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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Unstained fidelity to the Bridegroom

Jessica Hayes consecrated to a life of virginity

BY TIM JOHNSON



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and the assembly congratulate Jessica Hayes, a theology teacher from Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, who on Saturday, Aug. 15, was consecrated to a life of virginity. Hayes is the first consecrated virgin of the diocese since the late Sister Jane Carew was consecrated Dec. 8, 1990.

FORT WAYNE — On a day of joy and thanksgiving, Jessica Hayes, a beloved theology teacher at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, was consecrated to a life of virginity at a rite celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

Hayes' students, graduates, friends, fellow parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, priests, brothers, seminarians and religious sisters filled the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Fort Wayne on the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

"God has called Jessica to be more closely united to Himself and to be dedicated to the service of the Church," Bishop Rhoades said in his homily. "It is God who gives the grace of virginity. He gave this grace to the young woman of Nazareth, to Mary, who was inspired by the Holy Spirit to choose the life of virginity. Mary made a personal decision in faith to remain a virgin, to offer her heart to the Lord. She wanted to be His faithful bride."

"Thus, Mary became the model for all those who have chosen to serve the Lord with an undivided heart in virginity," Bishop Rhoades added. "It seems most appropriate that Jessica gives herself totally to Jesus, is consecrated to a life of virginity, on a feast of Our Lady, who gave herself totally to God as the virgin handmaid of the Lord."

JESSICA, PAGE 10

Mary's hand in journey of faith

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur, closes 175th anniversary celebration

BY VINCE LABARBERA

DECATUR — "This historic parish of St. Mary of the Assumption here in Decatur is one of the oldest in our diocese," said Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in opening remarks at a solemnity of the Assumption Mass on Aug. 16 observing the 175th anniversary of the parish.

"I understand that the first Mass celebrated in Decatur was in 1838. Your research also shows that the Catholic community here in Decatur, early German Catholic settlers, was placed under the patronage of St. Mary of the Assumption in 1840," he continued in his homily.

"There was not yet a church for the Catholic community here in Decatur in 1840, so the devout faithful celebrated Mass in private

homes and then at a local tavern," the bishop said. Even with no resident priest until 1852, the Catholic community purchased land and built a small church in 1846.

"We remember today these pioneers of the faith here in Decatur. We also remember and pray for all the priests, sisters and lay people throughout the past 175 years who, with great faith and love, built up this parish as well as St. Joseph School," he said.

As the two-year parish anniversary celebration came to a close, Bishop Rhoades told the congregation that their parish is their spiritual home that has nourished their faith, many since childhood, with special memories of blessings received through Baptisms, first Communion, Confessions, Confirmations, weddings and funerals.

More photos are available on page 11 and diocesefwsb.org.



DECATUR, PAGE 11



JOE ROMIE

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades gives his homily at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Decatur on Aug. 16. He concluded the two-year long 175th anniversary celebration of the parish, one of the oldest in the diocese.

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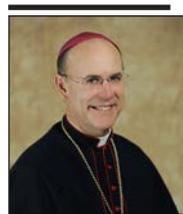
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Consecration of Jessica Hayes to a life of virginity



IN TRUTH
AND
CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The following is the homily of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades from the solemnity of the Assumption, Aug. 15, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Today on this beautiful feast of Our Lady's Assumption, with joy and thanksgiving, the Church consecrates Jessica Hayes to a life of virginity. God has called Jessica to be more closely united to Himself and to be dedicated to the service of the Church. It is God who gives the grace of virginity. He gave this grace to the young woman of Nazareth, to Mary, who was inspired by the Holy Spirit to choose the life of virginity. Mary made a personal decision in faith to remain a virgin, to offer her heart to the Lord. She wanted to be His faithful bride. Thus, Mary became the model for all those who have chosen to serve the Lord with an undivided heart in virginity. It seems most appropriate that Jessica gives herself totally to Jesus, is consecrated to a life of virginity, on a feast of Our Lady, who gave herself totally to God as the virgin handmaid of the Lord.

Jessica, like Mary and the many consecrated virgins in the early history of the Church, several of whom are canonized saints, has heard the call of the Lord to live as His spouse. The Church confirms this call as authentic. Jessica is making the courageous choice that our Blessed Mother made — the choice of virginity in order to consecrate herself totally to the love of God. This choice is motivated by love, love for Jesus and for His Church. The life of a consecrated virgin is all about love. Saint John Paul II understood this well and wrote that "one cannot correctly understand a woman's consecration in virginity without referring to spousal love." Jessica knows this theology of Saint John Paul well. As many of you know, (I see many of Miss Hayes' students and former students here today) she teaches a wonderful course at Bishop Dwenger High School on the dignity and vocation of women and uses the deep and profound teaching of John Paul on women.

In his apostolic letter on the dignity of women, Pope John Paul wrote about the value of consecrated virginity in which women become "a sincere gift for God who has revealed himself in Christ, a gift for Christ, the Redeemer of humanity and the Spouse of souls." He wrote that "women, called from the very beginning to be loved and to love, in a vocation to virginity find Christ first of all as the Redeemer who 'loved until the end' through His total gift of self; and they respond to this gift with a sincere gift of their whole lives." That's what Jessica does today. She gives her life to the divine Spouse, to Jesus. "Through the Holy Spirit's action" Jessica becomes "one



JOE ROMIE

Friends offer congratulatory greetings to Jessica Hayes after the Mass on Aug. 15.

spirit with Christ" her Spouse.

The dignity and vocation of women is realized in a special way in consecrated virginity. Jessica is not just remaining unmarried or single. Virginity is not a mere "no" to human marriage. It is a profound "yes" (John Paul II), a yes to give oneself for love in a total and undivided manner. Today Jessica says yes like Mary did at the Annunciation, to be the virgin handmaid of the Lord, to love Him and serve Him in His Church with an undivided heart.

There is also a true motherhood that is integral to a life of consecrated virginity. Virginity according to the Gospel includes giving up physical motherhood, which is a great sacrifice, but it "makes possible a different kind of motherhood: motherhood according to the Spirit." In Jessica's life, this spiritual motherhood will be lived and experienced in various ways. I think, for example, of her spiritual motherhood of her students. The love of a consecrated virgin is a maternal love; it is meant to be fruitful. The Fathers of the Church spoke about how consecrated virgins are instruments of the Church's fruitfulness. We can think of the motherhood of the Virgin Mary, the motherhood of the Virgin Church, and the motherhood of consecrated virgins. It is something beautiful and fruitful: this virginal and spiritual motherhood. It extends far beyond that of a natural family. Like the love of the Church our mother, the horizons of the virgin's love are the horizons of Christ: love of all her brothers and sisters, especially the poor and the afflicted, the weak and the suffering. Like Mary, Jessica is called to both virginity and motherhood, to be a mother in the Spirit, imitating the maternal love of Mary our mother whose charity we heard about in today's Gospel of the Visitation.

Jessica, I remind you of Saint John Paul's exhortation to consecrated virgins: "Love Christ, the reason for your life. Return Christ's infinite love with your own

total and exclusive love. Love the Church." "It is the task of virgins," he said, "to be the hard-working hands of the local Church's generosity, the voice of her prayer, the expression of her mercy, the relief of her poor, the comfort of her suffering sons and daughters, and the support of her orphans and widows." He emphasized that consecrated virgins are to have a merciful heart, sharing the sufferings of others, and committing themselves to the defense of life, the advancement of women, and respect for their freedom and dignity."

Saint John Paul also said to consecrated virgins: "Love Mary of Nazareth, the first fruits of Christian virginity. ... She was fully, in body and spirit, what you, (Jessica), with all your strength, want to be: a virgin in heart and body, a bride for the total and exclusive adherence to the love of Christ, a mother through the gift of the Spirit."

Jessica, on this feast of Mary's Assumption, you are consecrated to a life of virginity. May you learn from Mary at the Annunciation to live as the handmaid of the Lord and to do the will of God, to keep his word! May you learn from Mary at the Visitation to bring Christ to others and to sing God's praises, joining with Mary in her Magnificat! May you be with Mary at Cana, interceding for the needs of others! May you be with her at the foot of the cross, sharing in the mystery of Christ's suffering! May you one day be with her in heaven where she was assumed body and soul to be with her Son forever!

Jessica, in a spiritual sense, you are with Mary today in the upper room at Pentecost as you receive from the Holy Spirit the gift of consecrated virginity. May you persevere faithfully in your vocation! I pray that your life will be holy and enrich the life of the Church. May Blessed Mary, ever-virgin, assumed body and soul into heaven, intercede for you always!

Divorced and remarried are not excommunicated, pope says at audience

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Catholics who have divorced and are civilly remarried “are not, in fact, excommunicated — they are not excommunicated — and they absolutely must not be treated as if they were,” Pope Francis said.

Resuming his Wednesday general audiences Aug. 5 after a month's break, Pope Francis returned to the series of talks he has been giving on the family. It was the 100th general audience of his papacy.

At his last audience, June 24, he talked about the damage caused especially to children when couples fight and hurt each other. “Today,” he said, “I want to draw our attention to another reality: how to care for those who, after the irreversible failure of the matrimonial bond, have undertaken a new union.”

Without an annulment of the sacramental marriage, “such a situation contradicts the Christian sacrament,” which is meant to be an indissoluble bond, the pope said.

According to Church teaching, in most cases such couples are not permitted to receive Communion. But bishops at the extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family last October and preparing for the general synod Oct. 4-25 have been studying and debating possibilities for allowing some couples in some situations to return to the sacraments.

