or water. They hadn’t showered in days and sometimes, weeks. For about two months before the center opened, volunteers began taking food to bus station for the immigrants. Sister Norma Pimentel of the Missionaries of Jesus, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, heard about the situation and responded by opening the center in McAllen and for a few months, one in Brownsville on the grounds of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral. The centers, which provided essentials such as food, clothing, water and a place to rest, were opened with the blessing and support of Brownsville Bishop Daniel E. Flores and the pastors from both churches. Hundreds of immigrants came through the centers in those first days.

# NEWS BRIEFS

## MEN WEARING TRADITIONAL GARB RIDE THEIR HORSES DURING A CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION IN AUSTRIA



CNS PHOTO/DOMINIC EBENBICHLER, REUTERS

Men wearing traditional garb ride their horses during a Corpus Christi procession in the Austrian village of Brixen im Thale June 4. A Eucharistic procession is a traditional feature of the celebration of the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

## ‘Victory’ app aimed at helping young suffering addiction to pornography

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Matt Fradd, a popular Catholic speaker who said he has dedicated his life to fighting pornography, teamed up with longtime youth minister Mark Hart, known as the “Bible Geek,” and LifeTeen to develop an app designed to assist young people find victory in their battle against porn. “I worked as an apologist at Catholic Answers for three years and I would travel the country and give many talks, and I couldn’t help but feel that while I was up there proclaiming the basic Gospel message to thousands of teenagers, a good number of these young men and women were looking at hardcore pornography,” Fradd explained in a phone interview with Catholic News Service. The app, Victory, is based on a calendar system where the user can mark the days they were victorious over porn, or had a setback, using colors. White represents the days they were victorious, and gray represents the days with a setback. A date with a green square around it signifies a day the user went to Confession. “One of the reasons this app is so helpful is that it enables people to view freedom from porn, not as a destination, but as a daily choice. This app enables us to daily track our progress and reflect upon our victories. ‘Look at that, I had five days in a row that I was victorious,’” Fradd said. After the setback is logged on the calendar, the app assists you in pinpointing what the trigger was so you are more prepared to log a white day the next time that trigger occurs. Users can choose from various “trigger” options — boredom, loneliness, anger, stress or tiredness. According to Fradd, this helps a person to gain self-knowledge.

## Pray, play . . . and simply be together! Notre Dame Summer Retreat

Weekend Retreat for Families on the lovely grounds of the University of Notre Dame August 7-9

Featuring inspirational talks by Coach Gerry Faust, Sister Terry Rickard, O.P., and Dr. Greg and Lisa Popcak

Bring your family together for a weekend of prayer, spirituality, fun and togetherness at the University of Notre Dame. Activities include enrichment, celebrations, candle-light processions, recreation and presentations by inspirational leaders like Gerry Faust, former Notre Dame football coach! Let us help you strengthen your family's prayer life. Complete packages with housing and meals available at affordable costs.

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## Pope's astronomer to speak at Notre Dame

NOTRE DAME — Jesuit Brother Guy Consolmagno, astronomer and president of the Vatican Observatory, will speak on his career in science and faith at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, in the University of Notre Dame's Jordan Hall of Science.

Brother Consolmagno, nicknamed "the Pope's astronomer," earned advanced degrees in planetary science from M.I.T. and the University of Arizona before his 1991 assignment as astronomer in the Vatican Observatory, where he is also curator of the Vatican Meteorite Collection, one of the world's largest.

Brother Consolmagno's lecture, "Would You Baptize an Extraterrestrial?" will concern this and similar questions addressed to him in emails and letters he receives in the course of his work.

Brother Consolmagno's astronomical research concerns the relationships between meteorites and asteroids, and the origin and evolution of small bodies in the solar system. The author of numerous articles in scientific journals and six popular books on astronomy, he has spoken widely on the complementarity of religion and science.

An asteroid, "4597 Consolmagno," also known as "Little Guy," was named in Brother Consolmagno's honor by the International Astronomical Union in 2000, and last year he received the Carl Sagan Medal from the American Astronomical Society Division for Planetary Sciences for excellence in public communication in planetary sciences.

The lecture, sponsored by Notre Dame's Institute for Church Life, is open to the public for a \$9 admission fee. Tickets may be purchased online by following links at [www.nd.edu](http://www.nd.edu) or at the door.

## Luers plans a summer service trip to Haiti

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School will offer a service trip for students to Haiti from July 25-31 to help a school for homeless children, work with orphans and contribute to a construction project. The goal of the trip is not just to positively impact the people that the student will be working with but also to grow and change themselves.

## Ancilla College pins new nursing graduates

DONALDSON — Ancilla College Nursing Department held its 10th Professional Pinning Ceremony on Sunday, May 31, in the Catherine Kasper Life Center Chapel. Tiffany Addington (Walkerton), Melissa Barenie (Rochester), Shelly Day (Knox) and Angela Leary (Plymouth) were the four new nurses pinned during the ceremony.

Berniece Umbaugh, RN, a resident of Catherine Kasper Life

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## ST. MATTHEW EDUCATORS RECEIVE THE DANDY AWARD



PROVIDED BY RICHARD BECKER

The National Catholic Board on Full Inclusion offered The Dandy Award to Mary Anne Retseck, left, and Susan Clark, center, educators from St. Matthew School in South Bend. Richard Becker, right, whose son with Down syndrome attends St. Matthew School, presented the award last week. Retseck invited the Beckers to send their son to St. Matthew and join his four siblings there. Clark continued the inclusive path with much success. Every six months, The Dandy Award will honor "inclusive Catholic educators who are the silent, heroic, fly-under-the-radar-just-do-the-right-thing type." Becker said, "We're starting with Miss Retseck, the visionary behind this success story and Mrs. Clark, who continued the inclusive path once Miss Retseck retired. People like you are changing the world one student, one family at a time." Becker shares his story at <http://catholicexchange.com/catholic-schools-syndrome-hospitality>.

Center and registered nurse for 70 years served as the honored guest speaker. Umbaugh grew up on a farm beside Ancilla College and went to elementary and middle school in Donaldson. In 1945, she graduated from Augustana Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago. Following a year of work at Augustana Hospital and a position as student nurse at Hanover College, Umbaugh returned to Plymouth with her husband where she started her career at Parkview Hospital (now St. Joseph Regional Medical Center-Plymouth) and served faithfully for over 30 years.

Nursing Division Chair Ann Fitzgerald stated the importance of the pinning ceremony, and gave her enthusiastic regards. "The Ancilla College Nursing Pin is unique to this nursing program and is worn with pride by each nurse graduating. It represents the hard work, dedication, professionalism and ministry of each nurse who identifies with Ancilla College and the nursing profession. Many nurses proudly wear their nursing pins each day on the

job as they minister to the patients in their care. There is no other nursing pin like it and no other way to earn one than to graduate from Ancilla College Nursing. Each graduate is proud to wear this pin of distinction and we are proud of each new member of the nursing profession."

## Institute for Church Life to host interdisciplinary conference on creation

NOTRE DAME — More than 20 internationally-recognized theologians will discuss the doctrine of creation "out of nothing" at a conference entitled, "Creation 'Out of Nothing': Origins and Contemporary Significance" July 5-8 at the University of Notre Dame.

Scholars from Biblical Studies, Church history, Jewish theology and science will present work that examines the philosophical and Scriptural roots of the classic doctrine of creation "out of nothing." The conference

seeks to understand more fully what the doctrine might mean in a modern context.

