All creation sings God’s praise
Pope Francis releases encyclical, ‘Laudato Si’

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The earth, which was created to support life and give praise to God, is crying out with pain because human activity is destroying it, Pope Francis says in his long-awaited encyclical, “Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home.”

All who believe in God and all people of good will have an obligation to take steps to mitigate climate change, clean the land and the seas, and start treating all of creation — including poor people — with respect and concern, he says in the document released at the Vatican June 18.

A lack of respect for creation is a lack of respect for God who created all that exists, the pope says. In fact, he continues, a person cannot claim to respect nature while supporting abortion, nor can one claim to be pro-life without a commitment to reversing damage to the environment.

With unusually blunt language for a papal document, the pope decries centuries of exploiting the earth, exploiting other people and acting as if the point of human life is to buy and consume as much as possible.

“The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth,” the pope writes in the document.

BY CINDY WOODEN

A sign greets visitors to the meditation garden at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona, in this October 2014 photo. Pope Francis’ long-anticipated encyclical on the environment was released at the Vatican June 18.

St. Patrick Parish observes 125 years of blending communities

FORT WAYNE — The notes of “Amazing Grace” pealed forth from pipers accompanied by a lone drummer as the colorful Fort Wayne Pipe and Drum Brigade preceded Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and six concelebrating priests down the center aisle of St. Patrick Church in Fort Wayne prior to a trilingual Mass to celebrate a special anniversary. The packed church included the unique congregational make up of Anglo, Vietnamese and Hispanic parishioners plus old friends and other visitors to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the parish.

Speaking in English and Spanish, Bishop Rhoades paused, while his homily was then translated in Vietnamese by St. Patrick’s pastor, Divine Word Missionary Father Andrew Thu Pham.

As our Savior did, Bishop Rhoades used the parable of the tiny mustard seed to dramatize the beginning of God’s Kingdom on Earth, the beginning of the Church, originating with Jesus and a small band of followers and developing into an immense tree with people of every race, nation and language all over the world, growth that “took place due to God’s hidden power, like that hidden in a seed,” Bishop Rhoades said.

“The same can be said about St. Patrick Parish,” Bishop Rhoades added. “It began 125 years ago with several dozen Catholic families, mostly Irish Americans, here on the growing south side of Fort Wayne. It grew into one of the largest parishes in our diocese. And, even today, it is like a big tree with people of different ethnic backgrounds and languages. St. Patrick is a beautiful parish that includes Anglo, Latino and Vietnamese faithful, all united as one Body in Christ.”

The bishop related how true faith, authentic faith, expresses itself through action, through acts of love.

“For 125 years, the people of St. Patrick Parish have walked by faith,” Bishop Rhoades said. “They have been led by wonderful and committed priests, beginning with...”

BY MARK WEBER

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The pope’s call to care for our common home

I was on retreat with our priests at Pokagon State Park when the new encyclical of Pope Francis was released. It is entitled Laudato Si: On Care For Our Common Home. The title comes from the Canticle of the Sun, by Saint Francis of Assisi. Saint Francis praises God our Creator for the sun, the moon, the earth, and all creation. I read the encyclical surrounded by the beauty of the state park: the lake, the trees, the wildlife, and plants. It was a perfect locale to reflect on a document about the environment.

I encourage everyone to read this important encyclical letter of our Holy Father. It has captured the world’s attention, as well it should, since it deals with matters very important for the present and the future of humanity. Pope Francis expresses his grave concern about the harm that has been inflicted upon the earth by “our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her.” He writes about the deterioration of the global environment. Building on the teaching of his predecessors, Pope Saint John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Francis brings new urgency to the need to respect the natural environment and to protect our common home. The Holy Father is appealing to everyone, not just Catholics, to address the immense challenge of preserving our planet for future generations.

I don’t know how often we have considered the issue of ecology from the perspective of our faith, yet it is an integral part of our faith. We profess that God is the Creator of the heavens and the earth. Our responsibility toward our Creator includes our stewardship of nature and creation. Pope Francis writes prophetically: “We are not God. The earth was here before us and it has been given to us.” The Pope explains that the Genesis account of man’s dominion over the earth does not mean domination. He writes: “we must forcefully reject the notion that our being created in God’s image and given dominion over the earth justifies absolute mastery over nature and its creatures.”

Pope Francis reminds us of the words of the book of Genesis: “The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it (2:15).” The Holy Father writes: “‘Tilling’ refers to cultivating, ploughing or working, while ‘keeping’ means caring, protecting, overseeing and preserving. This implies a relationship of mutual responsibility between human beings and nature. Each community can take from the bounty of the earth whatever it needs for subsistence, but it also has the duty to protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations.”

Our responsibility for the care of the earth is part of our faith. We are to use the goods of the earth responsibly. We should be deeply concerned about the depletion of the natural resources of the earth, air and water pollution, and loss of biodiversity. We should be concerned about the harmful effects of global warming, which most scientists attribute largely to greenhouse gases. Pope Francis writes: “Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day.”

We have a moral responsibility toward creation, a responsibility we must assert in the public sphere. This is about protecting God’s creation: the earth, water, and air. This is also about protecting human life, what the Popes have called “human ecology.” The deterioration of nature impacts human life and well-being. Our duties toward the environment are linked to our duties toward the human person. Pope Francis writes: “Human beings too are creatures of this world, enjoying a right to life and happiness, and endowed with unique dignity. So we cannot fail to consider the effects on people’s lives of environmental deterioration, current models of development and the throwaway culture.”

The Pope highlights how those most harmed by environmental degradation are the poor.

A ChristiAN PrAYER in UniOn with CreAtion

O Lord, seize us with your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, to pray for the coming of your Kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty. Praise be to you! Amen

— Pope Francis, Laudato Si’

LAUDATO SI’
St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish celebrates dedication of new altar

BY TIM JOHNSON

BRISTOL — The parishioners of St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish in Bristol took to heart the words of 1 Corinthians, “Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord,” as Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades dedicated the new altar and blessed new altar furnishings on Saturday, June 20.

It is appropriate then, Bishop Rhoades explained, “since we too have come rejoicing to this house of the Lord for the dedication of this new altar. This church is the house of the Lord because here the Lord is present in the Blessed Sacrament. And in this church one is reminded that we are living stones from which the Lord Jesus builds the altar.”

Father Robert Van Kempen, pastor of St. Mary of the Annunciation, told Today’s Catholic, when he was assigned to the parish in 2004, he had hoped to replace the altar and altar furnishings.

“When I talked with Bryan Finkelstein, the music director at St. Mary’s at the time, he said he would be interested in replacing the altar,” Father Van Kempen said. “With a new altar in mind, Brian MacMichael (director of the Office of Worship) went to the Sacred Art and Architecture Committee came to St. Mary’s, and we discussed the plans for the new furniture. We talked about the new altar, tabernacle stand, ambo and chairs.”

Finkelstein created all the furniture but the chairs, which were constructed locally by an Amish craftsman. The carpeting in the sanctuary was also replaced with new flooring.

The altar is considered the center and focal point of every Catholic church, Bishop Rhoades explained. Bishop Rhoades related in his homily, “From the earliest times, Christians erected permanent altars for the celebration of the memorial of the Lord, the mystery of the Eucharist. By its very nature, the altar is a place of sacrifice, so on it the sacrifice of the cross is perpetuated in mystery throughout the ages until Christ comes again. It is also a banquet table, a table at which God’s children assemble to pray in this church, according to ancient writers, are the living stones from which the Lord Jesus builds the altar.”

Father Van Kempen said, “This celebration is also a reason for our joy, for we too have come rejoicing to this house of the Lord.”

“The altar thus has great dignity. It is the table of the Lord and it signifies that what we do at Villa of the Woods, that’s a decision that is made further on during the transition and beyond.”

Bishop Rhoades, in his homily, “This celebration is also a cause for joy for us since we too understand the meaning of the altar and its dignity and the abundant graces we receive from the great gift of the Eucharist celebrated on it.”

In the Gospel reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, “for passing out over 50,000 pocket angels, gifted the relic to Father Van Kempen. Lu and her late-husband, Buddy, joined the Church in July of 2000. Shortly thereafter, they visited Rome with a friend from South Bend who was acquainted with an order of nuns that took care of relics. Years later, when Buddy became ill, the South Bend friend gave Buddy a relic of St. Jude with the paperwork declaring authenticity. After Buddy’s death, Lu gifted the relic to Father Van Kempen.

“I offered this (relic) to the church so the altar would have a first class relic,” Father Van Kempen said.

After placing the relic, Bishop Rhoades pored on the altar sacred Chrism, “the same oil that is used at Baptisms, Confirmations and Ordinations,” the bishop noted in his homily, and then anointed the altar top.

After the incensation of the altar, the candles were lit for the lighting of the altar and the altar was prepared for the celebration of the Eucharist. Bishop Rhoades explained in his homily, “This celebration is also a cause for joy for us since we too understand the meaning of the altar and its dignity and the abundant graces we receive from the great gift of the Eucharist celebrated on it.”

An attentive congregation watches Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades anoint the new altar with Chrism oil at St. Mary of the Annunciation Church in Bristol on June 20.

An attentive congregation watches Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades anoint the new altar with Chrism oil at St. Mary of the Annunciation Church in Bristol on June 20.

PHOTOS BY KEVIN HAGGENJOS
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend hosted a celebration June 19 at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne for World Refugee Day. The celebration offered ethnic food, music, dance and talks from community leaders involved with refugee resettlement and refugees themselves who shared their stories. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops states that refugees are individuals who have fled their countries of origin and who meet the United Nations’ criteria of having a “well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion.” Each year the President of the United States authorizes the admission of a certain number of refugees into the country. Catholic Charities’ Refugee Resettlement Director Nyein Chan reports that Catholic Charities assisted 278 refugees, mostly from Myanmar (Burma) in Fort Wayne from June 20, 2014 to June of 2015. Above, dancers perform a Karen dance celebrating the preparation of a meal consisting of fish paste, hot peppers and onions.
NOTRE DAME — Christians are being persecuted today more than members of any other faith, and the University of Notre Dame’s Center for Civil and Human Rights has launched a project to study how various Christian communities respond to persecution, which ranges from harassment to death.