The Church, Pope Francis said at the audience, must have “the heart of a mother, a heart that, animated by the Holy Spirit, always seeks the good and the salvation of persons.”

The children of such couples suffer most and deserve particular care, the pope said.

“How can we tell these parents to do everything possible to raise their children in the Christian life, giving them the example of a convinced and lived faith, if we keep them at a distance from the life of the community as if they were excommunicated?” the pope asked.

Particularly over the past few decades, he said, “the Church has not been insensitive or lazy” when it comes to providing pastoral care to the divorced and civilly remarried.

In his apostolic exhortation, “Familiaris Consortio,” St. John



CNS PHOTO/GIAMPIERO SPOSITO, REUTERS

Pope Francis greets newly married couples during his weekly audience in Paul VI hall at the Vatican Aug. 5.

Paul II saw an “obligation, ‘for love of the truth,’ to exercise a ‘careful discernment of situations,’” noting for example “the difference between one who has endured a separation and one who provoked it,” Pope Francis said.

Retired Pope Benedict XVI also studied the question, he said, “calling for an attentive discernment and wise pastoral accompaniment, knowing that no ‘simple recipes’ exist.”

As the studies and discernment continue, Pope Francis said, it is essential that Catholic pastors “openly and coherently demonstrate the willingness of the community to

welcome and encourage” divorced and remarried couples and their families to participate in Church life.

Prayer, listening to the word of God, attending Mass, educating their children in the faith, serving the poor and working for justice and peace should be part of their lives, he said.

Quoting his apostolic exhortation, “The Joy of the Gospel,” Pope Francis told those gathered for the audience, “The Church is called to be the house of the Father, with doors always wide open ... Everyone can share in some way in the life of the Church; everyone can be part of the community.”

In message to Iraqi refugees, pope condemns world's silence

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The world continues to be silent in the face of widespread persecution of Christians and other religious minorities, Pope Francis said.

One year after Islamic State militants drove thousands of Iraqi Christians and Yazidis out of the country, Pope Francis prayed that people around the world would be

more attentive and sensitive to the reality of religious persecution and that “the international community would not stand by mute and unresponsive before such unacceptable crimes.”

The pope sent his message to Iraqi refugees who fled to Jordan after the Islamic State campaign in August 2014 sent tens of thousands of people fleeing their homes in the Ninevah Plain of northern Iraq.

According to the U.N. High

Commissioner for Refugees, more than 57,000 Iraqis have been given refuge in Jordan.

In his letter, which was released Aug. 6 at the Vatican, Pope Francis thanked those “who took on the care of these brothers and sisters, not turning their gaze away.”

The Christian communities in Jordan who are assisting the refugees

SILENCE, PAGE 4



PUBLIC SCHEDULE OF BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

- Sunday, Aug. 23, 10:30 a.m. — Televised Mass at WNDU, South Bend
- Sunday, Aug. 23 through Thursday, Aug. 27 — Retreat with Bishops of Region VII, Mundelein, Illinois
- Friday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m. — Mass with Blessing of Chapel of Morrissey Manor, University of Notre Dame
- Sunday, Aug. 30, 1 p.m. — 100th Anniversary Mass, Saint Monica Church, Mishawaka
- Tuesday, Sept. 1, 8:45 a.m. — Mass and Pastoral Visit, Saint Therese School, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, Sept. 1, 6 p.m. — Annual Bishop's Appeal Leadership Dinner and Meeting, Saint Mary Mother of God Parish Hall, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, Sept. 2, 6:30 p.m. — Mass for Trine University Students, Saint Anthony of Padua Church, Angola
- Thursday, Sept. 3, 6 p.m. — Annual Bishop's Appeal Leadership Dinner and Meeting, Saint Hedwig Parish Hall, South Bend
- Friday, Sept. 4, 9 a.m. — Presentation at Retreat Day for Marian High School Faculty and Staff, Marian High School, Mishawaka



Priest appointments

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

- **Rev. Victor G. D'Souza**, as Parochial Vicar of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Fort Wayne and Judge in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Tribunal, effective August 11, 2015.
- **Rev. Jacob Runyon** as Judge in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Tribunal, effective August 11, 2015. Father Runyon will remain Pastor of Saint Jude Church, Fort Wayne.
- **Rev. Tyrell R. Alles, OSB**, as Pastor of Saint Peter Parish, Fort Wayne, effective August 19, 2015.

Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty Holy Hours

- St. Joseph Church, 1300 N. Main St., Bluffton, hosts prayer for vocations and religious freedom the first Thursday of each month beginning with Morning Prayer at 7:45 a.m., Mass at 8 a.m., Adoration from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Evening Prayer at 6:30 p.m., Litany of the Eucharist and Benediction at 6:45 p.m. and Mass at 7 p.m. On the second Wednesday of the month, Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty takes place beginning at 5 p.m. and ending with Mass at 7 p.m.
- St. Charles Borromeo Church, 4916 Trier Rd, Fort Wayne, has a holy hour all Fridays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- Queen of Peace Church in Mishawaka has an hour and a half (3:30-5 p.m.) of Adoration and Exposition every Saturday prior to the Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. They dedicate this time in honor of private prayer for the Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.
- St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur, hosts Eucharistic Exposition on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4:30-6 p.m. and on Thursday from 9-10 a.m. and 4:30-8 p.m. The parish asks participants to pray for the protection of marriage, religious freedom and unborn children.
- Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 Saint Joe Rd., Fort Wayne, hosts a holy hour for religious liberty beginning with a rosary at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday.

SILENCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

“proclaim the resurrection of Christ by sharing their suffering and giving them aid,” he said. “You bow down to their suffering, which risks suffocating hope.”

The pope’s message of consolation and encouragement was sent with Bishop Nunzio Galantino, secretary-general of the Italian bishops’ conference, who traveled to Amman, Jordan, Aug. 6 to visit Iraqi refugees there and to attend a prayer service Aug. 8 “to remember the first large exodus of persecuted Christians.”

Pope Francis said he wanted to take advantage of the bishop’s trip

to offer “a word of hope to those, oppressed by violence, who were forced to abandon their homes and their land.”

Too many times, in too many parts of the world, he said, “atrocious, inhuman and inexplicable persecution” of Christians and other minorities takes place “under the eyes and with the silence of all.”

The victims of “fanaticism and intolerance” are today’s martyrs, he said, murdered only for their fidelity to Christ.

Pope Francis said he hoped his words and his latest message would be “the sign of a Church that does not forget and does not abandon its children who were exiled because of their faith.”

The pope said he prays for the refugees each day and recognizes “the witness of faith they offer us.”

Knights to launch national TV campaign

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — Christianity may be thriving around the world, but it is under severe attack and threatened with extinction in the Middle East, the region of its birth.

This was a major theme at the 133rd Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus in Philadelphia Aug. 4-6.

It was stressed at an Aug. 4 news conference with Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson and two Catholic archbishops of Eastern Catholic Churches with direct experience of the situation. They were Melkite Archbishop Jean-Clement Jeanbart of Aleppo, Syria, and Chaldean Archbishop Bashir Matti Warda of Erbil, Iraq. The two archbishops also spoke at a general meeting of the convention.

Anderson quoted figures that said 80 percent of the religious persecution in the world is directed at Christians and a terrible microcosm of this is the persecutions in Syria and Iraq.

“In Iraq, an estimated 125,000 Christians have been driven from Mosul and its surrounding area,” he said. “In Syria, an estimated 700,000 Christians have been displaced.”

Because in many cases it is internal displacement within the country the people have not been designated as refugees and little has been done to help them.

Anderson called to mind another Knights of Columbus convention in 1926, also in Philadelphia, when then-Supreme Knight James Flaherty announced that the Knights would take up the cause of Catholics in Mexico who were being persecuted during the presidency of Plutarco Calles.

Of the 25 Mexican martyrs



CNS PHOTO/MATTHEW BARRICK, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Bashar Warda of Erbil, Iraq, gestures alongside Melkite Archbishop Jean-Clement Jeanbart of Aleppo, Syria, during an Aug. 4 news conference at the Knights of Columbus 133rd Supreme Convention in Philadelphia.

of that era who have since been officially canonized saints for their defense of the faith, six were members of the Knights of Columbus.

“Today we are compelled to speak up for our brothers and sisters in the Middle East,” Anderson said. “Pope Francis has called the conditions under which Christian refugees live there intolerable. He has said the situation calls for our prayers and concrete actions to help.”

The Middle East situation also was on the mind of Pope Francis as was evident in a message of good wishes and prayer sent to Anderson as the convention opened. It was written on behalf of the pope by the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Pietro Parolin.

“His Holiness is profoundly grateful for the efforts of the Knights to raise public attention to this grave humanitarian tragedy,” the message said. “He is likewise grateful for the practical solidarity shown to suffering individuals and families through the Christian Refugee Relief Fund.

To date, Anderson said, the Knights have given \$3 million toward humanitarian assistance for Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East and invites individual Knights and others to support the relief fund the pope cited.

The fraternal organization pledged an initial \$1 million to the fund. All costs for its operation will be covered by the Knights of Columbus with 100 percent of donations applied to relief. To assist those who wish to donate, the website www.christiansatrisk.com has been developed.

In his remarks, Archbishop Jeanbart placed the blame for the current persecution squarely on the wars in the region.