"This project will attempt to clear a new path on a topic of major contemporary interest and showcase what true interdisciplinary work might look like in the field of theology," said organizer Professor Gary Anderson, Hesburgh Professor of Catholic Theology at the University of Notre Dame.

The event is open to the public and graduate students in theology are especially encouraged to attend. Conference sessions will provide graduate students a unique opportunity to observe the benefits of collaborative research in theology.

"Our aim is to ask a relatively simple question: What is at stake in the Scriptural, philosophical and doctrinal foundations of the doctrine of Creatio ex Nihilo (creation out of nothing) — and is it necessary or indeed possible to re-articulate them usefully for the 21st century?" said Anderson.

Among those scheduled to

present are Janet Soskice, professor of Philosophical Theology at the University of Cambridge; Cyril O'Regan, Husking Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame; David Bentley Hart, Danforth Visiting Professor of Theological Studies at St. Louis University and John Cavadini, professor of theology and director of the Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame.

Conference sessions will be held in McKenna Hall on the Notre Dame campus. Registration, travel and lodging information can be found on the conference website: <http://icl.nd.edu/conferences/creation-out-of-nothing-origins-and-contemporary-significance/>.

## Volunteers needed for Adult Learning Center

FORT WAYNE — The Adult Learning Center at St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne, sponsored by Our Sunday Visitor, is actively seeking volunteers to teach the following subjects for the 11-week fall semester starting Sept. 8 through Nov. 19:

- ELL (English Language Learners)
  - Computer Skills (English and Spanish)
  - Spanish Conversation – Level 1
- Teacher certification is not required. Those interested in volunteering should contact Terry Stuczynski at St. Joseph Parish at 260-432-5113 ext. 355 or [tstuczynski@saintjosephfw.org](mailto:tstuczynski@saintjosephfw.org).

## Cub Scout receives Light of Christ medal

FORT WAYNE — Father Ben Muhlenkamp, parochial vicar at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne, recently presented Cub Scout Ryan McDowell with the Light of Christ medal.

The purpose of the medal is to help the Cub Scout develop a personal relationship with Jesus. With parents' active assistance and participation in this program, it is hoped that the Cub Scout will come to see Jesus as a real person and his friend.

McDowell is a member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Cub Scout Pack 3021 and recently made his first Communion at the parish.

## Correction: Knights offer Chicago Cubs game bus trip

GRANGER — The Knights of Columbus Council 4263 in Granger will offer a bus trip to the Cubs vs. Arizona baseball game in Chicago on Friday, Sept. 4. Tickets are \$55 and include coffee, rolls, door prizes, peanuts, bus fare and reserved terrace seats behind home plate. Bus leaves St. Pius X Church parking lot at 10 a.m. For information call Joe Stackowicz, chairman, at 574-272-1565.



PHOTOS BY KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Above, Holy Cross Father Peter Rocca shares the flame from the Paschal Candle with the congregation gathered for Vespers.



At left, the faithful and those in consecrated religious life gather holding candles during the Vespers at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame on May 31 to celebrate the Year of Consecrated Life.

# The Year of Consecrated Life revisited



Holy Cross Brother Joseph Fox, rector of St. Joseph Chapel on the Holy Cross College campus, reads the intercessions.

## HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MEMORIAL DAY



JOE MILLER

Students from Holy Family School in South Bend participated in the 92nd Annual West-Side Memorial Day Parade in South Bend. Holy Cross Principal Joe Miller, right, is shown with several Holy Family students before the 92nd Annual West-Side Memorial Day Parade.

Below, students in the parade include Chosan Macon, left, and Santana Suarez, right.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades greets those in consecrated life and the faithful after the Vespers service that celebrated the Year for Consecrated Life at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame on May 31.



Sister Lois DeLee, who is director of vocations, novices and postulants for the Immaculate Heart of Mary Province of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, proclaims Scripture.



# Msgr. John Suelzer celebrates golden jubilee

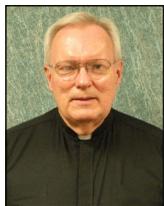
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BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Msgr. John N. Suelzer marked his golden jubilee this year on May 31 at a special Mass at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Fort Wayne with a reception that followed in the Hession Center Gym. His vocation to the Priesthood, he says, was nurtured by his mother as well as the holy example of four priests.

Born in 1939 to John and Hildegard Suelzer in Wilkensburg, Pennsylvania, the young John received his primary education at St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne. As a young high school student, he felt a call to the Priesthood and continued his studies at Our Lady of the Lake Seminary, Syracuse. Msgr. Suelzer completed his seminary training at Mount St. Mary Seminary in Ohio.

Ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop Leo A. Pursley on May 29, 1965, at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend, the



FATHER JOHN SUELZER

young priest served first as assistant at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. In 1966, he was appointed Spiritual Director of Notre Dame Circle 572,

Daughters of Isabella, South Bend. Then in 1969, Father Suelzer was appointed assistant at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart and later as assistant at St. Bernard Parish in Wabash and St. Henry in Fort Wayne. He also served as temporary administrator of Queen of Peace Parish in Mishawaka.

Father Suelzer served as pastor of St. John the Baptist, New Haven, from 1978-1986 when he was appointed administrator of St. Aloysius Parish in Yoder. In 1980, Father Suelzer was appointed to the Diocesan Priest Personnel Board and served a 20-year term.

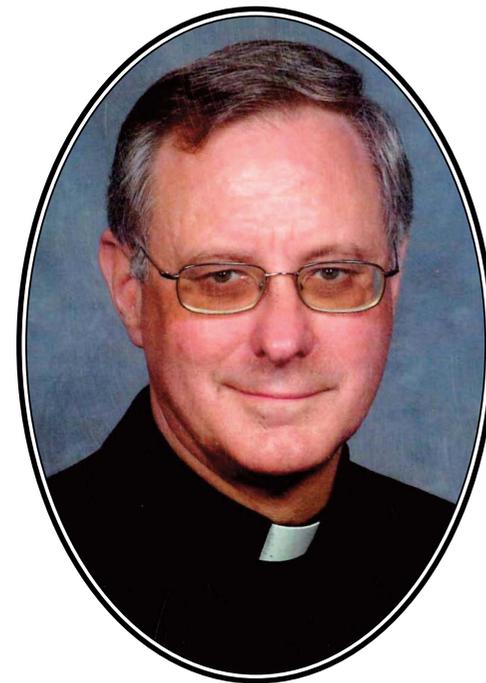
In 1986, he was appointed pas-

tor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish where he shepherds God's faithful today.

Other appointments and elections include the Presbyteral Council, Consultor for the diocese, Diocesan Budget Review Board and the Diocesan Task Force.

Father Suelzer was honored with the title of monsignor in July of 1995 appointed by the Holy See as Prelate of Honor. The newly named monsignor then was appointed to serve as member of the Clergy Retirement Board, a position he holds today. In 2010, Msgr. Suelzer was appointed to serve on the Corporate Board of Saint Anne Home and Retirement Community and in 2013 appointed to the search committee at Saint Anne Home as well.

Msgr. Suelzer has enjoyed his 50 years of priestly service and says "celebrating the sacraments and being with people as they experience the sacraments" brings him great satisfaction. He also enjoys listening to classical music and reading.