Titled “Under Caesar’s Sword,” the three-year global research project has enlisted 15 of the world’s leading scholars of Christianity to study 100 beleaguered Christian communities in 30 countries, including China, Indonesia, Nigeria, Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Pakistan and India.

Most of those scholars currently are on the ground in the countries where travel is possible. If visiting an area is too dangerous, the researcher will gather information through contacts in those countries, by interviewing Christians who have lived in the persecutions, and by working with human rights organizations with knowledge of the situation in a particular place.

The scholars then will prepare their findings to be discussed at a major international conference in Rome Dec. 10-12, on the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council’s declaration on religious freedom, “Dignitatis Humane.”

Notre Dame Professor Daniel Philpott conceived the idea for the project when he became director of Notre Dame’s Center for Civil and Human Rights in January of 2014. Philpott is a fellow of the university’s Kellogg Institute for International Studies and a concurrent professor in the law school.

Philpott told Today’s Catholic that he wanted the center to be involved in research on global religious freedom, and he felt more attention needed to be paid to the persecution of Christians, for people in the Western World are not adequately aware of this persecution.

He noted that Pope Francis has spoken frequently about persecution of Christians, and he cited the pope’s Easter Monday address in which the pope asked the international community not to be “silent and inactive” in the face of the “unacceptable crime” of persecuting Christians.

While some good books had been written on the topic, Philpott said, nobody had yet studied the whole range of how Christian communities respond to persecution. That response could be varied, like the non-violent protests in Poland led by Karol Wojtyla, the future Pope John Paul II; or complex diplomacy, as used by Christian churches in China; or simply going the persecutors, as have the surviving Christians from Iraq.

“A lot of Christian communities are persecuted but very isolated,” Philpott said, “and if they had a broader global understanding of the way that other Christian communities responded, that may give them some inspiration and some vision, as well.”

“Also, it speaks to the part of the world that wants to be in solidarity with persecuted Christians, that might want to help them, assist them, speak on their behalf. If they can know how Christian communities respond and how they might respond, they would be better able to support these communities.”

Philpott already had a close collaboration with the Religious Freedom Project at the Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs at Georgetown University. The two centers teamed up on the project and won a $1.1 million grant from the Templeton Religion Trust to carry out the research. They procured another $300,000 from smaller sources.

The research scholars, all experts in countries they study, will try to answer three questions. The first is: “What strategies do Christian communities adopt in response to persecution?”

Communities could use more than one strategy, or adapt their strategies over time, depending on circumstances. The second question is “Why were these responses chosen?”

Answers to this question could include factors like a community’s beliefs about justice, legitimate authority and the relationship of the state to religion.

The third question is: “What outcomes have Christian communities’ responses to repression brought about?” Philpott hopes the answers to this question will assist persecuted churches as well as their outside supporters to know what strategies would work best for their particular circumstances.

“We’re looking at having this kind of fresh, first-hand, systematic, comparative information,” Philpott said. “It will be the first global, systematic research on what Christian communities do when they are persecuted.”

An important part of the three-year project is getting the results of the research disseminated, so several methods have been planned to do this. The first is the December conference in Rome, at which the scholars will present their findings publicly for the first time. Philpott plans that several high-level Church people from around the world will attend and speak about their own regions to give a global perspective to the meeting.

Other methods planned for disseminating the research results include an easily accessible, human rights report of the findings to be translated into four languages and distributed around the world and be made available on the Internet; an edited volume of scholarly essays in which the researchers present their findings in their full academic rigor; a documentary film that will include interviews with Christians in persecuted areas; and the development of curricula for schools and churches to educate people on the topic.

Questions about the Rome conference or other aspects of the project may be directed to the project manager Zbiera Vieneau at zvieneau@nd.edu.
While acknowledging science is not the Catholic Church’s area of expertise, Pope Francis says “a very solid scientific consensus” points to global warming and indicates “human activity” has seriously contributed to it, threatening the planet and all life on it.

Situating ecology firmly within Catholic social teaching, Pope Francis not only insists that wealthier nations — who contributed more to despoiling the earth — must bear more of the costs of remediating the damage, he also calls for their solidarity with the poorest of the earth. He urges generosity in transferring clean technology, protecting small farms, opening access to markets and protecting people’s jobs.

Quoting St. John Paul II and a constant theme of the Church’s social doctrine, Pope Francis says the Church recognizes the "legitimate right" to private property, but that right is never "absolute or inviolable," since the goods of the earth were created to benefit all.

Regarding pollution and environmental destruction in general, he says it is important to acknowledge “the human origins of the ecological crisis”, and while ecology is not only a religious concern, those who believe in God should be especially passionate on the subject because they profess the divine origin of all creation.

Pope Francis singles out for special praise Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, who has made environmental theology a key topic of his research and teaching since the early 1990s. Before the encyclical’s release, the pope told a group of priests that he had asked the patriarch to join him for the public presentation of the encyclical, but the patriarch had a scheduling conflict and so sent one of his top theologians, Metropolitan John of Pergamon.

People are feeling themselves, Pope Francis says in the document, if they think “things do not look that serious, and the planet could continue as it is for some time.” Such people in all honesty are giving themselves permission to carry on with their current lifestyles and habits; their attitude is “self-destructive,” he says.

In large sections of the encyclical, Pope Francis’ language is poetic, echoing the tone of St. Francis of Assisi’s “Canticle of the Creatures,” which is the source of the “laudato si’” (praise you) in the encyclical’s title. He quotes a large section of the hymn of praise in a section on the place of each creature in the harmony of creation. The canticle is most famous for its references to “Brother Sun,” “Sister Moon” and “our sister, Mother Earth.”

But, the pope says, “sister earth” is crying out, “pleading that we take another course” marked by healing and protecting the earth and all its inhabitants.

While Christians cannot “put all living beings on the same level nor ... deprive human beings of their unique worth and the tremendous responsibility it entails,” St. Francis’ hymn expresses the truth that God is creator of all things, that every part of creation speaks of God’s love and power and that every created being is part of interdependent whole, the pope writes.

“Everything is related,” the pope says, “and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of His creatures and which, also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.”

In the document, Pope Francis calls on national governments and the leaders of international institutions to be serious and courageous in adopting strict measures to slow and reverse global warming, protect the rain forests and ensure the availability of clean water for all. Courage will be needed, he says, to adopt policies that initially may slow the pace of economic growth, but which will be farsighted in ensuring a future for their voters, their voters’ grandchildren and all humanity.

“We know that technology based on the use of highly polluting fossil fuels — especially coal, but also oil and, to a lesser degree, gas — needs to be progressively replaced without delay,” he says.

But he also calls on every Catholic and all people of good will to do their part by, for example, using only non-polluting detergents, recycling paper, using public transportation and putting on a sweater instead of raising the heat in the winter.

And he urges Catholics to return to the practice of saying grace before meals, a habit that reminds them regularly that the food they are about to eat is a gift that comes from the earth and from God.

At the end of the document, Pope Francis offers two prayers he composed himself: “A Prayer for Our Earth” and “A Christian Prayer in Union with Creation.”

The first prayer includes asking God to “bring healing to our lives that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.”

The second prayer includes the petition, “O Lord, seize us with Your power and light, help us to protect all life, to prepare for a better future, for the coming of Your kingdom of justice, peace, love and beauty.”

In the encyclical, Pope Francis urges Catholics to cultivate simplicity; it is good for the soul and for the planet, he says. “A constant flood of new consumer goods can baffle the heart and prevent us from cherishing each thing and each moment,” the pope writes.

The encyclical presents the vision of an “integral ecology” that highlights not only the interconnectedness of all created life, but recognizes how political, economic, social and religious values and decisions are interrelated and impact the way people live with one another on the planet and use its resources.

“A sense of deep communion with the rest of nature cannot be real if our hearts lack tenderness, compassion and concern for our fellow human beings,” Pope Francis insists.

For example, he says, “it is clearly inconsistent to combat trafficking in endangered species while remaining completely indifferent to human trafficking, unconcerned about the poor, or undertaking to destroy another human being deemed unwanted.”

“Everything is connected,” the pope writes. “Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love for our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society.”

Print copies of “Laudato Si’” in Origins, CNS Documentary Service, will be available for shipping June 22. To order individual copies for $8, call 202-541-3290. Bulk discounts apply.

*The English edition of Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment is pictured during a news conference at the Vatican June 18. The encyclical is titled, “Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home.” At left is Cardinal Peter Turkson, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.*

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**LAUDATO SI’**

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

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**CATHOLIC TEACHING ON THE ENVIRONMENT AT A GLANCE**

- Human life and dignity must remain at the forefront of any consideration of environmental questions.
- Stewardship is the appropriate model for human care for the environment.
- Obligations to future generations must influence environmental decision-making.
- The right to private property and the mandate to use property for the common good must both be respected in environmental policies.
- Environmental concerns are also moral concerns which require radical rethinking of the consumer culture.
Patriotic concert set July 1
FORT WAYNE — The Immaculate Conception Cathedral Choir will present their annual patriotic concert, Wednesday, July 1, at 7 p.m. The program this year will present works of Randall Thompson, as well as American composers René Clausen and Michael John Trotta, and the Wilhousky arrangement of the “Battle Hymn of the Republic.” Those gathered will sing an armed forces salute, continuing the tradition of audience members who have served in the military standing when their anthem is played.

Once again, the cathedral will feature the Farmland Jazz Band. This local group performs improvisational jazz, drawing on the repertoires of various styles including New Orleans and Dixieland.