The Knights also planned to launch a national TV campaign, with ads airing the weekend of Aug. 8-9 to raise more awareness of the plight of Christians and other minority religious groups in the Middle East.

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Andrew Ouellette named director of youth ministry

BY KAY COZAD

MISHAWAKA — Andrew Ouellette has been named the new director of youth ministry for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and hit the ground running at his new office in the St. John Paul II Center in Mishawaka on Aug. 3. His main goal for the youth ministry, he says enthusiastically, is “to serve the teens and serve the people who serve the teens.”

The new director has always had a passion for youth ministry and admits, “I always work to bring fellow teens and young adults to Christ.” Though raised Lutheran, Ouellette recalls his father taking him at age nine to Mass on an occasional Sunday. By 13 he sought permission to become a Catholic, but was instructed by his parents to wait until age 18. Undaunted by this directive, Ouellette began working at a Catholic bookstore and learning all he could about the faith. Finally, with his parents’ blessing he began RCIA and by age 16 he was welcomed fully into the Catholic Church.

A recent graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville, where he earned degrees in theology and philosophy, Ouellette boasts a list of sterling qualifications and experience, including work as middle and high school catechist, retreat and event master for youth, speaker, and webmaster-content manager for an international website he created devoted to the Blessed Mother. He also has worked with the Carmel deanery in the Diocese of Lafayette to coordinate and implement youth programs that brought teens together from various area parishes, has



ANDREW OUELLETTE

spoken at a Marian conference held in Amsterdam and has traveled to Rome to see the pope.

As for the newly manned Office of Youth Ministry, Ouellette says his door is always open. “I want to have the office be a resource, a place of training and a place to come together, so we can be unified as a diocese as we serve our youth, while also retaining a level of diversity that’s so important,” he says.

There are “big things” on the horizon of youth programming, including the March for Life trip in January to Washington, D.C., and the Ignited Retreat in the spring, on which Ouellette has already begun to work. “There’s great stuff going on,” he says, adding, “I’m looking forward to building relationships with the youth and planning events with them.”

Another goal “down the road,” says Ouellette, is expanding the website and social media, where

the youth can come together from distances. “It’s a great asset to reach out to teens,” he says, adding that he’d also eventually like to visit parishes that don’t offer youth ministry and discover how he can help establish programs.

His main focus currently though, says Ouellette, is the community and building relationships with the youth ministers around the diocese. “All these people are so talented and have been doing this for years. I’ll be learning from them and am eager to hear what they have to say,” he says.

Originally from Fishers, Ouellette has recently made his move to Mishawaka and says, “I’ve felt very at home here. I love Indiana. I’ve already met great people and have been welcomed by the great people I work with.” He now calls St. Matthew Cathedral his Church home.

In addition to his passion for youth ministry, Ouellette is a self-professed bookworm. He also enjoys playing his bass guitar as well as piano. His faith devotions include Eucharistic Adoration, recitation of the rosary and a devotion to St. Louis de Montfort, Padre Pio and St. Gemma Galgani, the young Italian mystic who is considered the patron saint of students. As he settles in the Mishawaka area, Ouellette is looking forward to supporting the local shops as well. “Community is very important to me,” he says.

Ouellette’s deep faith and enthusiasm bespeaks the promise of great things to come for the Catholic youth of northeast Indiana. “I’m happy to be here and serve the youth of the diocese,” he says.

Notre Dame architecture graduate designs a sanctuary for Pope Francis

NOTRE DAME — In Philadelphia this September, when Pope Francis celebrates an outdoor Sunday Mass with some 1,500 priests and an estimated 1.5 million lay people, he will be standing in a sanctuary designed by James Lenahan, a Glen Ellyn, Illinois, native who recently graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a Master of Architecture degree.

On his first visit to the United States, Pope Francis will be in Philadelphia for the eighth annual World Meeting of Families. The Sept. 27 Mass in front of the Philadelphia Museum of Art will be

the gathering’s main event.

Lenahan’s design was selected by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia from numerous submissions it had invited from schools of architecture in the United States. “It was an outstanding opportunity,” said Lenahan, “and it aligned perfectly with the mission of the Notre Dame School of Architecture to promote the values of traditional and classical architecture.”



JAMES LENAHAN

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Fall Fest!

St. Mary of the Assumption
DECATUR

Saturday & Sunday, Sept 12-13, 2015

Saturday Events: 5:00-11:00 p.m.

- SILENT AUCTION: 5:00 PM
- SUPER BINGO: (NEW LOCATION - PARISH HALL) 6:00 PM
- LIVE MUSIC: “JOE FIVE” PLAYING FROM 7:00 TO 11:00 PM (MUST BE 21)
- FOOD CONCESSIONS

Fruits of God’s Grace 2015

Sunday Events

- KID’S GAMES & ACTIVITIES 12:00 - 5:00 PM
- CHINESE AUCTION
- CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT: 1:00 PM
- FOOD CONCESSIONS
- CASH RAFFLE: 4:30 PM

Pope designates Sept. 1 as World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Like their Orthodox brothers and sisters, Catholics formally will mark Sept. 1 as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, Pope Francis has decided. The day of prayer, the pope said, will give individuals and communities an opportunity to implore God's help in protecting creation and an opportunity to ask God's forgiveness "for sins committed against the world in which we live." Pope Francis announced his decision to add the annual prayer day to the Catholic calendar in a letter to Cardinal Peter Turkson, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, and to Cardinal Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. The text of the letter, dated Aug. 6, was released by the Vatican Aug. 10. Pope Francis said he was instituting the prayer day for Catholics because he shares the concern of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, who initiated a similar prayer day for the Orthodox Church — in 1989.

Women further victimized by harvesting of fetal parts, says counselor

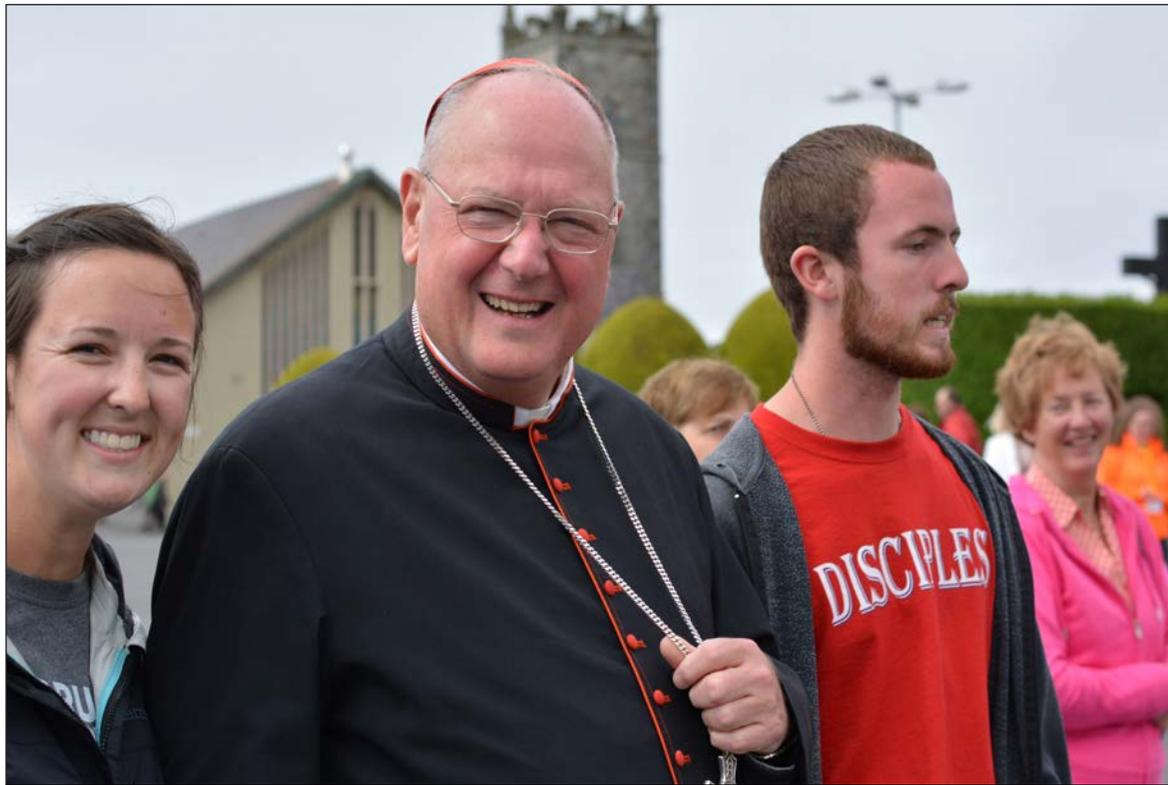
ST. LOUIS (CNS) — Women who have an abortion are being further victimized when given the option to donate their child's body parts for research, according to Sue Harvath, who has counseled post-abortive women in the St. Louis area for more than 30 years. Harvath said it shouldn't matter whether Planned Parenthood is making money from the sale of fetal body parts, as alleged in a series of undercover videos, because even the act of obtaining the body parts is manipulative and flat wrong. Harvath, a professor and director of psychological services at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, is a founding member of Project Rachel, the archdiocese's ministry to women who have had an abortion. Project Rachel is coordinated by the archdiocesan Respect Life Apostolate, and there is a companion ministry for men who have been through an abortion experience, called Project Joseph. Harvath said that women have an abortion because they're in a state of trauma. They often find themselves overwhelmed with the responsibilities of caring for a new child or pressure from others to have the abortion. In those situations, best judgment and moral guidelines are set aside to cope with the trauma.