*With Thanksgiving and Gratitude for our beloved pastor Msgr. Robert C. Schulte We share his joy as he celebrates 40 Years of Priesthood*

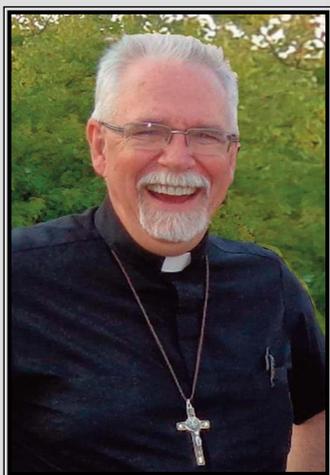
**The Parishioners of The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Fort Wayne**

## Revisiting events from the June 7 issue

Due to a printing error, *Today's Catholic* is revisiting some highlight photos from the June 7, 2015 issue. These include the Year of Consecrated Life diocesan celebration on May 31, Holy Family School's participation in the Memorial Day Parade, some congratulatory advertisements with a revised writeup of the Msgr. Suelzer jubilee and sports highlights.



**ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON Catholic Church**



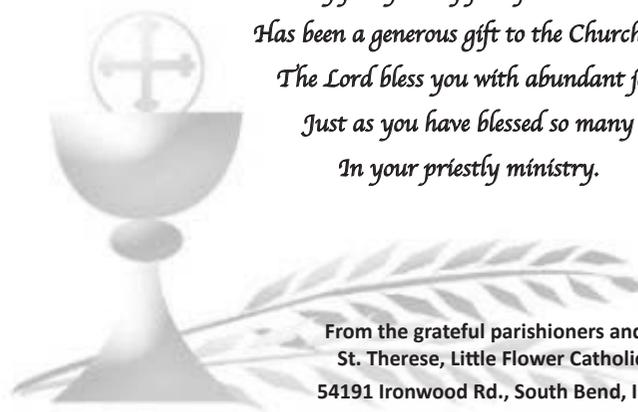
Many blessings to you  
**Fr. Jim Shafer**  
*as you celebrate the 40th anniversary of your Ordination to the Priesthood.*

**"Love for Jesus and His Church must be the passion of your life."**

- St. Pope John Paul II

### Father Thomas R. Shoemaker

*Your twenty five years of faithful service Has been a generous gift to the Church. The Lord bless you with abundant joy Just as you have blessed so many In your priestly ministry.*



From the grateful parishioners and staff of St. Therese, Little Flower Catholic Church 54191 Ironwood Rd., South Bend, IN 46635



**CONGRATULATIONS and Prayerful Best Wishes to Father William Kummer as he celebrates the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.**

THE STAFF, FACULTY, STUDENT BODY AND PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOSEPH HESSEN CASSEL PARISH FORT WAYNE

# I ENCOURAGE YOU TO NOT JUST



JOE ROMIE

Father William Meininger offers a blessing to the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration after ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday, June 6.



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Rhoades addresses his homily to the elect — the soon-to-be ordained.



JOE ROMIE

The entire college of priests processes by to lay hands on the head of each of the elect, in accordance with the apostolic tradition.



JOE ROMIE

Matthew Soberalski declares his intention to assume responsibility of the office of Priesthood and promise obedience and respect to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and his successors.



# ... SAY MASS BUT TO PRAY MASS.'

— Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in homily to new priests June 6th



JOE ROMIE

The elect prostrate themselves on the floor of the cathedral as a sign of their complete submission to the will of God, while the Litany of Saints is sung.



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades hands the paten and chalice to newly ordained Father Jonathan Norton with the exhortation to discharge his priestly duties in imitation of Christ: "Receive the oblation of the holy people, to be offered to God. Understand what you do, imitate what you celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord's cross."



JOE ROMIE

Above, family members — Nola Norton, Karen Gregerson, Sue Soberalski and Margaret Meininger bring forward the gifts of the people to Bishop Rhoades. They delivered the paten and chalice to Bishop Rhoades, who then handed them over to the newly ordained.



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Rhoades anoints newly ordained Father Royce Gregerson's palms with Chrism, a consecrated and perfumed oil that symbolizes wisdom and strength.



JOE ROMIE

# Celebrating the rich 175-year history of St. John

BY DENISE FEDEROW

GOSHEN — St. John the Evangelist was made a mission of St. Augustine Church in Fort Wayne (now the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception) in 1840. In the years between 1840-1860 Holy Cross Father Alex Granger and Holy Cross Father Edward Sorin, who both came from Notre Dame, and Father Henry Schaefer, who came from Avilla, served the new Goshen parish. They all celebrated Mass for all the area Catholics in the old courthouse as well as in private homes.

In 1860, Father Schaefer organized the congregation of 30 families scattered around Elkhart County. The first church was completed in 1861.

## St. John School history

The first St. John the Evangelist School started in 1868, first under the tutelage of Father Dominic Duehmig, who opened the school in the church building by setting boards over the pews to use as desks. Father Henry Meissner came to St. John in 1868 and built the first school at a cost of \$500. It was located on the corner of Third and Madison streets.

In 1881, Father Anthony Kroeger built the second school building — a one-story 30x40 brick building with two classrooms at a cost of \$1,100 and the Sisters of Holy Cross came to teach the students. In 1907 there were 78 students in the school in grades 1-8.

The third school building was built on the site of the former school in 1922. Because of financial difficulties during and after the Great Depression, the school was closed in 1934 and remained closed until 1949.

In 1949 Father Herman Miller reopened the school and invited sisters from the School Sisters of Notre Dame order in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to teach. School Sister of Notre Dame Sister Coleen Bauer remains a religious presence at St. John's and teaches second grade.

Construction of a new school addition took place in February 1964. A house on the property next to the school was razed and the one-story addition and basement were added along with a paved, fenced-in play area for the children.

According to the church history book parishioners were asked to contribute \$2 over their regular weekly contribution and the new addition was built at the low cost of \$10 a square foot. The new school opened in September of 1964.

At the parish's sesquicenten-



The original St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen was built in 1860.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY DENISE FEDOROW

nial celebration in 1990, there were 100 students at St. John. The school year 1998-1999 was the last year for grades 6-8. Sixth grade was briefly re-instated from 2008-2010, but since that time, the school has pre-school through fifth grade.

Planning for school additions and a new parish center began in 1993 and was implemented in 1999 under the title "Project Faith 2000."

Construction included adding three classrooms, a multi-purpose room, a small kitchenette and storage in the basement. The original two-story school was demolished, as renovations would be difficult and costly. The new addition, which included school and parish offices, a school library and computer lab, a pre-school room, teacher's lounge and workroom, a commercial quality kitchen and parish center/school gymnasium, was connected to the 1964 wing. The school addition and parish center were dedicated Sept. 10, 2000, and the parish center was later re-dedicated as the Deacon Art Bleau Parish Center, which honored the parish's beloved first deacon. There are currently 150 students in pre-school through fifth grade.

## Mission churches

St. John helped to start many of the area Catholic Churches as mission churches, including St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart in 1868.

From mid-1870s to 1897 St. John priests also served churches in Ligonier and Millersburg until permanent pastors were installed.

In 1941 Father Herman



Our Lady of the Streets grotto was dedicated on Oct. 27, 1996 and is on a lot at the corner of Third and Monroe streets. A committee of parishioners brought this grotto to the parish.