The Cathedral Choir is under the direction of cathedral musician Michael Dulac with accompanist Kathy Miller and the Cathedral Brass Ensemble. As always there is free parking in the cathedral lots, free admission and free ice cream on the Cathedral Plaza following the concert. For more information call the cathedral at 260-424-1485.

St. Jude team takes 11th place at DI global finals
FORT WAYNE — St. Jude’s team Shenanigan placed 11th over 41 teams that competed in their Fine Arts Challenge and Level at the Destination Imagination Global Finals held in Tennessee where they competed against teams from Poland, South Korea, China, Qatar and numerous teams from all over the United States.

The Fort Wayne St. Jude team members enjoyed the activities offered, including the Expo, NASA Space Camp workshops, Journey to Mars interactive exhibit, sound effects workshop, script and songwriting workshop, electricity and circuits workshop and pin trading, among others.

Bishop Luers students attend IHSAA Leadership Conference

These students represent the best of both worlds — students with exuberant, inclusive personalities, outstanding moral character, demonstrated leadership in extracurricular activities (at Bishop Luers and/or in the greater Fort Wayne community) who are currently being accepted by their head coach with approval from the athletic director and principal.

While at the Student Leadership Conference, individuals had the opportunity to hear from more than 40 speakers on topics such as leadership, sportsmanship, commitment and team building. The Bishop Luers student-athletes interacted with fellow athletes from across the state of Indiana and brought newfound information back to share with their teammates. More than 1,000 students and 110 schools attended this conference every year.

Bail Scholarship recipients named
FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School alumus, Rick Ball, Class of 1973, has established the Philip G. Bail Sr. and Katherine D. Bail Ambassador Scholarships to honor his parents. The merit-based scholarship is awarded to a male and female junior student who possesses exuberant, inclusive personalities, outstanding moral character, demonstrated leadership in extracurricular activities (at Bishop Luers and/or in the greater Fort Wayne community) who and who best exemplifies demonstrated excellence in academic performance, intellectual curiosity and academic inquisitiveness. These students represent the best of Bishop Luers. Grace Everett and Michael Palmer are the recipients for 2014-2015. These two juniors were recently awarded $3,000 each to use towards their senior tuition.

Don and Lou Rayne Scheiber Family Scholarships awarded
HUNTINGTON — The Huntington County Community Foundation has announced that Lucas Brown, Anastasia Eckert, Matthew Hunt, Courtney Scher and Corrine Zay have been awarded 2015 Donald E. and Lou Rayne Scheiber Catholic Education scholarships.

Brown, a graduating senior from Canterbury High School, will be attending Carleton College majoring in computer science. He is the son of Yvonne and Jeffrey Brown of Huntington.

Eckert, a graduating senior from Huntington North High School, will be attending Ohio State University majoring in music education. She is the daughter of Todd and workout.

Zay, a 2015 graduate of Bishop Luers High School, will be attending Ave Maria University in Florida majoring in nursing with a minor in politics. She is the daughter of Cindy and Andy Zay.

The Scheiber Huntington Catholic School Fund, which was created in 1997 by Donald E. and Lou Rayne Scheiber, was modified in 2012 and renamed to allow also for the awarding of scholarships. This new purpose is to promote educational opportunities for Huntington County students who are members of three Catholic parishes: St. Mary, St. Joseph, Roanoke, and St. Peter and Paul. For more information visit www.huntingtoncfcf.org.

John Joseph Sigstein Foundation grant deadline July 1
HUNTINGTON — The deadline for applying for 2015 grants from the John Joseph Sigstein Foundation is July 1.

From their founding in 1922 by Father John Joseph Sigstein, Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters have been dedicated to living the mission of Jesus. They proclaim the Word of God, foster justice, stand in solidarity with those living in poverty and oppression, and promote the development of leaders. The John Joseph Sigstein Foundation was created to offer grants to organizations that will extend their approach to mission.

The grant process for 2015 is underway and applications are currently being accepted. Organizations applying for a grant must have 501(c) (3), or equivalent, status and be geared toward effecting systemic change.

Characteristics on which programs eligibility for funding will be judged include: promoting justice for those living in poverty and oppression; empowering persons to contribute to a more just and peaceful society; protecting and sustaining the environment, God’s creation; and contributing to the well-being of families.

Grant applications are available for download at www.olvm.org/jsf-foundation. For more information, check the website or contact the foundation by email at jsf-foundation@olvm.org, or by regular mail at John Joseph Sigstein Foundation, P.O. Box 109, Huntington, IN 46750-0109.

Mayo scholarships from Knights, Nun Run funds
HUNTINGTON — Corinne Zay, Anastasia Eckert and Olivia Woolard have been awarded Rob Mayo scholarships funded by the Huntington Council of the Knights of Columbus and the Nun Run and Brother Boogie.

Zay, a 2015 graduate of Bishop Luers High School, is the daughter of Anna and Bob Zay, of Huntington. She plans to study nursing and politics at Ave Maria University in Ave Maria, Florida.

Eckert is the daughter of Todd and Maria Eckert of Huntington and a 2015 graduate of Huntington North High School. She plans to attend Ohio State University to study pre-veterinary medicine.

Woolard, a 2015 graduate of Huntington North High School, is the daughter of Jason and Angela Woolard. She plans to study music education at Ball State University.

The three scholarships totaled $1,250 each. They are presented in memory of Rob Mayo, who served as property manager of St. Felix oratory in Huntington, and as leader of the Catholics In Action youth group until his death in 2012.

Students who graduated from an accredited high school in 2015 and plan to attend an accredited public or private university this fall were eligible to apply.
Flag football game offers life-changing impact at St. Augustine Parish

By Lisa Kochanowski

South Bend — It started as a small Nerf ball tradition pulled from Deacon Mel Tardy’s trunk after youth ministry classes and has become a life-changing tradition for males — young and old — in Michiana. A great youth ministry class session meant the young boys could get the football out and play on the church field. As the boys became teens, the interest in playing football continued and a tradition was born.

On Father’s Day this year — and for the past seven years — the St. Augustine Parish Youth Ministry Program hosted a boys vs. men Father’s Day flag football game with the goal of raising funds for the youth ministry, creating fellowship among generations, giving youth guidance and having some pigskin fun.

The mission of St. Augustine Youth Ministry is to serve the needs of youth and their families within the parish and neighborhood; to involve youth in Church life; to develop youth leaders; to evangelize and catechize interested youth; to advocate for youth; to create awareness of Catholic opportunities and resources for youth; to help families develop youth into responsible, Christian adults, according to Deacon Mel Tardy, the St. Augustine youth minister.

The Father’s Day football game started as a service project for the first youth RCIA class in 2007. The youth became involved in the parish via neighborhood outreach activities such as Summer Movie Night, Monthly Teen Ministry and Wednesday Youth Ministry.

“This led several of them to begin attending Mass, and that culminated into a large RCIA class of youth/teens,” Deacon Tardy said.

As they became older, they created their own activities, such as First Friday teen game night. But the annual football game is probably their favorite event, especially since a rivalry has developed between the boys (now teens) and the adult men.

Deacon Tardy coaches the men’s team, and the deacon’s son, Trevor Doakes, coaches the boys’ team. Teams get in about eight practices before the big game, and attendance at practice is mandatory to play in the game. Each player gets a T-shirt with the logo St. Augustine’s “Crew Saders” on the front and their name on the back. The logo, created by the kids seven years ago, remains the same each year except for a T-shirt color change each year.

The game was held at Father Walter Bly Field at Leighton Stadium at Saint Joseph High School. Tickets sold for $5 each and included admission, a hot dog, drink and a cookie. Each year the group gets an event sponsor, and this year’s event sponsor was the DeB Kids Agency.

“We started doing the game on Father’s Day because many of the young men don’t have positive relationships with their fathers. So this provides a positive memory for them on Father’s Day,” Deacon Tardy noted. “They feel good that some family members come out to watch them play. Roughly half of the young men are parishioners, but we allow them to invite friends to play too. This makes it more fun for them, plus some of their friends start getting involved in youth ministry.”

Most of the boys from that first RCIA class still play; a few are young adults now,” Deacon Tardy said. “Even though some drift away from Church during the year, they always start coming back for football practice and the game. The youngest participant this year is nine, so we have a mix of ages.”

“It’s the gift that keeps on giving,” Deacon Tardy said. “The game brings them back to Church each year and the game brings in new youth and adults each year.”

Deacon Tardy appreciates the chance to have one-on-one time with kids through this program. Car rides to practice offer a chance to talk about future goals and plans, ways to overcome adversity and ways to integrate God into daily life.

“We hope they realize they can have fun through Church,” the deacon said. “We pray as community at every practice about what concerns them. We talk about life skills that will help them.”

The main theme of this year’s event was “End the Violence.” Deacon Tardy said the kids witness violence all the time. Some have been bullied at school or home. The program tries to encourage kids to keep their grades up so they can get involved in organized sports.

“One challenge we have with the game is that many of their fathers aren’t around to play in the game so we recruit positive men from the parish, from Notre Dame, through word of mouth. We appreciate these men so much,” Deacon Tardy said. “I feel sure they don’t have their kids in this game.”

The boys and men held some joint practices this year to develop interaction. Deacon Tardy said, “We hope it breaks down generational divides so they can develop positive relationships with men.”

And the deacon hopes the event inspires more men to get involved as mentors and youth ministers. “Someone who can throw footballs with young men, but then also pray with them and encourage them is such a positive moment,” he said.

“We need to get youth away from violence and into relationships with God and the Church,” Deacon Tardy advised. “The only way to do this through creative program alternatives and by developing relationships with our youth and their families.”

The first game was spent in the afternoon after a rainy morning. Visitors were asked to bring chairs and to bring blankets. The soggy field and nothing filled Deacon Tardy’s heart more than seeing a sideline full of people cheering on the teams.

“Strong support is what keeps the kids coming back each year to be part of such a wonderful moment,” Deacon Tardy noted.