Pope: Celebrations, including Mass, are essential for family life

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Families need moments of rest and celebration, time for standing back and recognizing the gifts of God and how well they have developed, Pope Francis said. Celebrations are times "to enjoy that which cannot be produced or consumed, that cannot be bought or sold," the pope said Aug. 12 at his weekly general audi-

NEWS BRIEFS

NEW YORK CARDINAL OPENS NOVENA CELEBRATION



CNS PHOTO/SARAH MAC DONALD

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York stands with Franciscan University of Steubenville students who came to see the cardinal open the novena in Knock, Ireland, Aug. 14. The cardinal spoke about the influence of Irish immigration in the United States

ence. Continuing his series of talks about the family in anticipation of the September celebration of the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia and the world Synod of Bishops on the family in October, Pope Francis said he would be looking at "the rhythm of family life," focusing first on celebrations, then on work and on prayer. "Celebrations are God's invention," he said, pointing to the description in the Book of Genesis of how, after creating the world, God took a day of rest and contemplated all he had created. Life becomes truly human when people take the time to do the same, the pope said. "A celebration is above all a loving and grateful gaze at work done well," whether it's a wedding celebration of a relationship that has matured or birthdays and graduations when people "look at their children or grandchildren who are growing and think, 'How beautiful.'"

Appeals court rules against N.Y. Catholic entities over contraceptives

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A seventh federal appeals court ruled Aug. 7 that there is no religious rights conflict with a process created for nonprofit religious organizations to get around a government mandate to provide coverage for contraceptives in employee health insurance. In a case filed on behalf of Catholic health care organizations in the Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York, as well as two Catholic high

schools, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said what the Department of Health and Human Services calls an accommodation for such entities adequately protects them from participating in something that conflicts with Catholic teaching. Writing for the three-judge panel, Judge Rosemary S. Pooler reiterated many of the legal conclusions reached by other appeals courts that have ruled against religious organizations including the Little Sisters of the Poor and entities in the Archdiocese of Washington, and the dioceses of Erie and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Fort Worth and Beaumont, Texas, and Nashville, Tennessee, as well as the University of Notre Dame, Priests for Life and an assortment of Christian colleges and ministries. Pooler wrote a succinct summary of the decision to reverse a District Court that had issued a preliminary injunction blocking enforcement of the requirement of the Affordable Care Act.

Mary's assumption shows life's aim is to be with God, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Mary's assumption into heaven and, in fact, her entire life show believers the great things that God has in store for them, Pope Francis said. "The 'great things' the Almighty has done for her touch us deeply, speak of our journey through life and remind us of the destination that awaits us: the house of the Father," Pope Francis said Aug. 15, the feast of

the Assumption. For the first time in some 60 years, the public recited the Assumption day Angelus prayer with a pope at the Vatican. Usually, the popes are at Castel Gandolfo for the feast day, unless they are traveling abroad. Pope Francis went to Castel Gandolfo for the day Aug. 15, 2013, was in South Korea for the feast day last year and decided not to go at all this year. Before leading the recitation of the Marian prayer at the Vatican, he spoke about Mary's "Magnificat," her hymn of praise for the great things the Lord has done.

A year after fatal shooting of black teen, faith shines in Ferguson

FERGUSON, Mo. (CNS) — Appropriately, the final "Faith in Ferguson" prayer service ended with a procession from Our Lady of Guadalupe — to its grotto dedicated to the parish namesake, Our Lady of Guadalupe. Carrying a candle flickering in the wind, St. Louis Archbishop Robert J. Carlson Aug. 5 led the group of about 300 people, also carrying candles, shortly after closing his reflection with a request of Mary. "May we ask the Blessed Mother, who said, 'My whole being proclaims the greatness of the Lord,' to intercede for us and for Ferguson, the greater St. Louis area, our state of Missouri and our nation," he said, an apropos sentiment considering the anniversary recently. A year ago, on Aug. 9, Michael Brown, an African-American teen, was fatally shot by Ferguson police officer

Darren Wilson, who is white, which unleashed the torrent of racial tension lurking just below the surface not only in Ferguson but in the region and the country. A slogan of protesters last year, "No peace, no justice," hearkens to what Blessed Paul VI said more than 40 years ago for the 1973 World Day of Peace: "If you want peace, work for justice." Peace and justice have been a theme for the Archdiocese of St. Louis in the past year.

U.S. Embassy in Cuba reopens, ending 54-year diplomatic break

HAVANA (CNS) — With Havana Harbor's bright blue waters and a trio of vintage U.S. cars parked along the Malecon framing the scene, Secretary of State John Kerry officially reopened the U.S. Embassy in Cuba Aug. 14, marking the end of more than 54 years of fractured diplomatic relations. Since the United States broke off diplomatic relations and imposed a trade embargo on Cuba, among the world's transitions have been the rise and fall of the Berlin Wall, the end of the Vietnam War and restoration of full relations with that former enemy, Kerry noted. "For more than half a century, U.S.-Cuban relations have been suspended in the amber of Cold War politics," Kerry said. "In the interim, a whole generation of Americans and Cubans have grown up and grown old. The United States has had 10 new presidents. In a united Germany, the Berlin Wall is a fading memory. Freed from Soviet shackles, Central Europe is again home to thriving democracies." He observed that the trade embargo still stands, blocking most commercial relationships and tourism, but ending that is up to Congress, "a step we strongly favor."

LCWR head says new era of communion with Vatican closes 'cultural chasm'

HOUSTON (CNS) — The Vatican's investigations of U.S. women religious — and resulting tensions — stemmed largely from a "cultural chasm," the president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious said Aug. 12. But that chasm is closing, she said, and a new era of communion seems to have begun. Sister Sharon Holland, president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, told the group's annual assembly that behavior that is normal for a woman in American culture — such as asking questions and thinking critically — might easily be perceived as disrespectful in another setting. Sister Sharon, a member of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, understands one of those settings well: She spent 21 years as a canon lawyer in Rome, where she was one of the highest-ranking women in the Vatican. Now vice president of her community in Monroe, Michigan, and in her final days as LCWR president, she gave the presidential address to approximately 800 delegates gathered in Houston for the Aug. 11-15 assembly.

ALPHA course to be presented in Albion

ALBION — Four rural parishes — Blessed Sacrament, Albion; St. Joseph, LaGrange; St. John Bosco, Churubusco; and Immaculate Conception, Ege — are joining forces to present the 10-week ALPHA course beginning this fall. The course, which covers the basics of Christianity, will be held at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 2290 N. State Road 9, Albion, every Sunday evening at 5 p.m. from Sept. 13 through Nov. 22. Each two-hour gathering will include an informal meal, music, a presentation on a specific theme and small group discussion. The course also includes a day or weekend retreat at the halfway point. Please RSVP to blessed_sacrament@ymail.com. This event is being planned in cooperation with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Sister Miriam Gill celebrates 70th jubilee

HUNTINGTON — School Sisters of Notre Dame Sister Miriam Therese Gill celebrated her 70th jubilee this year. Sister Gill hails from Huntington and received her education from Ss. Peter and Paul School and Huntington Catholic High School, where she first encountered the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She made her first profession on Aug. 9, 1945.



SISTER MIRIAM THERESE GILL

In her ministry, Sister Gill has served as teacher, assistant principal, principal and nurse's aide in Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan. Since 1990, she has served full-time as director of religious education at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington.

She holds a bachelor's in mathematics from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee and a master's in administration from DePaul University in Chicago.

Sister Gill renewed her vows at the 10:30 a.m. Mass at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington, on Sunday, July 26, in celebration of her 70 years of religious life. Following Mass the celebration continued at a reception with family and friends in Gollner Hall. Earlier this year, Sister Gill celebrated her 70th jubilee at the School Sisters of Notre Dame Motherhouse in Wisconsin.

Of her vocation sister says, "I thank God daily for my vocation and for all the loving, caring and good religious individuals I've had the privilege to know and live with."

USF lecture to examine 'Age of Distraction'

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will present a free public lecture about spirituality in a world full of distractions on Thursday, Aug. 27, at 1 p.m. in the Brookside Ballroom on the USF campus, 2701 Spring St.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

BISHOP LUERS TO INTRODUCE SODALITAS SERVICE PROGRAM



MONICA ZWICK

Bishop Luers held a training session on July 22 for student leaders and mentors who will coordinate Sodalitas, a student-run program that aims to build leaders while promoting community service. Throughout the year, the students with their mentor will meet and design a service project, which will be completed next spring on the school's first service day, April 14, 2016.

"Hearing Through All the Noise: How to Hear God's Call in an Age of Distraction," will feature Dr. Lewis Pearson, assistant professor of philosophy, as he discusses the many distractions that can hinder people from living the spiritual lives they desire.

This lecture is part of the University of Saint Francis School of Liberal Arts and Sciences lecture series. These events are presented at no charge and the public is invited.

For additional information, contact Emily Lautzenheiser at 260-399-8066 or elautzenheiser@sf.edu.

Frederick Franck's Drawings from the Second Vatican Council exhibit runs through Sept 30

NOTRE DAME — "Outsider at the Vatican: Frederick Franck's Drawings from the Second Vatican Council" is an exhibit sponsored by the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism and the Notre Dame Center for Arts and Culture featuring works on paper from Pacem in Terris: The Frederick Franck Museum and the Catholic Documentation Center, Radboud University Nijmegen.