Miller started a mission church in Bristol, now St. Mary of the Annunciation.

In the late 1940s assistant pastor Father Ralph Hoffman organized St. Dominic in Bremen and became its first pastor.

Father Miller celebrated Mass in Nappanee in a trailer and then a community building in the 1940s.

In the 1990s St. John also became a "twin sister parish" to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Milford, until their new church was built in Warsaw and a permanent pastor installed in 2005.

## Church growth

After a difficult period in the early 1930s, a local business helped to bring life back to the church by the end of that decade when it transferred several families from Iowa — most of whom were Catholic. In the 1950s through the 1960s church leadership bought properties all around the church as they became available for sale.

A woman's choir under the leadership of Rose "Rody" Weaver gained national attention in the late 1950s. By 1961 the St. John Singers recorded at least two albums. The "Little Singers" was a group of the choir's daughters and the Big and Little Singers performed around the state and the region.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 17, 1970, the first Mass was celebrated in the new colonial style church. On June 23, 1970, demolition of the 110-year-old church began. A house across the street was razed for the construction of the new matching colonial design rectory. Two more lots were purchased in the mid 1970s behind and adjacent to the new rectory allowing for backyard space, a garage, and later, space for the grotto. The most recent property purchase was in 2008 on South Main Street. Two houses south of the church and the Hispanic Ministry Office and food pantry are located there.

## Hispanic ministry

In 1996 Father Edward Krason appointed a Hispanic Ministry Formation Committee to address the needs of the growing Hispanic population. With the assistance of Father Paul Bueter, Deacon Ricardo Medina and his wife Angie came to St. John's in 1997 to initiate a Hispanic Ministry. When Father Constantino Rocha arrived from Mexico in 2000 Spanish Mass was celebrated daily, a catechesis program began and the Hispanic population of St. John was growing.

The Hispanic population has grown from 33 members in the early 1970s to half of the church's membership today. In

# the Evangelist



The Pietà statue at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen was installed in September 2008. Sophia Sajko bequeathed the statue in memory of her husband and son, Alexander and William. The landscaping around the statue was an Eagle Scout project by parishioner Mark Wheeler.



KEVIN HAGGENJOS

The interior of St. John the Evangelist Church as it is today.

the fall of 2014 there were 1,200 registered families. The biggest challenge of church membership is uniting the two communities with the space limitations. Bi-lingual services, fellowship events and retreats are held to encourage unity.

"I pray that the 175th anniversary is a springboard to unite our parish and to grow in faith and understanding with our brothers and sisters in Christ," Father Anthony Steinacker, pastor, said.

## St. John the Evangelist today

There are many current members of St. John whose families attended in the very early days of the church. St. John Church is still a growing, thriving parish with 66 ministries for all ages.

Numerous small groups meet for Bible

study, to share how Christ is working in their lives. Several service ministries assist parishioners and the parish. St. John has a vibrant youth group for middle and high school aged youth that meets weekly. The choir is also a strong entity in parish life.

Father Anthony Steinacker, expressing his feelings about this 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary occasion, said, "I am ever humbled to be able to lead this parish as we honor and recognize all those who've gone before us, who have shown us and shared with us our beautiful faith."

"Like our Holy Father Pope Francis has shown us on countless occasions, we are to know, to love and to serve God and His people," Father Steinacker added. "To me, that is what St. John's is all about — to help one another to know and experience the love of God by what we say and do."

## St. John the Evangelist timeline

- 1840 - St. John's was made a mission of St. Augustine's (now the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception) Church in Fort Wayne
- 1860 - First church built with 30 families as members
- 1868 - First school building built. Helped start St. Vincent de Paul Church in Elkhart
- 1934 - School closed due to financial straits during the Depression years
- 1937 - The Iowa families came to St. John's reviving the parish
- 1941 - Built St. Mary's Church in Bristol
- 1949 - School reopened with School Sisters of Notre Dame as teachers
- 1964 - Built new addition to school
- 1970 - New church building built in colonial style
- 1980 - Knights of Columbus Council 7541 chartered
- 1983 - RCIA program began
- 1990 - Sesquicentennial celebration held
- 1990-1991 - Several ministries began, including Jail Ministry, Youth Ministry and Knights of Columbus fish fries
- 1993 - First Catholic Mass at fairgrounds during Elkhart County 4-H fair
- 1996 - Our Lady of the Streets grotto completed and dedicated
- 1997 - First Spanish Mass celebrated at St. John's
- 1999 - St. John's Clinic outreach ministry started — now Goshen's Center for Healing and Hope
- 2000 - Project Faith 2000 completed church and school renovations and the addition of the parish center
- 2001 - Stewardship Committee formed
- 2004 - Legacy of Faith endowment fund started
- 2010 - Christ Renews His Parish brought to St. John's from St. Vincent de Paul Parish
- 2014 - First bi-lingual outdoor Mass and picnic held, parish study and survey conducted, revitalization campaign launched to make church improvements



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, center, is shown with St. John the Evangelist pastor Father Anthony Steinacker, left, and Father Fernando Jimenez, parochial vicar, behind, as he accepts a hand carved wooden key/cross to St. John the Evangelist Church and a history book from Vince Traxler.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades greets the faithful after the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mass on June 7 at St. John the Evangelist in Goshen.

## 175TH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to persevere in hope and to be a community of love," he shared. "A parish that is devoted to Jesus in the Eucharist is strengthened to live as a community of the Eucharist, a community that goes out and brings Christ to others, shares with others the truth, beauty and joy of the Gospel."

Bishop Rhoades continued, "A truly vibrant parish is a parish that evangelizes. And the Eucharist gives us the grace to evangelize. This parish of St. John's grew because the faithful from the very beginning were devoted to the Blessed Sacrament. They made great sacrifices to build the churches. I pray that all of you, the

present parishioners of St. John's, will continue this beautiful history and build upon it. We need this strong Catholic presence in Goshen. The Church needs your courageous witness to the Gospel in our culture today. We need your commitment to evangelization and especially to passing on the faith to the young. And we need your witness of Christ's love in service of the poor, the needy, the sick and the suffering of this community."

"I pray that this anniversary year will be a time of grace for St. John Parish and an incentive for your ongoing renewal in Christ. May our Lord, present in the Holy Eucharist, always be your strength! May the Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament, continue to be praised, adored and loved here at St. John the Evangelist!" he concluded.

Bishop Rhoades then recommissioned all the Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist.

## Reception

After Mass, approximately 250 parishioners and guests shared a meal and memories at the RV Hall of Fame Conference Center in Elkhart. Violinists played as guests viewed the displays of photos and historic artifacts. A slideshow of photos played during dinner.

Sister Coleen Bauer, a School Sister of Notre Dame, gave an interactive talk to "look at the past with gratitude, present with passion and embrace the future with hope" as she highlighted some of the events in the parish history book and asked the group to give the response when cued, "We give You thanks, Oh God." At the end of the event Father Tony Steinacker, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish, thanked everyone then the bishop for appointing him to be St. John's pastor nearly three years ago. He then called Vince Traxler, one of the



PHOTOS BY KEVIN HAGGENJOS

Members of the choir enrich the bi-lingual 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass celebrated on June 7 with their musical talents.

oldest parishioners who crafted over 150 "right to life" crosses, to present a gift to the bishop — a hand carved wooden key/cross to St. John's Church. They also gave the bishop a history book.