“We hope it boosts their self-esteem, fosters community,” he said, “let’s them know they can make a difference and reinforces the good values that are already inherent within each of them.”

“We hope this becomes a positive Father’s Day memory that encourages them later in life to spend time with their sons (and other people’s sons) when they become fathers,” concluded Deacon Tardy.

The group huddles before scrimmage in preparation for the Boys vs. Men Father’s Day Flag Football Game sponsored by the St. Augustine Parish, South Bend, youth ministry.

For them, we created several new programs that benefited the parish, such as a youth choir and an African drum group,” Deacon Tardy said. “As they became older, they created their own activities, especially since a rivalry has developed between the boys (now teens) and the adult men.”

Deacon Tardy coaches the men’s team, and the deacon’s son, Trevor Doakes, coaches the boys’ team. Teams get in about eight practices before the big game, and attendance at practice is mandatory to play in the game. Each player gets a T-shirt with the logo St. Augustine’s “Crew Saders” on the front and their name on the back. The logo, created by the kids seven years ago, remains the same each year except for a T-shirt color change each year.

The group huddles before scrimmage in preparation for the Boys vs. Men Father’s Day Flag Football Game sponsored by the St. Augustine Parish, South Bend, youth ministry.

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Coach Trevor Doakes, left, and player James Taylor go over a running route. James Taylor has been part of the game all seven years.

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To Honor the 58th Anniversary of His Death
St. Bonaventure Monastery, 1780 Mt. Elliott, Detroit MI 48207
BY KAY OZAD

FORT WAYNE — A new ministry at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne is bringing married couples together for fun and fellowship. A simple ministry to start and maintain, said founder Cindy Black, SALT — Savoring A Lifetime Together, is meant to season the marriages of the couples that attend. “SALT is a preservative. So our hope is that these date nights will help preserve these marriages, so that as couples we can be salt and light to the world,” said Black.

Couples married for any length of time are welcome to the bimonthly events at St. Vincent’s Life Center. Free childcare, a necessary service for some who may otherwise be unable to attend, is provided by teens of the parish and held at a different site on the church campus. Each event brings the couples together for food and beverages, a themed talk presented by a variety of speakers, table sharing with discussion questions and built-in couples’ face-to-face time for personal sharing.

“We want these date nights to be focused on the couples, not the kids,” said Black. The evening always concludes with a prayer. Inspired by a radio show illustrating the need for marriage support, and with defense of marriage in the news, Black began to form the idea of a mission for her church. Then, she said, on the feast of the Holy Family in 2014, Father Andrew Budzinski, then parochial vicar of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, who supports fostering holy marriage during his homily asked newly married and long-time married couples to stand, and exhorted the congregation to find ways to help couples get from their newlywed days to celebrating many years of marriage.

“Taking his words to heart, Black wrote a proposal for the SALT ministry that was immediately approved by Father Dan Scheidt, pastor of St. Vincent, and a bulletin ad was published calling for assistance. ‘I didn’t know what to expect,’ Black said, and was amazed when seven creative couples stepped forward, with two more couples joining later, who have settled into specific roles that utilize each skill and talent they have to offer.

The SALT core team has hosted three couples’ events to date with plans for many more to come, with some proposed themes of communication, intimacy and the five love languages. Father Scheidt introduced the concept of SALT at the first event that drew in 45 couples with marriages ranging from one to 40 years. At the conclusion of the evening, each couple was given a jar of salt blessed by their pastor to take home as a reminder of the importance of keeping their marriage fresh. Ed and Amber said of the first event: “We had a blast last night. ... We had no idea going in what to expect. To be honest it was the last thing either of us wanted to do on a Saturday night. It was quickly apparent that this is exactly where God wanted us to be.”

Another couple, currently empty-nesters, met a younger couple at their table and are now bonded in friendship and babysitting for their children, a gift for both couples as their grandchildren live out of town.

The second event, hosting 58 couples, offered a talk on gender specificity in marriage and the five love languages. The evening’s activities included a marriage renewal ceremony, was held in the church, attended by 72 couples, one of whom marked their 63rd year of marriage this year. A wedding reception with champagne and dancing was held following the blessing by Father Scheidt.

Black and her dedicated core team are excited that three parishes, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Jude in Fort Wayne, and St. Mary, Decatur, are in the process of initiating the SALT date nights for married couples.

Black and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne on June 13. SALT is a ministry offering fun date nights to foster healthy marriages.

SOUTH BEND — Christ the King Catholic School in South Bend recognized Pat Blair and Holy Cross Father Neil Wack on June 8 for their years of service.

Blair began her career teaching in Catholic schools in California for 20 years before moving to South Bend, where she has spent the past 22 years teaching at Christ the King Catholic School. “During this time she has inspired, loved and been an outstanding Catholic role model for approximately 1,500 children, as well as an exceptional teacher,” said Father Neil Wack, principal Stephen Hoffman. “This shows how much the students care and love her.

Father Wack has been a pastor at Christ the King Parish for the last 10 years. Father Wack graduated from Christ the King School, so this seems like home to him. He has made a lasting impact on the Christ the King Parish and School by redoing the pews, installing stained glass windows, and even working to construct a new playground.

“Father Wack has served us, taught us to listen to Jesus and inspired us to come closer to God every day,” said Hoffman.

In honor of Father Wack and Blair’s years of loving service at Christ the King, the parish has dedicated two inscribed benches to be set up in the playground of the school. “May God walk with both of them as they leave Christ the King,” Hoffman noted.

Married couples gathered to renew their vows at the third SALT, Savoring A Lifetime Together, event held at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne on June 13. SALT is a ministry offering fun date nights to foster healthy marriages.
St. Patrick’s celebrates 125 years in Fort Wayne

BY MARK WEBER

FORT WAYNE — Just as Ireland’s patron saint used the shamrock to symbolize the Trinity, the trefoil at St. Patrick’s Church in Fort Wayne represents the unity of three cultures; Vietnamese, Latino and English, blended in worship and bound by a common need for spiritual nourishment.

At St. Patrick’s 125 years ago, brass plates with numerals appeared on each pew signifying family membership — O’Brian, O’Connor, O’Hara, O’Malley. From the front row to the back, the list read like the manifest of a ship bound from Belfast to Boston.

Not so today. On any Sunday, Harrison Street strollers hear three different types of music coming from the church; at 9 a.m., an all-American “Holy God We Praise Thy Name” is heard. Ninety minutes later, the nearly hypnotic Vietnamese chant, a sound that virtually floats on the air ... and at 12:30 p.m., sounds of Mariachi strings and brass in the choir loft fill a packed church.

Do these three radically different ethnic sounds represent conflict or division? Quite the opposite; they represent the universal Church; God’s love and love for God all coming out of one house of worship on the same day.

Achieving harmony has been gradual, beginning in the 1990s when the staccato sounds of the Vietnamese language were first heard at St. Patrick’s in liturgy celebrated by Father Mark Thanh Tran, a modern-day circuit rider from Indianapolis; here at the request of Father Jim Koons. Eventually a regular schedule was established and Holy Cross Father Martin Lam Nguyen, who made the trip from Notre Dame for the next eight years, celebrated monthly Masses in Vietnamese. It was Father Martin, who after doing his homework, suggested to Bishop John M. D’Arcy that the Divine Word Missionaries could possibly send a Vietnamese priest to be in residence at St. Patrick and the word was made flesh with the arrival of Divine Word Missionary Father Chau Pham, as an associate and eventually, pastor. Other multilingual Divine Word priests joined the staff and in 2007 became official administrators of the parish.

The inclusion of the Latino community was planned and programmed. With the suppression of St. Paul Catholic Parish, which was predominately Hispanic, the doors of St. Patrick Church opened wide to welcome the new parishioners on June 29, 2003. It was the feast day of Sts. Peter and Paul and a festive spirit prevailed with a procession of St. Paul’s parishioners featuring costumed Mexican dancers and musicians led by their pastor Father Angel Valdez bearing the Blessed Sacrament. They paraded the streets of Fort Wayne holding aloft a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe. At the intersection of Grand and Harrison stood Bishop D’Arcy vested with crozier accompanied by St. Patrick’s parishioners who ceremoniously joined the march and proceeded south on Harrison Street to St. Patrick’s for a noon Mass.

At St. Patrick’s today, the corporal works of mercy are evident in the form of a Food Pantry, and the Clinica Madre de Dios where free medical assistance and medicine is available mainly for low-income Spanish speaking patients. But others in need are also served.

The Food Pantry, one of 27 in the Associated Churches system, is open on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9-10:45 a.m. serving about 40 families per week. A typical family package includes canned goods, pasta, peanut butter, toilet paper, margarine, cheese, hot dogs and bread.

Parishioners of St. Patrick Parish have much to say of the unique faith family there.

Donna Broke said, “I have been a parishioner since 1995 and have grown to love the diversity and strong faith that is present between the many cultures in our parishioner base. We treat one another as family and thank God for the opportunity to worship and grow as a parish.”

“Since joining St. Patrick’s and making it my home, I have had the opportunity to personally know, love and respect over 25 priests who have spent time ministering to our parishioners,” Broke said. “I was amazed at how I could follow along. The fact that we could be a thousand miles from home and yet feel the same way as if it were my first experience with the universality of our faith. I just love that the Mass is the same everywhere in the world.”

He continued, “At St. Patrick’s, I am reminded of those events seen in St. Peter’s Square with people from every place on earth gathered together. I was told we have parishioners from over 32 countries. I can attend Mass in English, Vietnamese, Spanish, or all three in one of our special trilingual Masses. Special traditions such as Condolences to Mary on Good Friday evening and Lunar New Years are just two of many that I have been able to share.”