The exhibit will be available through Sept. 30 at the Notre Dame Center for Arts and Culture, 1045 W. Washington St., South Bend.

Hours are Tuesday through

Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 12-4 p.m.

A reception and gallery talk will take place Sept. 9 from 5-7:30 p.m.

Frederick Franck (1909-2006) was born in Holland. Although raised an agnostic, he was profoundly interested in human spirituality, becoming a devotee of Pope John XXIII and a lifelong student of Zen Buddhism. Franck was a prolific writer and artist, publishing more than 30 books of reflections and drawings and creating thousands of original works, some of which are in major museum collections including the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum. Deeply moved by news of the Second Vatican Council, Franck decided to return to Europe. He attended all four council sessions, sketchbook and pen in hand, and produced around 300 drawings, primarily in pen and ink, supplemented by watercolor.

Franck's subjects, sketched from life, include portraits of most of the major council dignitaries (John XXIII, Paul VI, cardinals, bishops from around the world, theologians, and ecumenical observers) as well as representative scenes of life at the council. Franck's work, more intimate than any photographs, is an invaluable record of the emotional experience of the Council.

The University of Notre Dame is hosting approximately 60 of these drawings during August and September. This exhibit, featuring works loaned by Pacem in Terris,

the museum in Warwick, New York, devoted to Franck's memory, and the University of Nijmegen, which received a major donation of drawings from Franck several years before his death, represents a unique opportunity to see selections from both collections. On the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of Vatican II, this exhibit will honor the memory of those critical years in Rome.

Amy Nicola awarded Scouting's Ranger Award

FORT WAYNE

— Amy Nicola was the recipient of Scouting's Ranger Award on May 17. Nicola attended St. Vincent de Paul School and is a graduate of Bishop Dwenger High School. She has been involved with Scouting since first grade and has been active in many activities, trips and retreats, including cookie selling, Breakfast with Santa, Christmas tree sales, camping trips and the haunted house.

She says of her experiences, "It (Scouts) has helped shape me into the person I am today and for that I am forever grateful. I could not have done it without the amazing leaders who have guided and helped me along the way. ... The



AMY NICOLA

individuals in Scouts become your family and all the leaders become adopted parents to you."

Nicola currently attends Central Wyoming College in Wyoming and is working towards earning her farrier, equine science, equine management and TV broadcasting degrees.

Catholics on a Mission taking applications for mission trip

FORT WAYNE — Catholics on a Mission is now taking applications for the 2016 Mission Team to serve the people of Costa Rica. Twelve high school and college students and four adult chaperones (age 25 and older) will be accepted to accompany the mission team. Candidates must be at least 15 years old who have received Confirmation, and be Catholics in good standing with the Church. The trip is planned for Jan. 7-20.

Applications and security deposits of \$150 must be received no later than Monday, Aug. 31.

While a security deposit is required, in the past, 100 percent of trip expenses has been raised allowing return of deposits to team members. The only cost to participants has been passports and incidentals/spending money.

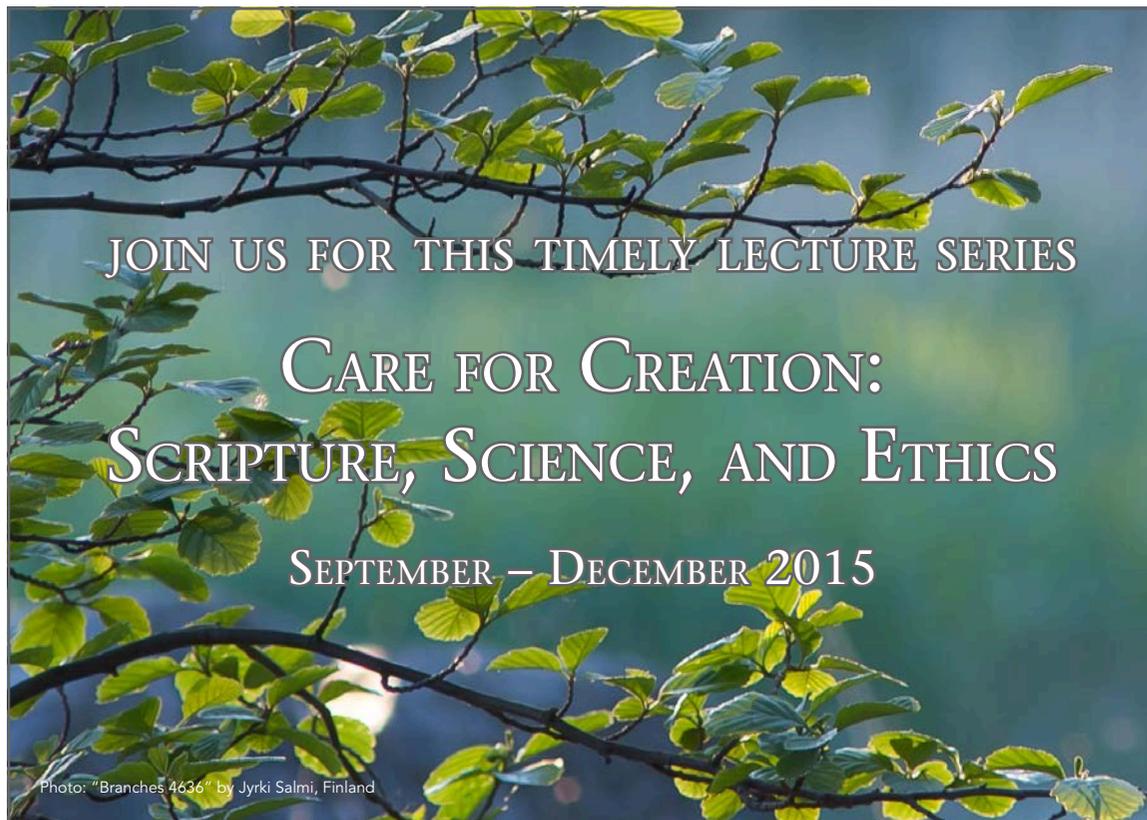
For more information or to receive an application, contact Dave MacDonald at 260-444-7645. For more information visit www.catholicsonamission.org or www.facebook.com/groups/catholicsonamission/

Immaculate Conception announces fall adult religious education dates

AUBURN — Immaculate Conception Church, 500 E. Seventh Street, Auburn, will continue to offer adult religious education this fall using "Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained." The parish will study the sacraments — what they are, where they come from, how they work and why they are needed. All sessions are free and open to the public. Each session will begin at approximately 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings, immediately following the 8 a.m. Mass, with coffee and donuts in the Parish Hall. Babysitting is available for children ages one through five.

Dates and topics are as follows: Sept. 13 — "The Sacraments: Baptism and Confirmation"; Sept. 20 — "The Eucharist: Source and Summit of Christian Life"; Oct. 4 — "Walk Through the Mass: Exploring the Sacred Liturgy"; Nov. 1 — "Penance and Anointing of the Sick: God's Mercy Revealed"; Nov. 22 — "Matrimony and Holy Orders: The Sacraments of Service and Communion."

Immaculate Conception parish office can be reached at 260-925-3930. Visit iccauburn.com for more information.



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Photo: "Branches 4636" by Jyrki Salmi, Finland

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SCOUTS EXPERIENCE FRANCISCAN IDENTITY AT ANNUAL CAMPOREE



PROVIDED BY LAURA RAY

Scouts from across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend came together Aug. 7-9 at University of Saint Francis (USF) in Fort Wayne for their annual camporee themed "Our Franciscan Identity." The Scouts had the opportunity to tour the Brookfield Mansion and hike to Lindenwood Nature Center. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass with the Scouts in the Chapel at USF, with Scouts serving as lectors, musicians and servers. Bishop Rhoades presented 17 youth with religious emblems, along with two adult awards. The evening culminated in praying the rosary around the campfire, using glow sticks to represent each bead. USF's Dr. Earl Kumfer coordinated the needed personnel from the university for the camporee.

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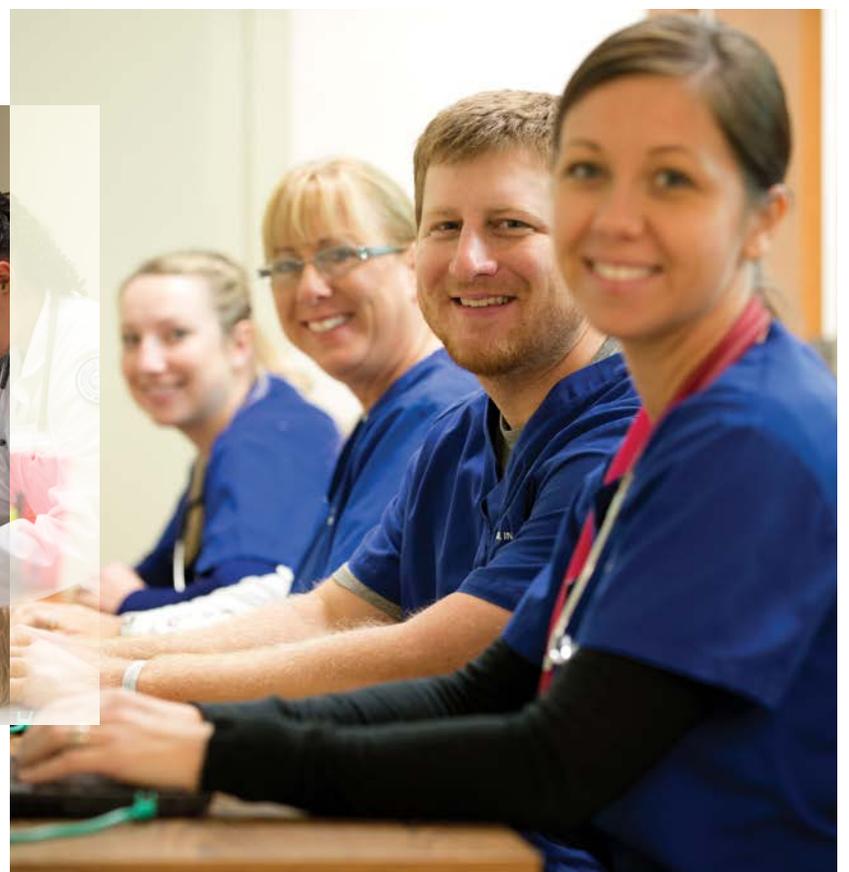
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CATHOLIC CHARITIES DISTRIBUTES BACKPACKS IN DEKALB, NOBLE COUNTIES