Bishop Rhoades thanked them for the gifts and reminded the group of his words in the homily to pass on the faith and evangelize. "Even with the growth, you are still a minority in Goshen. Your challenge is don't be afraid to go out and invite others to St. John's," he said.

## Parishioners' thoughts

Adan and Herlinda Zepeda came from Texas for the celebration and as Herlinda viewed the timeline and caught up with old friends, like Tena Jakubowicz, Herlinda said, "I miss St. John's — I love Goshen."

Jakubowicz shared why she wanted to attend. "I wanted to come and celebrate with this dynamic parish. We look back at those who've gone before us and appreciate their vision, sacrifice and hard work. Our congregation is made up of all ethnicities and ages coming together to love God and each other. I am hon-

ored to be a small part of the history of St. John's and today was a day to celebrate and be thankful for all of God's blessings in the past 175 years and ask for continued blessings for the future."

Jamie Martin, who along with her husband Daniel joined the parish about two years ago said, "We came to show support for St. John's and to honor many of the spiritual deeds the parish has accomplished throughout its existence. We enjoyed learning about the history of St. John's and all the people who dedicated their time to build our parish into the beautiful place it is today."

Leo Pineda, who was among the first Spanish speaking members of the parish back in the 1970s, shared that the growth of the Spanish speaking community was exciting.

Darlene Leitz summed it up by saying, "There was a great representation of where our parish was 175 years ago by all of the photos and memorabilia present at the celebration as well as the remarks made about our parish's prayer life and guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us to a future full of hope."

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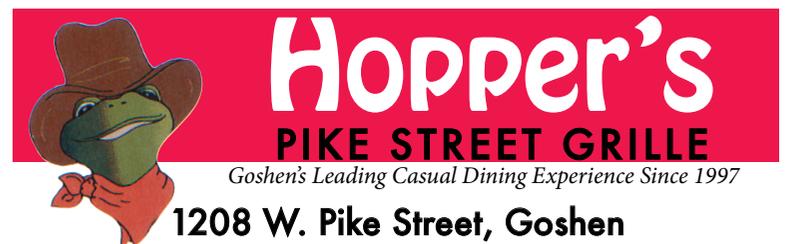
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**CONGRATULATIONS on St. John's 175th Anniversary!**

## An anniversary of sorts

Very recently I walked into an exam room to see one of my last patients of the day. He was now 76 years old and sat next to his supportive wife. As soon as I walk into the room he says: "Doc we are celebrating an anniversary." I said, "Wonderful. How many years have you guys been married?" He then tells me, "No, it's not 'our' anniversary," pointing to his wife; "It is 'our' anniversary," pointing to me. "March of 1985," he says. Finally I get it. He is referring to the first time we met as patient and doctor some 30 years ago. It was 24 hours that both of us will never forget.

He presented to the St. Joseph Hospital emergency room with severe chest pain and was having a heart attack. Back then would be considered ancient times in cardiology. Acute myocardial infarctions were not treated then like they are now. The treatment now is to rush them to the cardiac catheterization lab and open the

occluded artery with angioplasty and then stent the blockage.

Back in 1985 we would give a thrombolytic (clot buster) to try to dissolve the thrombus (clot) that had formed at the cholesterol plaque closing the artery and causing the heart attack. We would also do a lot of praying because it would only open the artery about 70 percent of the time. One of the complications that could occur was significant bleeding and if the patient bled into his/her brain it would be fatal.

This man's artery did open with the clot buster and his chest pain and EKG improved. One of the first signs, though, that the artery is opening can be a thing called reperfusion arrhythmias. Reperfusion means that blood flow is restored and now there is oxygenated blood flowing down the artery to heart muscle cells that were in the process of dying. For a variety of complex reasons, this occasionally can cause very

## THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR IS IN

DR. DAVID KAMINSKAS

threatening arrhythmias called ventricular tachycardia (VT) or ventricular fibrillation (VF).

My 46-year-old patient did exactly that — VF. This causes the blood pressure to immediately go to nothing and without successful cardioversion (shock) the patient is essentially dead. One shock and he woke up asking me what the heck just happened.

We rushed him up to the CCU, got him in his bed, and put the paddles at the bedside in case it happened again. Well it did ...

DOCTOR, PAGE 16

## Kingdom like the growth of a mustard seed



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 4:26-34

The first reading for this weekend's liturgy is from the Book of Ezekiel, which is regarded as one of the great Hebrew prophets. Not interested in themselves, but only in imparting the revelation of God, the prophets rarely left any biographical details about themselves. This does not mean, however, that utter mystery surrounds them all.

For example, it is clear that Ezekiel was active as a prophet during the Hebrews' exile in Babylon. Apparently born in Judah, he was in Babylon as one of the original exiles rather than being descended from an exile who had come earlier while he himself was born in Babylonia.

It is interesting to imagine the psychological state in which the exiles lived in Babylon, and how their mental frame-of-mind affected the fervor of their religious belief and practice. Since they were humans as are we, despite all the difference between their time and our own, basic human feelings affected them as they would us.

Ezekiel encountered great faith, but he also most surely met despair, anger and disbelief in the power and fidelity of the One

God of Israel, and he surely saw disgust and despair around him.

In his writings, he bemoaned the unfaithfulness of the kings of Judah and their people, not God's infidelity. In this reading he insists that God will restore the people to security. God is faithful. People must be faithful as well to God.

St. Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians is the source of the second reading. In the background is an obvious interest in earthly death and its consequences. By the time Paul wrote and preached, Christians already were being held in suspicion by the culture and, even more ominously, by the political authority.

The apostle urges the Corinthian Christians to see heaven as "home," and to prepare for an end of earthly existence when they will have to answer before the judgment throne of Christ.

For the last reading, the Church presents a parable from St. Mark's Gospel. It is the familiar story of the mustard seed. The Lord likens the kingdom to the growth of a plant to be a mighty bush. The implication for us is that we build in our place in the kingdom if we follow Jesus.

This story confronts us with our own potential and responsibility as disciples. The growth of the mustard seed from the moment of being planted, to budding, to full maturity is inevitable. It is God's will and God's plan, unfolding in nature. Belonging to God, planted by God, it will become the greatest of all plants.

In our humanity, we are small, and we are limited. Still, God wills us to be great and mighty in our holiness, to grow into the strength and majesty of the fully developed bush. This is God's will and God's plan. We, how-

ever, must decide to make of ourselves the rich produce that God will gather in the great harvest at the Last Judgment.

### Reflection

The Church in these readings brings us face to face with that event common to all things living — death. Humans fear death, strongly inclined to put nothing above the instinct to survive.

Never denying death or belittling the will to survive, the Church, as the teacher of genuine truth, places in context life, death and survival. This is the setting for these readings.

Earthly life is not the be all and end all, whether we want it to be it or not. Life shall endure after physical death.

What will this mean? It is a question to be answered personally, deep from within each heart. It may mean everlasting life. The choice belongs individually to each of us. Do we live our earthly days with God?