Phil Dwire, Jr. added, “Over the two decades I have attended Mass here at St. Patrick’s I have seen a huge population shift from primarily English to Spanish and Vietnamese. With this change, would our beautiful, historic parish survive such a transition? At about this time St. Patrick’s rallied around a slogan created by a former pastor, Father Jim Koons that read, ‘Where the people are diversity and strong faith that is present between the many cultures in our parishioner base. We treat one another as family and thank God for the opportunity to worship and grow as a parish.’”

“Since joining St. Patrick’s and making it my home, I have had the opportunity to personally know, love and respect over 25 priests who have spent time ministering to our parishioners,” Broke said. “I have grown so much here.”

Paul Offerle spoke of the diversity of worship. “When I was 8 or 9 years old, my dad took my brothers and me on a fishing trip in Canada. When we attended Mass on Sunday, the entire Mass was in French. I didn’t understand a word but was amazed at how I could follow along. The fact that we could be a thousand miles from home and yet feel the same way as if it were my first experience with the universality of our faith. I just love that the Mass is the same everywhere in the world.”

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June 29, 2003 — The doors of St. Patrick’s opened wide to welcome members of the Hispanic St. Paul’s community as the two parishes were ceremoniously merged in a noon Mass with Bishop John M. D’Arcy as main celebrant.
Through the years

- October 1889 — Father Thomas O’Leary, age 35, appointed as first pastor of St. Patrick Parish by Bishop Joseph Dwenger
- Oct. 24, 1889 — Father O’Leary dies of acute appendicitis
- Nov. 5, 1889 — Father Joseph F. Delaney appointed pastor of St. Patrick Parish by Bishop Dwenger
- April 1, 1890 — Ground broken for new St. Patrick Church
- May 20, 1890 — Cornerstone blessed by Bishop Dwenger
- Autumn 1891 — New St. Patrick Church completed
- 1891 — Father Delaney builds first real parochial school at the corner of Webster and DeWald streets
- 1891 — Sisters of Providence come to St. Patrick Parish
- Nov. 22, 1891 — Church dedicated by Very Reverend Joseph Brammer, vicar general of the Diocese of Fort Wayne (Bishop Dwenger seriously ill at the time)
- April 27, 1893 — Parish is now debt-free. Bishop Herman J. Alerding bestows upon the church the honor of Consecration making it the first church in Fort Wayne to receive this privilege
- 1901 — Father Delaney builds St. Catherine’s Academy, a commercial and high school course for girls
- 1910 — Construction of Lyceum begins
- 1917 — Construction of new school facing Butler Street begins. Completed in September of 1918, it has 16 classrooms, 639 students in grades 1-8
- 1929 — Msgr. Delaney builds convent facing Webster Street for 26 Sisters of Providence
- Jan. 25, 1935 — Father Delaney dies after serving St. Patrick’s for 46 years
- January 1935 — Bishop John F. Noll appoints Father Dennis Lawrence Monahan pastor of St. Patrick
- 1938 — St. Catherine’s Academy closes in favor of new Central Catholic High School
- 1940 — Golden jubilee of parish observed
- March 25, 1962 — Msgr. Monahan dies after serving St. Patrick’s for 46 years
- 1965 — Diamond jubilee observed
- 1990 — Monthly Masses in Vietnamese begin at St. Patrick’s. Food Pantry established
- July 1993 — Grade school closes
- 1995 — Convent razed
- June 29, 2003 — St. Paul Catholic Church parishioners process to St. Patrick’s and the two congregations are officially merged
- 2007 — Divine Word Missionaries assume administration of St. Patrick Parish
- 2010 — The Clinica Madre de Dios established in former school
- June 14, 2015 — Parish celebrates 125th anniversary

St. Patrick pastors

- 1889 — Father Thomas O’Leary
- 1889-1935 — Msgr. Joseph Delaney
- 1935-1962 — Msgr. Dennis Monahan
- 1962-1971 — Father Edward Miller
- 1971-1974 — Father Vernon Rosenthal
- 1974-1975 — Father Robert Hammond
- 1975-1981 — Father Raymond Balzer
- 1981-1983 — Father Thomas Doriot
- 1983-1991 — Father Richard Hire
- 1998-2001 — Father Glenn Kohrman
- 2001-2003 — Father Jeffery Largen
- 2003-2004 — Father Angel Valdez
- 2004-2005 — Msgr. Wm. Lester, Administrator
- 2005-2006 — Father Jack Overmyer
- 2006-2007 — Father Tim Wrozek, Administrator
- 2007-2011 — Father Chau Pham, SVD
- 2011-present — Father Thu Pham, SVD

Holy Cross Father Martin Lam Nguyen came from the University of Notre Dame once a month for eight years to say Mass at St. Patrick’s for the Vietnamese. It was Father Martin who suggested to Bishop John M. D’arcy that the Divine Word Missionaries might provide a Vietnamese priest who could be in residence at St. Patrick’s.
Father Thomas O’Leary back in 1889, who died at the age of 35, just three months after he was appointed pastor. He was followed by Msgr. Joseph Delaney, who built this beautiful church, and served here as pastor for 45 years. We give thanks to God for all the dedicated priests who have served here at St. Patrick’s the past 125 years. We thank God also for all the religious sisters, the Sisters of Providence, who taught in St. Patrick School for so many years and also at the Catholic high school for girls that was here — St. Catherine Academy. And we thank God for all the parishioners who have gone before us, men and women of deep faith who built and served this parish with love. Many have appeared before the judgment seat of Christ, as St. Paul said. We pray that the Lord in His mercy welcomes them into His Kingdom.”

The bishop, referring again to the day’s Gospel, said, “We learn from the parable of the mustard seed that God can use small things to do great works. We should never think we are too insignificant, too weak, or too flawed to be part of God’s plan.”

“So as we remember and celebrate the past today,” Bishop Rhoades said, “we also look to the present and the future. I pray that you will be inspired today to continue to walk by faith and to spread Christ’s love in this community. I especially encourage your witness of Christ’s love in service of the poor, the needy, the sick and the suffering. The Church also 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 our children and young people. St. Patrick’s has a great history and a great history yet to be made, as together you walk by faith, aspiring, like St. Paul, to please the Lord in all you do.”

Following the Mass, a reception was held in the parish hymn hall featuring music, a delicious variety of ethnic food, a raffle and children’s games. Tours of the church and parish grounds were also available.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Meeting half way — St. Paul parishioners, led by their pastor, paused at the corner of Harrison and Grant streets where they were met by Bishop John M. D’Arcy and representatives of St. Patrick Parish on June 29, 2003.

Parishioners gather at the steps of St. Patrick’s following a Mass celebrating the 125th anniversary of the parish on June 14. Food and more festivities followed throughout the day.

At right, a mixed menu of Vietnamese, Latino and Anglo favorites were served to a large crowd following the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick Parish celebrating 125 years on June 14.

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PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE
ARCHIVS PHIO

Congratualtions! to all the Jubilarians

Victory Noll Sisters celebrate jubilees

HUNTINGTON — Six members of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters (OLVM) are celebrating jubilees this year, with four of those sisters honored with a special Mass May 24 at Archbishop Noll Memorial Chapel at Victory Noll. Two sisters are celebrating 75 years as Victory Noll nuns, two celebrate 70 years, one celebrates 60 years and one, 50 years. Four have served in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

75th jubilee
Sister Margaret Urhausen was born in Chicago and entered OLVM on Oct. 30, 1940. Her mission work has included catechetical, homemaker, director of religious education, pastoral ministry and prayer ministry in several states and in Indiana at Victory Noll.

70th jubilee
Sister Francesca McGarry was born in Ohio and entered OLVM on Feb. 4, 1946. Her mission work has included catechetical, social work, formation program, dean and mistress of juniors, co-director of non-violence, co-director of arts program, diocesan director of Hmong, Laotian and Cambodian cultures in several states including Fort Wayne and at Victory Noll.

60th jubilee
Sister Jeanette Halbach was born in Iowa and entered OLVM on Sept. 6, 1955. Her mission work has included catechetical, film and TV, an English and music teacher at Victory Noll College, the leadership team, English as a Second Language teacher, Christian Social Action in several states including Indiana at Victory Noll.

50th jubilee
Sister Lucy Regaldo was born in California and entered OLVM on Sept. 8, 1965. Her mission work has included catechetical, pre-novitiate formation director, vocation team, and leadership in several states including Indiana at Victory Noll.

Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart celebrate jubilee years

FRANKFORT, Illinois — Eleven Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart will celebrate jubilees as consecrated women religious on June 13. One was born in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and several have ministered in the diocese.

80th jubilee
Sister Anna Clare Meyer was born in Avilla. During her many years of ministry, she worked in health care institutions in the dietary and housekeeping departments, as well as serving as a clinical laboratory aide. Sister currently resides in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

75th jubilee
Sister Mary Lynn Danaher was born in Columbus, Ohio. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she ministered as an LPN staff nurse at Presence Sacred Heart Home, Avilla, as a dietary supervisor from 1972-1976. Sister currently resides in Frankfort, Illinois.

70th jubilee
Sister Mary Magdalena Anglum was born in Danville, Illinois. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she taught at St. Joseph School, Hessen Cassel, from 1963-1965 and 1969-1972; and St. Charles School, Fort Wayne, from 1965-1967. Since 2005, Sister has been a pastoral care volunteer at Presence Sacred Heart Home, Avilla, where she presently resides.

60th jubilee

50th jubilee

50th jubilees
Sister Patricia Knappe celebrates 75 years as a Sister of Our Lady of Victory (OLVM). She spent many years at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend, where she taught and had a variety of administrative positions. She also served as executive director of the Forever Learning Institute in South Bend.

50th jubilarians to be honored
Sister Mary Magdalena, a 25-year jubilarian, currently serves as novice director for the congregation’s International Novitiate, which is located on the campus of Saint Mary’s, and has been a member of the novitiate team since January 2014. She previously served in parish and education ministries in her native Bangladesh, and was director of the congregation’s vocation program for Peru in Lima (2000-2003) and in Chimbote (2005-2007).