PROVIDED BY TERRI PFENNING, CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Young people who are on free and reduced lunches at their schools in DeKalb and Noble counties were invited to pick up backpacks offered by the RSVP program of Catholic Charities. According to the backpack program coordinator Terri Pfenning, 733 backpacks were distributed in the two counties and filled with the basics to start the school year. Pfenning said she applies for grants and receives donations from individuals and groups to fill the backpacks. Distribution points included the Catholic Charities Auburn Community Service Center, the Ligonier and Albion libraries and the Wolf Lake Community Building. The youngsters shown in the photo are from the Ligonier distribution.

St. Thomas principal excited about new role

BY DENISE FEDOROW

ELKHART — Annette Mitchell was recently named the new principal at St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart.

Mitchell received her bachelor's and master's degrees in Education at Indiana University, South Bend, and has been teaching on and off since graduating.

She and her husband Jim have been married 39 years and have been members of Queen of Peace Church in Mishawaka for 36 years. They have four grown children.

Mitchell's teaching career began at St. Vincent de Paul in Elkhart. She started the school's kindergarten program and then moved up with her class to first grade. After some years of raising her children Mitchell took a first-grade position at St. Joseph School in South Bend and then a fourth-grade teaching position at St. Thomas in Elkhart.

When Queen of Peace School reopened in 1999 Mitchell took the helm as principal and was principal at Queen of Peace for eight years — from 1999-2007 — when she felt it was time to go back to the classroom.

Fred Stump, then principal at St. Thomas, called her about a fifth-grade position. "I was delighted to come back home — it felt so natural," she said and she remained a fifth-grade teacher at St. Thomas for



DENISE FEDOROW

Recently named new principal of St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart, Annette Mitchell has taught at the school for many years, and was formerly principal for eight years at Queen of Peace School, Mishawaka.

seven years.

Now as principal, Mitchell has set her sights on the future of St. Thomas. "I would like St. Thomas to be a place where students learn to rely on God in their daily lives and (a place) where they are comforted, knowing He is always with them," she said.

"I know parents want strong academics and I believe we are very strong academically, but I believe our

job is to teach them ways to get to heaven," Mitchell shared. "I hope that the staff — all of us — create an environment where everyone can 'put on Christ' on a daily basis so the students can see that and imitate that. Where instead of just teaching and saying it, we're actively living it."

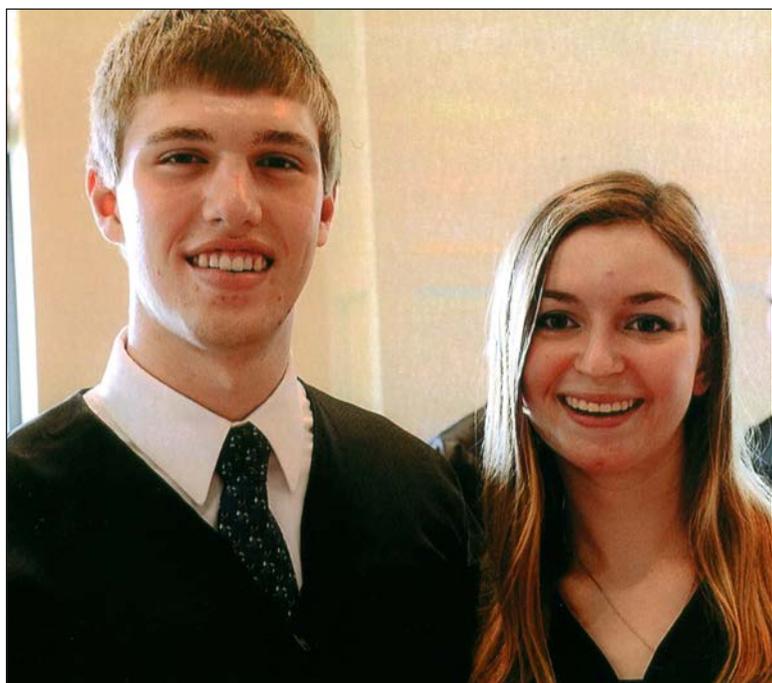
St. Thomas is starting an elective program for its middle school grades this year so students each quarter can choose classes such as pottery, photography or guitar. "We're hoping to provide something unique to add to their core classes," she said.

The school is also adding a pre-school this year and is planning to offer Good Shepherd catechesis to the pre-school and kindergarten classes.

Mitchell is looking forward to the larger role she can play at the school. "I love kids and I love being in the classroom. I love the fact that as principal I can help guide their faith and education in their years here at St. Thomas."

She believes Catholic education is important because of how it molds the whole person. "In every school we grow the future, but in Catholic schools we're molding children to be faithful, responsible adults who care for each other and the world they live in to create a brighter future."

AUBURN LIFETEEN GRADS NAMED VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN



PROVIDED BY IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH, AUBURN

Clayton Travis, left, and Krista Voirol are parishioners of Immaculate Conception Parish in Auburn and graduating members of the active Lifeteen program there. The teens attended Dekalb High School where Travis was named valedictorian of the graduating class of 2015 and Voirol earned the salutatorian rank. Travis plans to attend Princeton University and Voirol will attend Indiana University in the fall.

Don't Miss the Bus!



Tour includes visit to National Shrine of St. Kateri Tekakwitha

Father Bill Kummer and Pro Catholic Tours are leading the North American Martyrs bus tour October 18-23, 2015. Six days for \$1,900.00 includes transportation from Fort Wayne and exclusively 5 Star hotels everywhere... plus all breakfasts and dinners (wine is included with all dinners)...all entrance fees...all tips...luggage handling.

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10:00 am: Cornhole Tournament

10:30 am: Food & Drink Concessions

11:00 am-1:00 pm: Face Painting

Noon: Family Feud on Dewey Stage

2:00 pm: Square Dancing Tractors

and Alumni Golf Cart Challenge

2:00-10:30 pm: Entertainment Tent

4:00 pm: Ducky Derby

5:00 pm: Mass in the school chapel

5:30 pm: Variety Show on Dewey Stage

6:30-10:30 pm: Music by Renegade

10:30 pm: Cash Raffle Drawings

Registration forms and information are online at strosemonroeville.org

For information, contact Lori Wagner@ 260-602-4492
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PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE

Jessica Hayes lays prostrate in the cathedral sanctuary while the Litany of Supplication is recited.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades consecrates Jessica Hayes to a life of virginity on Aug. 15 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.



Attendant Kelly Fogarty places a veil on Jessica Hayes showing she has been dedicated to the service of Christ and His Body, which is the Church, during the Rite of Consecration to a Life of Virginity.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presents the ring to Jessica Hayes marking her as a bride of Christ.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presents the book containing the Liturgy of Hours, the prayer of the Church, to Jessica Hayes.

JESSICA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After the chanting of the Gospel, the actual Rite of Consecration began, and the candidate was formally presented to Bishop Rhoades.

Candidate Hayes approached the sanctuary holding a lighted candle and accompanied by two attendants, Kelly Fogarty and Emily Weimer.

Bishop Rhoades then called the candidate and said, "Come, listen to me, my daughter; I will teach you reverence for the Lord."

Hayes responded, "Now with all my heart I follow You, I reverence You and seek Your presence. Lord, fulfill my hope: show me Your loving kindness, the greatness of Your mercy."

After the homily, Hayes was asked to declare her resolution to persevere in the holy state of virginity as a bride of Christ, a witness to God's love, and a sign of the kingdom of heaven.

During the Litany of Supplication, all implored the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints, while asking God to pour out the Holy Spirit of His love on the servant whom He had chosen to be consecrated to His service.

At the Renewal of Intention, Candidate Hayes said to the bishop: "Father, receive my resolution to follow Christ in a life of perfect chastity which, with God's help, I here profess before you and God's holy people."

And then, with Hayes kneeling before him, Bishop Rhoades said the Prayer of Consecration.

After the prayer, the bishop gave a veil to the newly consecrated and said, "Receive this veil, by which you are to show that you have been chosen from other women to be dedicated to the service of Christ and of His Body, which is the Church."

Bishop Rhoades then presented Hayes with the ring and said, "Receive the ring that marks you as a bride of Christ. Keep unstained your fidelity to your Bridegroom, that you may one day be admitted to the wedding feast of everlasting joy."