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Ez 17:22-24 Ps 92:2-3, 13-16 2 Cor 5:6-10 Mk 4:26-34

**Monday:** 2 Cor 6:1-10 Ps 98:1, 2b, 3-4 Mt 5:38-42

**Tuesday:** 2 Cor 8:1-9 Ps 146:2, 5-9a Mt 5:43-48

**Wednesday:** 2 Cor 9:6-11 Ps 112:1bc-4, 9 Mt 6:1-6 16-18

**Thursday:** 2 Cor 11:1-11 Ps 111:1b-4, 7-8 Mt 6:7-15

**Friday:** 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30 Ps 34:2-7 Mt 6:19-23

**Saturday:** 2 Cor 12:1-10 Ps 34:8-13 Mt 6:24-34

## Lamentations for Middle Eastern Christians

*"How solitary sits the city, once filled with people. She who was great among the nations is now like a widow. Once a princess among the provinces, now a toiling slave."*



### INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

JOHN GARVEY

These words that open the Book of Lamentations describe Jerusalem after the Babylonian conquest. They have renewed meaning for the Christians of the Middle East today, forced to abandon their cities to escape the sword of a resurgent Islamic militancy.

This month, Sister Diana Momeka of the Dominican Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena came to Washington to testify in Congress about this contemporary persecution. She described the lives Christians live in Iraq and Syria today — an existence unimaginable for most of us.

Sister Diana's convent in Iraq had already experienced this kind of hostility once. Civilian authorities in Mosul refused to help them when they were bombed in 2009, so they moved to Qaraqosh, Iraq's largest Christian city. When the Islamic State's army arrived on the Nineveh Plain in 2014, the new convent and all of Qaraqosh had to be evacuated as well.

"Starting with the city of Mosul, ISIS overran one city and town after another, giving the Christians of the region three choices: convert to Islam, pay a tribute to ISIS or leave their cities with nothing more than the clothes on their back," she said. The Christian exodus from the region marks the first time since the seventh century that "no church bells rang for Mass in the Plain of Nineveh."

Sister Diana added a few words for those who believe Christians should simply run away from their homeland. "Why should we leave our country — what have we done?" she asked.

"The Christians of Iraq are the first people of the land. ... Christianity came to Iraq from the very earliest days through the preaching and witness of St. Thomas and others of the apostles

and Church elders.

"While our ancestors experienced all kinds of persecution, they stayed in their land, building a culture that has served humanity for the ages. ... But the current persecution that our community is facing is the most brutal in our history."

For U.S. policymakers, these words present an issue of foreign policy. For us, they also raise a question about a problem of evil as old as the Book of Lamentations: "They dogged our every step, we could not walk in our squares; Our end drew near, our time was up; yes, our end had come."

The author of those poems asks God, after all that happened to Jerusalem: "Why have you utterly forgotten us, forsaken us for so long?"

God is never silent, but He rarely works on our timetable. The apostles were fortunate — they only had to wait until the third day to see the temple of Christ's body rebuilt, as He had promised. And even in that short spell, the Gospel tells us, they began to lose faith. But sometimes suffering goes on and on, and our faith has to remain strong anyway.

It's hard for us in the West to imagine how difficult it must be to maintain hope in a place where justice is so distant — where persecutions are about exile and bloodshed, not just about courts and rights.

That's why Sister Diana and the Church in Iraq need our help and prayers. Their 40 years in the wilderness may have only just begun.

John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America.

## Moving forward, with the Holy Spirit in tow

Recently, Holy Cross Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, president emeritus of the University of Notre Dame, passed away at the age of 97. During my years at Notre Dame, Father Ted, as some of us called him, became a mentor and a friend whose guidance has been imprinted on every decision I made since our first meeting in 1997.

His hallmark advice was to invoke the Holy Spirit at all times.



### OUR GLOBAL FAMILY

CAROLYN WOO

WOO, PAGE 16

# A Haven for Healing — post-abortion healing outreach

BY CINDY ROBERTSON

## Come to the waters

It's January — the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. It's October — Respect Life month. A woman privately asks her pastor if he would please remove the posters depicting the stages of development of an unborn baby. A man discretely covers the pamphlets with similar photos on the pro-life table in the back of church when no one is looking.

At the same time, the business cards for A Haven for Healing, the newly diocesan-approved Bible study tailor designed for women and men suffering from an abortion, are gradually being picked up, one by one.

With hope, the post-abortive woman or man may ponder, "Dare I break my silence, reveal my suffering heart and soul, hope for someone who will listen, understand and walk with me through this quagmire? Dare I fathom that someone could patiently help lead me to forgiveness, freedom and peace?"

As Jesus' heart has been opened and revealed for mercy, A Haven for Healing invites those who feel trapped in the painful past to open their hearts with the carefully trained team and others who have experienced abortion in their lives. It may be time for many to respond to Jesus' offer of love, understanding and mercy, especially as the Church prepares to enter a year of Divine Mercy, as called for by Pope Francis. Jesus invites and offers comfort to all when He says, "Let not your hearts be troubled."

A Haven for Healing is a Catholic outreach of hospitality and healing. Through a community

of love and acceptance, a warm welcome is extended to all post-abortive women and men to participate in this confidential support group. Together, team members and participants share prayer, Scripture, exercises from an experiential manual and fellowship embracing the journey of healing.

St. John Paul II, in his encyclical, "Gospel of Life," has encouraging words for those harmed by abortion: "The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give into discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you His forgiveness and His peace in the sacrament of Reconciliation. You will come to understand that nothing is definitively lost and you will be able to ask forgiveness from your child, who is now living in the Lord. With the friendly ... help and advice of other people, and as a result of your own painful experience, you can be among the most eloquent defenders of everyone's right to life."

As the pontiff saint emphasizes, the sacrament of Reconciliation offers grace, counsel, forgiveness and peace; therefore, the Haven team includes a priest with a heart for this ministry who will provide opportunities for Confession. It is further comprised of a professional counselor, as well as post-abortive and non-abortive women. All team members offer a listening ear and confidentiality with a non-judgmental heart. The team works together with participants to uncover and understand choices and their consequences, pain and

its manifestation and needs and their fulfillment, all leading to forgiveness of self and others. The invitation of Jesus to ask and seek is accepted with trust so that the Holy Spirit may be sent to heal the whole person — body, soul, heart and mind — of the many negative side effects of abortion. The Holy Spirit is invoked so that participants may find true relief in the acknowledgement of the natural need to address profound loss — to grieve an irreplaceable child, to mourn the intrinsic loss of identity and self-worth that often accompanies this choice, to lament the change in relationships, to regret various levels of physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual decline.

May the Church and all members throw open the doors of mercy and forgiveness to those who regret their abortions. May the prayers of the faithful resound as a welcoming appeal to many whose silent suffering has been too frequently ignored. As the crippled man in the Gospel needed someone to carry him to the healing waters, may the Church and its members encourage its daughters and sons to accept the available support and friendship.

All in need are invited to A Haven for Healing, which meets at a confidential location in downtown South Bend, Monday nights from 6:30-8:30 p.m. starting again on Aug. 24. Contact A Haven for Healing at this confidential phone number: 574-514-7471. Other opportunities for healing include one-on-one meetings or a weekend retreat.

Jesus asks, "Do you want to get well?" (Jn 5:1-15)

**Cindy Robertson** is a companion of A Haven for Healing.

remembers that the shocks didn't hurt and he asked me why. After all these years this "is" something that I do remember. I knew that all these shocks would be terribly painful if he was awake, so when he went into the VT I would always wait till he was unconscious (clinically dead) before shocking him. In fact, I can still remember the nurse at the bedside saying to me, "Doctor, why are you waiting so long to shock him?" Well, my patient kind of appreciated that waiting period even today.