Sisters of the Holy Cross celebrate jubilee anniversaries

NOTRE DAME — Thirteen Sisters of the Holy Cross will celebrate their jubilees this year, consecrated life on July 19, in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto, Notre Dame. Two sisters are celebrating 75 years since their initial profession, six are marking 50 years and five are celebrating 25 years — a collective 575 years of vowed life in the congregation.

50th jubilarians
Sister Mary Edith (Daley), who celebrates 50 years, spent many years at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend, where she taught and had a variety of administrative positions. She also served as executive director of the Forever Learning Institute in South Bend.

25th jubilarians
Sisters of the Holy Cross, visit the leadership team, English and TV, an English and music teacher at Victory Noll College, the leadership team, English as a Second Language teacher, Christian Social Action in several states including Indiana at Victory Noll.

About the Sisters of the Holy Cross

Founded in 1841 in Le Mans, France, the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is an international community of women religious whose motherhouse is located in Notre Dame. The Congregation serves in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ghana, India, Mexico, Peru, Uganda and the United States. Sisters of the Holy Cross are called to participate in the prophetic mission of Jesus to witness God’s love for all creation. To learn more about the Sisters of the Holy Cross, visit www.cssisters.org.
Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ honor jubilarians

BY BARBARA ALLISON

DONALDSON — Ten Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ celebrate their jubilees in 2015. In honor of these milestones, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ were recognized for their service June 14 with a Mass and celebration at The Center At Donaldson in Donaldson. There will be individual celebrations on various dates as well.

75th jubilee

Sister Richilde Detmer has ministered in eight dioceses in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Texas and Thailand as a health care and service professional for 75 years as a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she served as a housekeeper at St. Patrick Parish in Arcola and St. Monica Parish in Mishawaka, and as a nurse at St. Joseph Hospital and St. Vincent Villa in Fort Wayne. She was also one of the first PHJC nurses in Fort Wayne-South Bend since 1868 when the first PHJC Sisters arrived from Dombach, Germany. Today Poor Handmaids are serving in nine countries throughout the world.

Sister Margaret Urban, formerly known as Sister Raymond, celebrates 70 years as a PHJC Sister. She's served in four dioceses in Indiana and Illinois as an educator. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she was a principal at St. Joseph School and St. Monica School in Mishawaka. She is retired at Catherine’s Cottage in Donaldson.

60th jubilees

Sister Therese Irene Galanneau, formerly known as Sister William, celebrates 60 years as a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ. She has ministered in six dioceses in Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and Georgia as an educator. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she served as a teacher and a principal at St. Bavo School in Mishawaka, and as a registrar at Ancilla College in Donaldson. Currently she is teaching and resides at St. John the Evangelist Convent.

Sister Rosemary Jung, formerly Sister Dolores, also celebrates 60 years as a Poor Handmaid. She’s ministered in education in six dioceses in Indiana, Illinois and Minnesota. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she served as a teacher at St. Monica and St. Joseph schools in Mishawaka. She currently resides at Convent Ancilla Domini in Donaldson and serves as a teacher’s aide at St. Michael School in Plymouth.

Sister Eileen Sullivan, formerly known as Sister Christopher, celebrates 60 years as a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ. She has served in six dioceses in Indiana, Illinois and Iowa as an education and administrative professional. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she ministered as a childcare worker at St. Vincent Villa in Fort Wayne and in the business office of Marian High School in Mishawaka, and also as an assistant at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame. She resides at Convent Ancilla Domini in Donaldson and continues to serve the PHJC Community.

Sister Patricia Kolas, formerly Sister Alena, celebrates her 50th year in ministry as a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ, serving in seven dioceses in Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and Lithuania as an education and social services professional. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she ministered as a teacher at St. Joseph School in Mishawaka and as a vacation director and postulate/affiliate director at Ancilla Domini Convent in Donaldson. She is currently residing at Convent Ancilla Domini in Donaldson.

50th jubilees

Sister Nora Hahn celebrates 50 years as a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ. She has ministered in four dioceses in Indiana, Illinois and Dombach, Germany as a teacher, health care provider and as vice president and senior vice president at Ancilla Systems, Incorporated, a ministry sponsored by the Poor Handmaids. In Germany, she served as a general councilor for the congregation. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she was a teacher at Ancilla Domini High School and College, a registered nurse at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne and served the PHJC Community as provincial councilor and provincial of its American province. She currently lives at Convent Ancilla Domini.

Sister Trippel, formerly Sister dePaul, also celebrates 50 years as a PHJC Sister. She’s served in five dioceses in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin as an education and social services professional. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she taught at Ancilla Domini High School in Donaldson. She currently lives at Casa Maria in Mapachapa, Mexico, and is a social worker at Casa de la Anunciacion in Cautacozulco, Mexico.

Sister Loretta Schleiper, formerly Sister Dominie, marks her 50th year as a PHJC Sister. She’s served in five dioceses in Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and Iowa in social services and healthcare. She also served as an occupational therapy assistant in psychiatry, Neighborhood network, volunteer coordinator and as a hospital chaplain. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she served as pastoral care/chaplain, assistant director for girls at Villa Maria-Ancilla Domini in Donaldson, and director of Community Health Improvement Program at HealthVisions Fort Wayne. She also served in Korea 5th Step program at St. Joseph Hospital, Faith in Action programs and networking with churches in Fort Wayne. Sister Loretta is currently a member of the Provincial Leadership team in Donaldson and resides at Sojourner Truth House in Gary.

Sister Carol Welhoelter, formerly Sister of St. Joseph, celebrates 50 years as a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ. She has ministered in three dioceses in Indiana, Illinois and Mexico as an education and social services professional. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she taught at Ancilla Domini High School in Donaldson. She currently lives at Casa Maria in Mapachapa, Mexico, and is a social worker at Casa de la Anunciacion in Cautacozulco, Mexico.

Sister Mary Carol Welhoelter, formerly Sister Karen, serves as a director for girls at Villa Maria-Ancilla Domini in Donaldson. She currently resides at Mary Katherine Convent in Cairo, Illinois, and serves as a Daystar Community Program staff member, also in Cairo.

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18/20/15 Today’s Catholic
Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration celebrate jubilees

MISHAWAKA — The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka are honoring 13 sisters who are celebrating jubilees of 80, 60, 50, 40 and 25 years of religious life. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a special Mass in honor of the jubilarians on June 20 at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka.

80th jubilee

Sister M. Florence Wenda was born in Belleville, Kansas, and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration on Jan. 6, 1935. For 50 years she served in domestic service in various facilities staffed by the sisters, including the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. Sister Florence has resided at Our Lady of Angels Convent since 1992.

60th jubilees

Sister M. Louise Pfeifer was born in Winamac and entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration on Aug. 12, 1955. Sister Louise has served in the education apostolate of the community for 56 years, including 41 years as a teacher of the primary grades in various schools, including St. Andrew School, Fort Wayne, and St. Therese School, Fort Wayne. Presently Sister Louise is a teacher’s aide at St. John the Evangelist School in St. John, Indiana.

Sister M. Anna Marie Hofmeyer was born in Cedar Grove and entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration on Aug. 12, 1955. Sister Anna Marie was a diocesan supervisor for several years in the healthcare apostolate. She served as provincial vicar of the province for 20 years and director of novices for 15 years. Presently sister is working as an archivist at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka.

50th jubilees

Sister M. Ann Bernadette Hoernig was born in Lowell and entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration on Aug. 12, 1955. Sister Ann Bernadette was a primary grade teacher in several schools, including St. Mary School in Huntington. She also served as librarian at Huntington Catholic School from 1991-2000. Presently sister is assisting with various duties at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka.

Three monks celebrate anniversaries

ST. MEINRAD — The Benedictine monks at Saint Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad, celebrated the jubilees of three of their confreres on May 24. Honored were Abbot Alan Berndt in recognition of his 75 years of profession and 70 years of Priesthood ordination; and Father Micahel Langston and Father Colman Grabert for their 50-year jubilee of ordination.

Abbot Berndt is a native of South Bend, where he attended St. Matthew Grade School before studying at Saint Meinrad in the high school, college and seminary. He professed his vows as a monk of Saint Meinrad on Aug. 6, 1940, and was ordained to the Priesthood on Feb. 2, 1945.

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From left are Father Micheas Langston, Abbot Alan Berndt and Father Colman Grabert.
The Church as mother and teacher: the family fully alive

We are very happy to announce that Bishop Rhodes will be celebrating a special Mass on September 26, for those from our diocese going to Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis. The Mass will take place at 8:30 a.m. in downtown Philadelphia at the historic St. John the Evangelist Church. If you have yet to make plans, you can find more information on the WMF official website (www.worldmeeting2015.org). This site includes a number of cost housing options, such as staying with a host family in the Philadelphia area.

Catechesis: Part 9

The Church is the heavenly Jerusalem, “that Jerusalem which is from above … our Mother.” The Church is the “mother of our new birth.” The Church, as Christ’s Virgin Bride, gives birth to sons and daughters who are “born from water and Spirit.” What does it mean to be “born from above”? It means that we and our children are born into a new identity in Christ that does not destroy, but transcends, all of the ways in which human beings naturally construct their identities. …

When we say that the Church is “immaculate,” we do not say that all of her members are innocent of sin, for the Church is “at once holy and always in need of purification.” Her holiness is the holiness of Christ, her Spouse. It is the holiness of the Bride and the Bridegroom, that creates the Church in the first place: “The Church is born primarily of Christ’s total self-giving for our salvation, anticipated in the institution of the Eucharist and fulfilled on the cross. … As Eve was formed from the sleeping Adam’s side, so the Church was born from the pierced heart of Christ hanging dead on the cross. …”

The Church, as our Mother, imparting to us a new identity in the love and holiness in which she herself was formed, also has the responsibility of teaching us, of forming us ever more perfectly in the new identity we have received, from the world, but “from above.” There is no secular authority that can discharge this function because the identity the Church imparts does not come from the achievements of the world, as we have seen, but transcends them, perfecting them all. Rather, “the pastoral duty of the Magisterium,” or teaching authority, is to help us understand and experience this new identity. This is the Church’s mission.