Lastly, the bishop presented Hayes with a book containing the Liturgy of the Hours, part of the Church's official liturgy that marks and sanctifies the hours of each day in prayer.

Bishop Rhoades said: "Receive the book of the Liturgy of the Hours, the prayer of the Church; may the praise of our heavenly Father be always on your lips; pray without ceasing for the salvation of the whole world."

Hayes told *Today's Catholic* she felt a "deep gratitude for the Church and for being Catholic, knowing whatever desire is placed upon our hearts by God, the Church has a place for us. And this is my place."

Last year with the diocesan consecration to Jesus through Mary on the solemnity of the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary, before Bishop Rhoades and Hayes had chosen the date, Hayes noted, "as we were walking the procession with Our Lady after that consecration Mass, I thought, 'I bet this will be my day.' And that seems like a perfect day. So I renewed my Marian consecration on that same day in honor of that."

Hayes' attendant Emily Weimer said she thinks the life of a consecrated virgin "is a beautiful vocation. And I think our diocese is so lucky to have her because her job is to pray for our Church and for our diocese."

Weimer said she was pleased, happy and blessed to be asked to be an attendant. Hayes, Weimer and Fogarty, as a group of friends, have been praying about vocations for some time, Weimer noted.

Kelly Fogarty, a teacher at Bishop Dwenger High School, has been Hayes' friend for the last nine years.

Fogarty noted, "It's a vocation that a lot of people don't know about, so it's not something that even comes to mind. But when she explained what it was and that she was going to be a consecrated virgin, it made a lot of sense. I can very much see that is what God's plan is for her."

More photos are available at diocesefwsb.org.



DECATUR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"This parish has a special place in your hearts, manifested in your generosity and stewardship of time, talent and treasure," he related. "... We pray that the faith and devotion that is so much a part of St. Mary's history may continue to grow and flourish here as the parish moves into the future with hope and confidence."

"One of the titles of our Blessed Mother is 'spes nostra,' 'our hope,'" he said. "The beautiful mystery of Mary's Assumption into heaven, the title of this church and patroness of this parish, is a great mystery of hope. The Blessed Virgin Mary, our mother, at the end of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven. The hope of humanity became a reality, entered the world and its history, many years earlier when Mary said 'yes' at the Annunciation. 'She opened the door of our world to God Himself' (Spe salvi 49). In her, God took flesh and became one of us. Through her, the Lord of life came into the world."

"... The Virgin Mary is, therefore, for us a consoling sign of our hope," Bishop Rhoades continued. "We can experience so much peace and consolation and hope when we are close to the Blessed Virgin Mary, when we take hold of her motherly hand as we journey through life. She will never let go. How many of the faithful, your ancestors in the faith here at St. Mary's Parish, grasped Mary's hand in their journey of faith. They passed on to you the most beautiful gift, the gift of our Catholic faith. They taught you to follow Christ and to love Him and His holy mother. We all need Mary's help and comfort to face the trials and challenges of daily life. We live in hope, that one day we will share in her same destiny. May Our Lady, who was assumed body and soul into heaven, assist us so that we may follow her into our Father's house, the Kingdom of her Son!"

Parishioners expressed their love and adherence to the faith heritage of St. Mary of the Assumption.

"Peace, home, faith are the three words that best describe St. Mary's for me," said parishioner Kelly Ehinger. She serves as the director of Adams Public Library and is a member of the parish choir and a St. Joseph School parent.

"I came to Decatur in 1997 as a single and I felt immediately drawn to this parish," she said. "So many people were (and still are) always welcoming. At the time I felt as if the older ladies adopted me as part of the family, and I got to know many people in the church including my future mother-in-law."

"Now as parents of teenagers, we are encouraged by faith formation of our youth, the steadfastness of our older parishioners, the sense of tradition and heritage of our parish, and the true presence of God," Ehinger added. "We love this parish and are happy to call it home."

Joyce Schultz has been a lifelong member of St. Mary Parish. She is active in the Women of St. Mary and Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes Bond of Love and Prayer ministries. Schultz shared with *Today's Catholic*, "I have been a member of St. Mary's Parish since the late 1950s. I am so fortunate to have had parents who instilled strong faith and family values in me and my 10 siblings."

"St. Mary's Parish is an extension of my family and friends that I rely upon daily who share my Catholic faith," she said.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades gathers with the 175th anniversary committee, after Mass in the hall adjacent to the church.



Parishioners enjoy refreshments after Mass in the hall adjacent to the church.



The Knights of Columbus participate in the Mass from the back two rows of church. During the opening and closing processions, the Knights lined both sides of the main aisle with swords drawn.

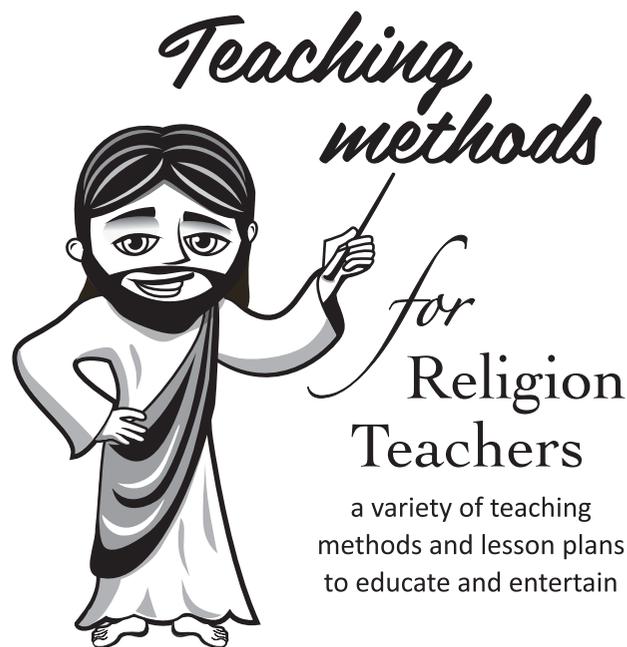


Choir members hold hands during the Our Father.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates Mass at St. Mary of the Assumption to close the 175th anniversary of the parish. With bishop from left are, Father David Voors, pastor, Deacon Jerry Kohrman, Vincentian Father Jose Panamattathil, parochial vicar, and Father Dan Durkin and Father Steve Colchin, both sons of the parish who became priests. Other priest-sons of the parish in active ministry are Msgr. William Schooler and Father Dale Bauman.

PHOTOS BY JOE ROMIE



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Embracing the eremitical life

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — As the Church celebrates the Year of Consecrated Life as declared by Pope Francis, its faithful gives thanks for those who live out their religious vocation in service to the Lord and His people. Most are familiar with the vocations of religious brothers, sisters and priests, most of whom live in religious communities. But here in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, three women have chosen a unique vocation that begs solitude rather than community — the life of a hermit.

Sister Nancy Frentz, who has been a canonical hermit for two years, Sister Jane Brackebush, who recently observed her first anniversary of consecrated life as a hermit, and Sister Mary Ann Burkhart, the newest member of the eremitical life, having professed first vows at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Fort Wayne on July 8, have chosen the life of solitude and silence.

In his homily at the Mass on July 8 Bishop Rhoades instructed the congregation, “The lives of hermits were marked by solitude and prayer. The Second Vatican Council acknowledged and affirmed this ancient form of consecrated life and it is described in the 1983 Code of Canon Law in this way: ‘In addition to the institutes of consecrated life, the Church recognizes the eremitic or anchoritic life by which the Christian faithful devote their life to the praise of God and the salvation of the world through a stricter withdrawal from the world, the silence of solitude and assiduous prayer and penance.’” The code also says that “a hermit is recognized by law as one dedicated to God in consecrated life if he or she publicly professes in the hands of the diocesan bishop the three evangelical counsels, confirmed by vow or other sacred bond, and observes a proper program of living under his direction.”

All three women had once lived out the vocation of marriage in their lives. Two of the women have children and grandchildren. Later in life, as responsibilities shifted, each sought to live their calling to religious life and joined a religious congregation. Eventually, each sister discerned a call to the eremitical life and contacted Bishop Rhoades for his approval. They each professed first or temporary vows with Bishop Rhoades and have three years from their first profession to discern the vocation before professing permanent vows. The bishop serves as their superior.

Each hermit has a rule of life approved by the bishop. Sister Frentz lives in her own home, which she shares with Sister Brackebush. They each contribute through their retirement funds to the upkeep of the home. Sister Burkhart lives in her own home and supports herself through retirement funds as well. They live separately and sparingly, and have no televisions in their



PHOTO BY JERRY KESSENS

From left are Sister Jane Brackebush, Sister Mary Ann Burkhart and Sister Nancy Frentz, the three canonical hermits of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The July 8 photo was taken following the Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Fort Wayne in which Sister Burkhart professed her first vows as a hermit.

Fast facts about eremitical life

- Hermits “devote their life to the praise of God and salvation of the world through a stricter separation from the world, the silence of solitude and assiduous prayer and penance.”
- There has been an increase in the hermitic life due to the 1984 promulgation of Canon 603, which allowed bishops to accept within their own dioceses hermits who were not affiliated with religious orders.
- Canon law allows men and women in later life the opportunity to discern whether they have a call to the hermitic life.
- A hermit professes temporary vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, and has three years of discernment before the profession of permanent vows.
- The diocesan bishop is a canonical hermit’s superior.
- A canonical hermit lives by the specific rule of life discerned with his or her bishop.
- A hermit has a specific apostolate.
- A hermit supports him or herself financially.
- Though hermits are set apart from the community they can still talk with people.
- Early hermits include St. Juan Diego, St. Jerome and Sarah of the Desert. Contemporary hermits include Thomas Merton, Maria Boulding and Sister Scholastica Egan.