This man is a very active Christian and worships at a non-denominational church here in town. He is the type of man that lights up the room when he walks in. His attitude is always one of optimism. (I personally could use some optimism sometime). He has ministered to "me" now for 30 years. I have learned a lot from this man. He is a man that God gave a second chance to and when you get another chance at

life you don't want to waste it. He certainly hasn't. As it says in Psalms 30:3-4, "O Lord, my God, I cried out to You and You healed me. O Lord, You brought me up from the nether world; You preserved me from among those going down into the pit."

By the way, if you are wondering if this man holds the record for the most shocks a patient received under my care the answer is no. I had a lady get 79 shocks (yes, we really did count them) and then live another 10 years. Praise God!

**Dr. David Kaminskis** is a board certified cardiologist and member of Lutheran Medical Group who has practiced in Fort Wayne since 1982. He is a member of The Jerome Lejeune Guild of Northeast Indiana.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for June 14, 2015

Mark 4:26-34

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: parables of earthy things. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SEED	SLEEP	RISE
NIGHT	SPROUT	FULL GRAIN
SICKLE	HARVEST	HAS COME
COMPARE	PARABLE	IT IS LIKE
MUSTARD	SOWN	GROUND
SMALLEST	BRANCHES	BIRDS
SHADE	ABLE	PRIVATE

## BIRDS AND SEEDS

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

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## DOCTOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

again and again and again. Now it was VT. This is just a hair better than VF because you maintain consciousness a little longer. In this case, I stayed at the bedside with the paddles inches away from my patient hoping I would not have to use them again.

I still remember, and so does my patient, how it went. I would be chatting with him at the bedside and he would know when he went into the VT by the severe lightheadedness that he would feel before he passed out. I still remember him saying, "Doc, it's happening again." Then he would pass out and I would shock him. I shocked him over 30 times that night. Neither of us can remember the exact count but we both know it was 30-something.

During this last office visit as we reminisced, somehow he

that the couple should hold each other at arms' length, leaving room for the Holy Spirit. I am keenly aware of my shortcomings and find peace when I have asked the Holy Spirit to take over: please possess me.

The next morning, after grappling with the unwinnable, I muse on those occasions when I did not control my emotions as I had wished, showing exasperation, frustration and even tears. I wonder whether the unintended expressions were the Spirit at work.

It is interesting that commencement season falls around Pentecost, when we celebrate the Holy Spirit. Graduates are anxious because they do not know the future. My one piece of advice is the one Father Hesburgh gave me: to invoke the Holy Spirit, be joined at the hip, to know that you do not go at it alone. Let yourself feel the excitement of being sent into the world.

I recommend John Henry Newman's poem, "Lead, Kindly Light" in which he tells us that by surrendering himself to God, he recognized that he did not need to see the whole plan, just one step was enough for him. Life's journey does not come with a map. You get to make your own map. But it does come with a compass in God's loving commands and a companion whose power exceeds any superhero that Marvel Comics could dream up.

**Carolyn Woo** is president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services.

## WOO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

"Just pray, 'Come, Holy Spirit,'" he would say. In fact, Father Ted would emphasize that there are no situations in which it would be inappropriate or unnecessary to call on the Holy Spirit.

While I had learned about the Holy Spirit, I did not actively invoke the Spirit.

At Notre Dame, I developed the habit of stopping at the grotto in the morning for prayer and reflection, departing with the plea, "Father, Son, Holy Spirit and Blessed Mother: Today is a workday and we all need to go to work." At the office, I would bring a cup of coffee into the tiny rosary chapel down the hall — as I do now at St. Stephen's chapel at Catholic Relief Services — take in the aroma of the brew, place my hands around the cup to feel its warmth, and "talk" about the day with the Father, Son, Holy Spirit and Blessed Mother.

When I am dealing with "unwinnable" situations (regular fare for administrators), I note explicitly that God does not ask us to win, just to show up, give our best, do what we think is right and, most important, to remember that the Holy Spirit will be with us.

I sometimes leave a chair empty for the Holy Spirit, a physical reminder casting back to the sisters' admonition at high school dances

# Sports

**BISHOP DWENGER WINS BASEBALL SEMI-REGIONAL** Bishop Dwenger High School won the semi-regional crown defeating Yorktown, 8-7, on Saturday, June 6, for the 3-A baseball championship at Belmont. Later that day in regional competition, Heritage defeated Bishop Dwenger, 5-2, dashing the school's plans for a regional win and a chance for a state run.

## St. Charles crowned girls' varsity CYO soccer champs

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The St. Charles Cardinals were crowned the 2015 girls' varsity Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) soccer champions. The squad defeated St. Elizabeth 2-0 for this year's title avenging their lone loss during the regular season.

Coach Matt Bobay explained, "St. Elizabeth was a great team with a lot of skilled players. It was a really fun game to be part of and we were fortunate to be the better of the two teams on that day. The game really could have gone to either team."

The Cardinals finished their season with an impressive 7-1 overall record. Their team was a combined seventh- and eighth-grade squad, but the roster of 17 listed just one seventh grader.

Bobay summarized, "This was a bunch of good athletes who got along well and liked playing together. Coach Beier and I felt privileged to be able to coach such a great group of girls."



PROVIDED BY THE ST. CHARLES CARDINALS

The St. Charles Cardinals were crowned the 2015 girls' varsity Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) soccer champions.



PROVIDED BY ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

St. Jude, the defending champs, claimed the 2015 boys' varsity title with a 7-0 win over St. Vincent 7.



PROVIDED BY ST. JUDE

St. Vincent 6 slipped by St. Jude, 5-4, to take the junior varsity boys' title for 2015.



PROVIDED BY THE ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton junior varsity girls took the championship with an overall 7-1 record.

## DWENGER RUGBY TEAM CROWNED DIVISION 1 JUNIOR VARSITY STATE CHAMPIONS



PROVIDED BY SAM DEFILIPPO

The Bishop Dwenger rugby team was crowned the 2015 Division 1 junior varsity state champions at the Moose Rugby Grounds in Elkhart by defeating Hamilton Southeastern (HSE) in a big way at the rainy showdown, 18-0, on May 30. This was the club's first appearance in the finals since winning it all in 2004.

## SAINT JOSEPH SOFTBALL TEAM WINS SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



PROVIDED BY SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL

The Saint Joseph High School softball team is the Class 3-A 2015 sectional champs. In the win on Saturday, May 30, the Saint Joseph Indians defeated the Rochester Zebras, 14-4.



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# Multi-talented woman grounded in God

BY DEB WAGNER

**GARRETT** — Diane Ort is an unassuming, soft-spoken wife, and mother of three — ages 16, 14 and 12. She is also a songwriter, musician and certified public accountant.

Recently, Ort released two CDs, "I Believe" and "Come to the Well," a collection of songs she wrote. David C. Smith, music director at St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne and a producer, recorded the music in his Fort Wayne studio.

Ort balances her many responsibilities so that she can always follow where God wants to lead her. Ort says time for prayer can be difficult to carve out; but she finds it so life-directing that daily Mass and prayer must begin her day. She spends time reading the Bible. The rosary might not be recited all at once on hectic days, but perhaps a decade or two is recited with the children on the way to school and the rest before the day's end as spare time permits.