Jesus possesses the key to eternal life

This is the greatest treasure is not that stored in vaults, but rather the knowledge of God and the insights for living that this knowledge produces. The Apostle continues to say that when some has a surplus in the things of this earth, then this surplus should be put at the disposal of those in need. For its last reading, the Church this weekend offers us a passage from the Gospel of Mark. It is a collection of two miracle stories. In the first story, a synagogue official, Jairus, comes to Jesus saying that his daughter is critically ill. Jesus assures him that he can help, and he sets off with his disciples to make the journey, with everyone saying she was going to recover. Jesus’ faith in her recovery was not imaginary. In the second story, a woman, presumably said to be a religious sinner, is touched by Jesus’ power and is healed. Faith is the key to this miracle too. Jesus released the woman from her illness.

Reflection

These three readings all remind us that human reasoning can be flawed. In the first reading, attention obliquely is drawn to the fact that some willingly hurt others, on a modest scale, or on a great scale. The minds of oppressors are distorted, and oppressors often continue to work their evil will. It is easy to excuse God of “allowing” a woman’s illness, from our perspective. For the Church, however, God’s willingness to work through suffering is one of the great mysteries.

The Lord’s family 

The Gospel describes Mary, who is apparently the mother of Jesus, touching the Lord and being cured of her illness. However, she touched the garment of the Lord uncleanly. He was the blameless Son of God. Jesus realizes her faith. He tells her that faith has cured her. The hemorrhage stops.

READINGS

Sunday: Wis 1:13-15; 22-24Ps 302, 4-6, 11-12Cor 8:7, 9-13Mt 521-43
Tuesday: Lk 525-29Ps 262-3, 9:12Mt 823-27
Wednesday: Gnt 21, 8:20Ps 348, 10:13-16Mt 828-34
Thursday: Gnt 22:19Ps 115:1-6, 9:8-9 Ps 119:22-29
Friday: Eph 2:19-22Ps 117:1-2 In 2024-29
Saturday: Gnt 27:1-5, 15-29Ps 135:16-16Mt 9:1-17

Banking of sperm and eggs before cancer treatment

Both chemotherapy and radiation can affect sexual organs and how they work. The American Cancer Society addresses the potential effects on male fertility this way: “Chemo may lower the number of sperm cells, reduce their ability to move, or cause other changes. … Because permanent sterility (infertility) may occur, it is important to discuss this issue with your doctor BEFORE you start chemo. You might want to think about banking your sperm for future use.”

Various moral concerns arise in the wake of the rise of reproductive technologies. Polarized into this debate are approved and condemned reproductive technologies. Catholic teaching has always stressed the importance of the marital act in procreation. The act of sex is a distinct good in itself because it is part of a dually moral character (such as Gamete Intratubal Transfer (GIFT) or intratubal insemination (IUI). These latter two techniques, GIFT and IUI, have never been directly mentioned in official Church documents, so the question of whether they might be morally allowable continues to be discussed among Catholic moral theologians. GIFT involves collecting sperm after the marital act, placing it near an egg but separated by an air bubble — within a thin, flexible tube called a catheter. After insertion into a woman’s reproductive tract, the sperm cells are injected into her fallopian tube so fertilization can occur inside her body, rather than in a petri dish. Meanwhile, IUI (also called artificial insemination) involves placing the placement of sperm into a woman’s uterus by a catheter or a means other than a natural act of intercourse. An important Vatican document known as “Donum Vitae” (“On the Gift of Life”) emphasizes that morally acceptable interventions used in procreation cannot be a substitute for the marital act but should serve to facilitate that act to attain its natural purpose. Even when sperm is collected in an acceptable manner, by using a silastic sheath during marital relations (i.e. a perforated condom without any spermicide), it still cannot be classified as a moral means of GIFT and IUI involve a substitution/replacement of the conjugal act by injecting the sex cells into the woman’s body via a catheter. In other words, the marital act does not itself cause a future pregnancy but only enables the collection of sperm, which is then used for another procedure that brings about the pregnancy. For these reasons, GIFT and IUI do not appear to be morally acceptable, and I generally discourage married men undergoing cancer treatments from banking their sperm, since there do not appear to be any legitimate procreative uses once the sample has been stored.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

FATHER TAD POLACHICK

The situation is more nuanced when it comes to the question of banking a woman’s eggs or ova. We can identify at least one technique for assisting procreation called LTOT, or Low Tubal Ovum Transfer, that would be morally acceptable and could be carried out using previously frozen eggs. Originally designed for women with blocked, damaged or diseased fallopian tubes, LTOT allows her eggs, placing it in the fallopian tube below the point of damage so that her husband’s sperm, introduced into her body by the marital act, can reach the egg and bring about fertilization. LTOT, however, is performed only rarely, and it can be challenging to find a reproductive specialist who routinely does the technique.

There are, moreover, safety concerns about the process of egg retrieval from a woman’s body, about the high-dose hormones used, and about cryopreservation of the eggs. Strong chemicals are used in the freezing process, and no one knows how much the eggs might absorb. Moreover, there has been little systematic follow-up of children born from frozen eggs, so it remains unclear whether they face increased health risks when they arise from an egg that has been frozen and thawed.

In principle, nevertheless, if the egg harvesting step could be carried out with low risk to women, if the egg freezing process would not cause any deleterious effects on the woman, who might later come into being, and if the eggs were only used for morally legitimate purposes like LTOT, freezing a woman’s eggs would appear to be morally allowable.

Another emerging method of preserving fertility for cancer patients relies on the removal and freezing of sections of the ovary (rather than individual eggs). This ovarian tissue can later be grafted back into a woman’s body following chemotherapy allowing her to become ovulatory naturally and, in some cases, conceive naturally. A number of babies have been born as a result of this technique, and insofar as a woman were enabled to conceive a child through marital acts with her husband, this approach also would not seem to raise any fundamental moral concerns.
Statement on race relations at general assembly

ST. LOUIS — Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), delivered a statement on race relations at their annual Spring General Assembly, June 10.

The full statement follows:

Statement of Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz

Gathering here in the city of St. Louis, so near to Ferguson, and looking ahead to Baltimore in November, I cannot help but think of recent events that have taken place around our beloved country. We mourn those tragic events in which African Americans and others have lost their lives in altercations with law enforcement officials. These deaths have led to peaceful demonstrations, as well as violent conflicts in the streets of our cities. In every instance, our prayer for every community, as well as for the sacrifice made by our Lord in St. John’s Gospel, “that they all may be one.”

Sadly, there is too all too often an alienation of communities from those sworn to protect and serve. I respect the sacrifices made by police officers throughout the nation, who in their daily work are placed in harm’s way. Let us pray that they suffer no harm as they carry out their duties, and that they always be guided in good and right action as they serve.

We join our voices with civic and religious leaders in pledging to work for healing and reconciliation. Our efforts must address root causes of these conflicts. A violent, sorrowful history of racial injustice, accompanied by a lack of educational, employment and housing opportunities, has destroyed communities and broken down families, especially those who live in distressed urban communities. Confronted by these realities, the familiar words of Blessed Pope Paul VI still resonate and continue to call us to action in our day: if you want peace, work for justice.

The Church has been present in these communities, active in education, health care and charities. Positive efforts are being made in collaboration with ecumenical and interfaith groups in communities where confrontations between individual citizens and law enforcement have taken place. Pope Francis calls each of us to work for a culture of encounter and has encouraged all people of good faith to reflect in charity, hospitality and service to one another, to join us together as sisters and brothers.

The 1979 U.S. Bishops’ pastoral letter, “Brothers and Sisters to Us,” named racial prejudice as a grave sin that denies the truth and meaning of the Incarnation of the Word of God in Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, the words of that letter still ring true: “Racism is an evil which endures in our society and in our Church.” The bishops called for decisive action to eradicate racism from society and considerable progress has been made since 1979. However, more must be done. Let us again call upon our Catholic people to pray frequently in their homes and in their churches for the cause of peace and racial reconciliation.

Here we are in St. Louis where, in 1947, Cardinal Joseph Ritter, who died 48 years ago of the Church, “is aimed at seeing to it that the People of God abide in the truth that liberates.” The teaching authority of the Church serves the whole people of God by preserving the truth of the Gospel intact, together with all of the necessary teachings revealed directly and implicitly, in the Gospel, which nurture human freedom. These include such truths as the dignity of human persons, the good of creation, the nobility of the married state and its intrinsic orientation toward a life-giving communion of love. These truths cannot be ignored, for they are the key to proclaiming the truths of the Church.

Christian spouses are the key role in proclaiming these truths, in terms that the world finds most persuasive that is, in lives that are continually transformed by the love that is imparted to couples in the sacrament of Marriage and defines their communion as husband and wife. Pope Francis has described in a stirring way the witness to truth that Christian spouses can provide, supported by the grace of the sacrament of Matrimony. “Christian spouses are not naïve; they know life’s problems and temptations. But they are not afraid to be responsible before God and before society. They do not run away, they do not hide, they do not shut the mission of forming a family and bringing children into the world. But today, Father, it is difficult. . . Of course it is difficult! That is why we need the grace, the grace that comes from the sacrament! The sacraments are not decorations in life — what a beautiful marriage, what a beautiful ceremony, what a beautiful banquet. . . But that is not the sacrament of Marriage. That is a decoration! Grace is not given for a decoration! Grace is given to make us strong in life, giving us courage to go forwards! And without isolating oneself but always staying together, Christians celebrate the sacrament of Marriage because they know they need it!”