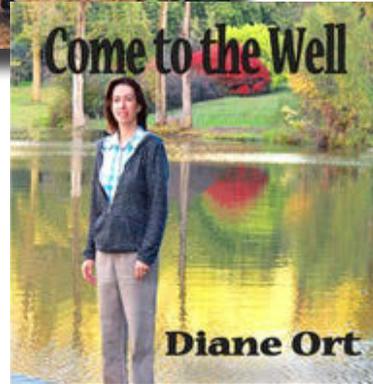
After her mother died, Ort began to pray the rosary often. When her young niece died suddenly two years later in 2003, she asked the Blessed Mother to give her the grace to pray the rosary every day. Ort's life story contains several examples of how praying the rosary daily transformed her life.

Shortly after making that com-

mitment to the Blessed Mother, the gloves of St. Gianna Beretta Molla, a pro-life saint, physician and mother were on display at St. Joseph Parish, Garrett. Ort was not familiar with the use of such relics at the time, but was asked to hand out prayer cards of the saint.

She learned that if the gloves of the saint were placed at the site of a person's pain, the pain was reported to sometimes disappear. Ort, who had suffered from sciatica that made her right side go limp before and after the birth of their youngest child, touched her side with the gloves. Later that night she lifted her baby Trevor from his crib without pain and the pain has not returned. Ort received her healing on Nov. 1, All Saint's Day. The feast day of St. Gianna Beretta Molla is April 28, which is also Trevor's birthday.

Late last school year, the Orts learned that St. Joseph's would no longer offer a seventh- and eighth-grade class. While the family preferred to remain dedicated to one parish, someone suggested they contact St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, where they found that there were openings in the two grades that their sons were to be enrolled. The Orts maintain a dual membership at both parishes so that their children continue to receive a Catholic education and Diane can continue with her music ministry at St. Joseph's.



Ort came to understand that the encounter with the relics and the openings at St. Vincent de Paul School

were not mere coincidences. They were gifts from God.

"When God gives you gifts and the opportunity to share them, how can you do anything else, but say 'Yes,'" she exclaims.

Though Ort was once a maker of lists, she admits that it is difficult for the "accountant in her" not to have an itinerary. She still writes important appointments down on the calendar, but does not want to be so structured that she cannot listen and wait upon God's direction for her.

Ort has been playing the guitar since she was young, never thinking that she would play for anyone other than her family and friends. If she would not have dabbled with her guitar and played the organ at church, she says she would not have become a songwriter as many of her songs arose from her guitar and organ playing skills.

Her first song, "Surrounded by the Angels," came to her while praying at her mother's and niece's gravesites eight and six years respectively after their deaths. Ort suddenly found herself singing the melody and went home to write all of the lyrics to the song the next day.

"I received the song inspirations from God. I actually never tried to write these songs," she said. "The song inspirations would come to me and then I would work to complete them into an entire song. Usually I would get the melody and lyrics for the refrain and then I would pray about what it was saying and often I would turn to the Bible for the rest of the words."

Ort's favorite prayer, repeated 10 times, says it all, "O Jesus, I surrender myself to You. Take care of everything."



DEB WAGNER

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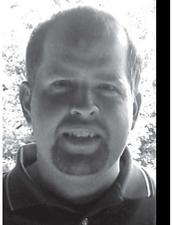
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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**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.

### Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Good Help Shrine

Fort Wayne — A pilgrimage to Our Lady of Help Shrine in Champion, Wisconsin, will be Aug. 14 and 15. Luxury coach transportation is \$200/260 and includes hotel and dinner. Contact Ann Renier 260-417-6196.

### Refugee Day celebration planned

Fort Wayne — The Refugee Services Department at Catholic Charities will have a World Refugee Day celebration on June 19, from 1-3 p.m., to celebrate the accomplishments of refugees and to show appreciation for community support. Join staff and visitors at the Archbishop Catholic Noll Center, 915 S. Clinton St. Ethnic food, cultural dances, music, songs and stories will be offered. Donations (books, toiletries, hygiene items, paper towel, etc.) will be collected at the event.

### Pancake breakfasts planned for third Sundays

Plymouth — The Knights of Columbus Council 1975, 901 E. Jefferson St., will have a pancake breakfast on Sunday, June 21, from 8-11:15 a.m. Adults \$5, children age 10 and under \$2.

Proceeds this month benefit Hello Gorgeous. For information call 574-936-5773.

### Knights plan spaghetti dinner

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a spaghetti dinner on Wednesday, June 17, from 5-6:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit Fifth Freedom.

### Mother of Mercy Center celebrates with upcoming house warming

Rome City — The Mother of Mercy Foundation is hosting a kickoff house warming celebration on Saturday, June 13, from 6-8 p.m. in Rome City at 2730 E. Northport Rd. The event will include food, fellowship and tours of phase one renovations for the Our Lady, Mother of Mercy Center. The evening will conclude with prayer, including a rosary, in the chapel. The Mother of Mercy Foundation is set to have a special announcement.

### Rosary for marriage offered

Warsaw — Sacred Heart Church will offer a rosary for traditional marriage on Saturday, June 13, at noon at the Sacred Heart School playground. Contact Carole Jaroch at 574-267-5403 for details.

### Summer camps planned at Bishop Luers High School

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will host athletic and performing arts camps during the summer. Camps are being offered for: football lineman — June 22-25; dance — June 24-26; volleyball — July 6-7; girls' basketball — July 13-16; football — July 20-23; show choir — Aug. 4-7. All registration forms and camp details are available at [www.bishopluers.org](http://www.bishopluers.org).

### Central Catholic plans all alumni reunion

Fort Wayne — The Central Catholic High School Alumni Association will have an all alumni reunion Saturday, June 20, from 4 p.m. to ? at the Classic Catering and Event Center, 4832 Hillegas Rd. Contact Leanne at 260-485-0290 for reservation form due by June 12. Tickets are \$22 per person.

### Understand Islam from a Catholic perspective

Mishawaka — Father Glenn Kohrman, pastor of Holy Family Parish, will offer a talk Sunday, June 14, on "Islam, Christianity and the Crusades," from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The event is sponsored by Rekindle the Fire.

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### Mishawaka

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St. Bavo

Gregory J. Ganser, 65,  
St. Joseph

### New Haven

Rosetta J. Conroy, 74,  
St. John the Baptist

### Notre Dame

Robert P. Sedlack Jr., 47,  
Basilica of the Sacred Heart

### South Bend

Kim Alan Goodreau,  
61, St. Jude

Monica Teresita Bueno,  
33, St. Matthew

Martin J. King, 55,  
Our Lady of Hungary

Marcia A. Swanson, 78,  
St. Joseph

Mary A. Chmielowiec,  
84, Corpus Christi

Adeline Phyllis Galvas,  
91, Little Flower

Shakayla L. Litka, 12,  
St. Hedwig

Martha Salazar, 66,  
St. Adalbert

Giuseppe Peppinuzzo  
Agostino, 92,  
Holy Cross

Henrietta E. Marosz, 91,  
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For more information please contact Mike Obergfell at 260-484-4611 or [mobergfell@stjudefw.org](mailto:mobergfell@stjudefw.org).



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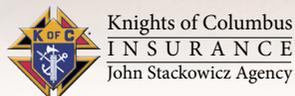
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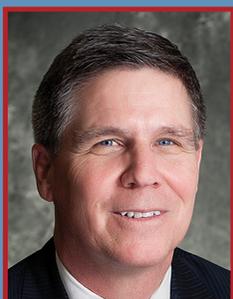
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