Pope John Paul II and Benedict XVI both had occasion to quote a passage from Paul VI’s apostolic exhortation “Evangelii Nuntiandi”: “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.” Pope Francis is calling Christian spouses to be the kind of teachers that contemporary people listen to, teachers who teach by their witness, and thereby uphold the truth and display its persuasiveness in their openness to new life, in the warmth of their mutual love and in the readiness of their hospitality, as oases of love and mercy in a culture so often marked by cynicism, heartlessness and dishonesty.

The witness of Christian spouses can bring light into a world that has come to value efficiency over persons, and “having” over “being” and thus come to value efficiency over persons, and “having” over “being” and thus, “the Church can be at the forefront of promoting justice in racial and promoting peace, justice and respect for all persons: 1. Pray for peace and healing among all people. 2. Study the Word of God and the social teaching of the Church in order to gain a deeper appreciation of the dignity of all persons. 3. Make a sincere effort to encounter more fully people of different racial backgrounds with whom we live, work and minister. 4. Participate in a Catholic parishes and neighborhoods can be truly welcoming of families of different racial and religious backgrounds.

5. Get to know our local law enforcement officers. Let them know of our support and gratitude. And encourage young people to respect all legitimate authority.

Sadly, the present racial tension in the United States is not something new. It is the most recent manifestation of a relationship as old as the history of our nation, one marked on the tragedy of human sin. Promoting peace and reconciliation is the only way forward. And we must constantly strive to achieve these goals, trusting in the Lord to lead and guide us, accompanied by His merciful love. May He help all of us to recognize the dignity inherent in every human being, for God said, “Let us make human beings in Our Image, after Our Likeness.”

Today, integrated Catholic schools well before the 1954 Supreme Court decision in Brown v. Board of Education. It shows that the Catholic Church can be at the forefront of promoting justice in racial and promoting peace, justice and respect for all persons: 1. Pray for peace and healing among all people. 2. Study the Word of God and the social teaching of the Church in order to gain a deeper appreciation of the dignity of all persons. 3. Make a sincere effort to encounter more fully people of different racial backgrounds with whom we live, work and minister. 4. Participate in Catholic parishes and neighborhoods can be truly welcoming of families of different racial and religious backgrounds.

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Commentary

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: the healing of a little girl. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

The Cross Word

Based on these Scripture Readings: Mk 5:21-24, 35b-43

Crossword Clues

1. Pray for peace and healing among all people.
2. Study the Word of God and the social teaching of the Church in order to gain a deeper appreciation of the dignity of all persons.
3. Make a sincere effort to encounter more fully people of different racial backgrounds with whom we live, work and minister.
4. Participate in Catholic parishes and neighborhoods can be truly welcoming of families of different racial and religious backgrounds.
5. Get to know our local law enforcement officers. Let them know of our support and gratitude. Encourage young people to respect all legitimate authority.


Answer Key can be found on page 19

Gospel for June 28, 2015

Mark 5:21-24, 35b-43

The healing of a little girl

The words can be found

in all directions in the puzzle.

1. Pray for peace and healing among all people.
2. Study the Word of God and the social teaching of the Church in order to gain a deeper appreciation of the dignity of all persons.
3. Make a sincere effort to encounter more fully people of different racial backgrounds with whom we live, work and minister.
4. Participate in Catholic parishes and neighborhoods can be truly welcoming of families of different racial and religious backgrounds.
5. Get to know our local law enforcement officers. Let them know of our support and gratitude. Encourage young people to respect all legitimate authority.


Answer Key can be found on page 19
Bishop Luers High School Principal Tiffany Albertson, left, and Director of Institutional Advancement Kathy Skelly, right, announced the launch of Phase II of a capital campaign called “The Faith In our Future” on June 23. Skelly noted, besides making a pledge, “We’re asking people to pray for the campaign. We’re asking people for support of the campaign, and we’re asking people to share the campaign through social media. Share it so more people know about the campaign and are excited about it.”

Phase II of this campaign will build a new chapel, a new performing arts assembly hall, media center and complete improvements to the building. Construction is dependent upon the subsequent lack of space,” the school reported. “This new $4,000 square foot addition to the cafeteria will help address this challenge.”

Another part of the project would include completion of the energy-efficient facade. Many of the rooms in the building are cold and drafty and the school spends unnecessary money keeping the classrooms warm. Replacing the single pane windows will decrease the long-term heating and cooling expenses. “We have to have 100 percent (of funds) pledged and 50 percent of the funds in hand,” to begin construction, noted Albertson. Construction is dependent upon the “flow” of the school year. In 2005, Bishop Luers High School successfully raised over $3.1 million to fund many necessary projects for Phase I of “The Faith In our Future” campaign.
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Barbara M. Wincke, 92, Corpus Christi
Charmaine Evans Leinen, 80, Christ the King

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus will host a breakfast on Sunday, June 28, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Most Precious Blood gymnasium, 1515 Barthold St. Cost is $5, with limited seating available. Proceeds will benefit the Diocesan Seminarian Education Fund.

Religious freedom speakers planned

A symposium on Faith, Religious Freedom and the Law with Sister Veronica of Jesus of the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth, and attorney Benjamin B. Bentrup will be Tuesday, July 7, at 1702 Lambsb St. Child care and refreshments provided. Sponsored by the Confraternity of Penitents. Free—will offering. Call 260-739-6882 for information.

The Cossy Crossword
260.28.28.28

Elizabeth Ann DeBoni, 62, St. Vincent de Paul
James H. Van Den Driessche, 67, St. Thomas the Apostle
James L. Letherman, 69, St. Thomas the Apostle
Fort Wayne: Joan F. Applegate, 82, St. Jude
Mary M. Linkhart, 94, St. John the Baptist
William J. Dorbin, 45, St. Joseph
Bernadine M. DeGeeter, 73, St. Bavo
James L. Doyle, 90, Our Lady of Hungary
Thomas F. Hanlon, 89, St. Therese, Little Flower
Amy L. Boyle-Sorocco, 53, St. Matthew

St. Jude Catholic School in Fort Wayne, IN has an opening for an Assistant Principal.

Grades Preschool-8 Enrollment: 500

This is a full-time position with qualifications that include:
- Being an active and practicing Catholic
- An administrative license in education or in process of obtaining one
- Experience in classroom teaching
Duties include working with Pastor, Principal, Teachers, students and parents.

For more information please contact Mike Obergfell at 260-484-4611 or mobergfell@stjudew.org.

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Fort Wayne, IN 46804

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People express heartache, outrage as they mourn shooting victims

BY DANIEL O’SHEA

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The tragic taking of nine lives at a historically black church in downtown Charleston, South Carolina, brought an outpouring of solidarity, compassion and sorrow from around the country.

After an all-night search, police June 18 found the white man suspected of fatally shooting nine people, including the Rev. Clementa Pinckney, a senior pastor. They arrested 21-year-old Dylann Storm Roof in neighboring North Carolina and charged him with the murders. He did not fight extradition so he was returned to South Carolina.

Witnesses said Roof had joined a prayer meeting the evening of June 17 at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston. They said he sat with church members for about an hour then stood up, yelling racist remarks, and opened fire.

Religious leaders as well as government leaders issued their condolences and condemned the shooting, which is being investigated as a hate crime.

Catholic Bishop Robert E. Guglielmone of Charleston expressed a deep sadness over the tragedy.

“The inside of any church is a sanctuary,” he said in a statement. “When a person enters, he or she has the right to worship, pray and learn in a safe and secure environment. For anyone to murder nine individuals is upsetting, but to kill them inside of a church during a Bible study class is devastating to any faith community.”

Bishop Guglielmone also shared his sympathies with those who lost loved ones in the shooting and prayed they will “feel the comforting presence of our Lord surrounding them during this difficult time.”

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Raleigh in the neighboring state of North Carolina, said: “In solidarity with my brother bishop ... I ask all the Catholic faithful and people of goodwill in the Diocese of Raleigh to stop at some point today, and offer sincere and thoughtful prayer for the nine victims of this horrific crime and for their families.”

A number of Jewish groups issued strong statements on the crime that took place in Charleston.

“Hate crimes attack both individual victims and entire communities,” said the Jewish Council for Public Affairs. “They are meant to isolate and terrorize. We stand in direct contrast: for an inclusive and pluralistic community, one that cherishes life and recognizes that every person is created in the divine image.”

The statement went on to point out that tragic act “highlights that there is still racism in our society and that there is urgent need to address the issue directly. We must clearly and unequivocally demonstrate that hate violence has no place in our society.”

Rabbi Noam Marans, director of interreligious and intergroup relations at AJC Global Jewish Advocacy, said: “This horrific massacre of innocents at prayer is extreme depravity. We are shocked beyond words that someone could enter a house of worship in our country and commit such a horrific crime, all the more so if it was racially motivated.”

Numerous government officials weighed in on the shooting, with some citing an attachment to Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. Closely impacted by the tragedy was Charleston Mayor Joseph Riley.

According to AP coverage of a news conference, Riley, who is Catholic, said that for someone to go into a church and kill people who had gathered to pray and worship “is beyond any comprehension. We are going to put our arms around that church and that church family.”

A number of Catholic bishops across the country issued statements, including Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, who is president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

He expressed “grief and deep sadness” over the murders June 19, saying: “There have been far too many heartbreaking losses in the African-American community this year alone. Our prayers are with all those suffering from this hideous crime. We join our voices with civic and religious leaders in pledging to work for healing and reconciliation.”

Archbishop Kurtz added, “We must continue to build bridges and we must confront racism and violence with a commitment to life, a vision of hope and a call to action.”

Boston Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley in a June 18 statement said: “It is foundational to our country’s heritage that places of worship always be sanctuaries of prayer, safety and peace. We must reject these senseless acts of hatred and brutality in society.”

A small prayer circle forms nearby where police responded to a shooting at the Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, S.C., June 17. A white gunman was arrested in North Carolina on June 18 after killing nine people during a prayer service at Charleston’s historic African-American church, the city’s police chief said, describing the attack as a hate crime.