Sources: www.catholicworldreport.com, USCCB.org, Wikipedia

homes. Each sister wears a habit, though it is not required. It is, they say, a witness to their faith.

Their days consist of daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, recitation of the rosary, praying the Liturgy of the Hours, and much more. Though they have been set apart from the community and required to refuse participation in social gatherings, they can speak to others while attending Mass and their family members, and go out for groceries and the like. Loneliness is a non-issue, they say, because they reside in the presence of God. The hermits report that though they spend the bulk of their days in prayer, none adhere to any specific time schedule.

Each hermit has her own apostolate of prayer as discerned with Bishop Rhoades. Sister Frentz, who came in to the Church in 1986, prays daily for the sick and dying, and for priests and religious. Sister Brackebush lifts priests and religious, all diocesan offices, the poor souls in purgatory, the conversion

of sinners, the world and all prayer requests up in prayer each day. And Sister Burkhart’s prayer apostolate includes priests and religious, the conversion of sinners and peace.

When asked how this solitary prayer life benefits the community, Sister Frentz says simply, “Prayer is always beneficial.”

Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne and judicial vicar, notes that prayer is the spiritual engine of the diocese. “A life of prayer helps bring spiritual blessings on the diocese,” he says, adding that the life of a hermit is a witness to all to live as Christ did. “Their service,” he says, “is prayer and witness.”

As each professes a calling to this unique way of life that affords them the solitude to draw ever closer to God and His people through prayer and penance, Sister Burkhart says, “The goal is to do God’s will always. Poverty, chastity and obedience helps.”

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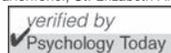
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Sacred Heart in Warsaw hosts mission trip

WARSAW — Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw sent 10 teens and adults to work on the St. John Paul II School in Kenscoff, Haiti. Their mission was to paint classrooms at the school associated with their mission twin parish, St. Nicholas in Kenscoff. The team consisted of Pat and Leigh Cox and their daughter Maddy, Diane Wack, Mike Powers and son Shane, Bobby Zogbi, Ida and Bob List, all from Sacred Heart, and Linda Thieman, the team's guide from St. Henry, Ohio, who has led nearly 70 missions to Haiti.

The team arrived in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on the afternoon of June 16 and after a bumpy ride to Kenscoff, they settled into their accommodations at Father Isaac's rectory and had a meal. The next morning the team began with Mass at 6:15 a.m. before gathering the materials needed to begin painting the classrooms. Since school was still in session, with testing in progress, the team was limited on the rooms available to paint. But by lunchtime three rooms were completed.

Father Isaac and Father Raynold had lunch prepared for the team, which was back to painting by 1 p.m. The students moved their desks out to the patio and other areas so the team could access their classrooms allowing another three rooms to be painted.

The team played with some of the parish children while their moms were either in a Bible class or choir practice. Despite the language barrier, the "Cat's in the Cradle," hand tricks and bubbles were enjoyed by all.

That evening, Bill Nathan, the interpreter, gave a talk on his life in Haiti. He was orphaned at the age of six and became a restavek (a child slave) to the family that adopted him. He was rescued from that situation and brought to St. Joseph's



PROVIDED BY SACRED HEART PARISH

A team cleans up after painting eight school classrooms in a day and a half. Pictured from left are Shane Powers (hidden), Leigh Cox, Bobbi Zogbi and Maddy Cox.

Home for Boys in Port-au-Prince. At St. Joseph's, he was able to grow up in a safe environment and receive an education. He is now the director of the home.

The next morning after breakfast the team watched the students gather in the courtyard for school. They began with songs, their national anthem and flag raising. The principal had a student give the morning announcements and then all the students turned to their visitors and said "Bonjour." The team then visited each class and passed out candy. Painting resumed and a total of eight classrooms were completed.

That afternoon the team visited Wings of Hope, a home for mentally or physically handicapped children and young adults. Since some Haitians still practice voodoo, those with physical or mental handicaps are considered possessed and thought of as throw-aways in Haiti. The home assists them in finding meaning and purpose and prepares

them to be assimilated into society. Josephine, a teenager there, sang a beautiful rendition of "What A Wonderful World" that she taught herself not having had any English language training.

The remainder of time was spent visiting other orphanages, boys' homes, Mother Teresa's Baby Hospital, Cité Soleil, the largest slum in the hemisphere, some chapels around Kenscoff and St. Joseph's Home for Boys in Port-au-Prince where they spent the remainder of their stay in Haiti.

The team felt blessed to be able to attend three daily Masses plus Sunday Mass at their Mission Twin Parish, St. Nicholas in Kenscoff. Father Isaac, and Father Raynold were gracious hosts and made the group feel welcome during their stay there. They came to realize that they came to Haiti as visitors, became family and returned home as ambassadors.

Education for Ministry to offer classes

Education for Ministry is offering the following classes in Fort Wayne and South Bend:

- Introduction to Catechesis, Fort Wayne

Cynthia Wolf will teach this unit of the Education for Ministry program on Thursdays, Sept. 3, 10, 17 and 24 from 6-8:30 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul School. For more information call 260-399-1411 or email jmartin@diocesefwsb.org. Registration required. Registration deadline is Thursday, Aug. 20.

- Introduction to Catechesis, South Bend

Carol Cone will teach this unit of the Education for Ministry program on Thursdays, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17 from 6-8:30 p.m. at St. John Paul II Center, Mishawaka. For more information call 260-399-1411 or email jmartin@diocesefwsb.org. Registration required. Registration deadline is Thursday, Aug. 20.

- Introduction to Prayer, Fort Wayne

The Office of Catechesis will offer this unit of the Education for Ministry program on Thursdays,

Oct. 1, 8, 15 and 22 from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. For more information call 260-399-1411 or email jmartin@diocesefwsb.org. Registration required. Registration deadline is Thursday, Sept. 30.

- Introduction to Prayer, South Bend

Deacon Bill Gallagher will teach this unit of the Education for Ministry program on Thursdays, Oct. 1, 8, 15 and 22 from 6-8:30 p.m. at the St. John Paul II Center, Mishawaka. For more information call 260-399-1411 or email jmartin@diocesefwsb.org. Registration required. Registration deadline is Thursday, Sept. 30.

- Introduction to Scripture, Fort Wayne

The Office of Catechesis will offer this unit of the Education for Ministry program on Thursdays, Nov. 5, 12, 19 and Dec. 3 from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. For more information call 260-399-1411 or email jmartin@diocesefwsb.org. Registration required. Registration deadline is Thursday, Oct. 28.

- Introduction to Scripture, South Bend

Claire Myers will teach this unit of the Education for Ministry program on Thursdays, Nov. 5, 12, 19, and Dec. 3 from 6-8:30 p.m. at Saint Joseph High School. For more information call 260-399-1411 or email jmartin@diocesefwsb.org. Registration required. Registration deadline is Thursday, Oct. 28.

St. Monica plans alumni, parish reunion and Mass

MISHAWAKA — St. Monica School and parish alumni are invited to a reunion at Battell Park near the bandshell from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Aug. 29. Bring a dish to share and contact Joanne Eichhorn, reunion committee chair, at j2411@aol.com or 574-340-1502. On Aug. 30, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate Mass at 1 p.m. at St. Monica Church, 222 W. Mishawaka Ave, Mishawaka, followed by a dinner celebration at 2:30 p.m. at Riverside Terrace, 426 Lincolnway E. in Mishawaka. For reservations contact Jim and Collette Russell, dinner chairs, at 574-255-7230 or jussell@hammerplastics.com.



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Light breakfast will follow 8:00 am Mass Sunday.

Italian Luncheon will follow 10:30 am Mass Sunday.

Consenting to the unconscionable

In recent years, scientists in industry and academia have come to rely on freshly obtained human tissue specimens for certain types of research and experimentation. Sometimes these tissues and organs can be obtained after routine surgeries like gall bladder removal from adults or foreskin removal during the circumcision of newborns. The use of such tissues and organs can be morally acceptable if the patient (or the parents of the newborn) provide informed consent. The use of cells and tissues from fetuses can also be morally acceptable when those cells are obtained from a natural miscarriage, and the parents provide consent. This would be equivalent to consenting to an organ donation from their deceased child.

Recently, however, a phenomenon has come to light that involves the partnering of biomedical researchers with abortionists, for the purpose of securing a reliable supply of human tissues and organs. In these cases, parental consent (usually from the mother) may be sought prior to using the aborted child's remains. Researchers claim this consent is necessary to enable the ethical use of the

cells or tissues. This procedural detail is frequently described in the section called "Materials and Methods" found in scientific research papers, as, for example, in this February 2015 article on brain research in the journal *Science*:

"Human fetal brain tissue was obtained from the (clinic), following elective pregnancy termination and informed written maternal consents, and with approval of the local University Hospital Ethical Review Committees."

Planned Parenthood, the largest provider of abortions in the United States, also seeks maternal consent prior to procuring fetal body parts from direct abortions, as chronicled by the Center for Medical Progress in their bombshell 2015 video exposé in which the sales of fetal heart, lungs, brain and liver were discussed and negotiated.

The strong public outcry that followed these revelations of harvesting fetal organs was understandable on the one hand, yet difficult to explain on the other, since there hadn't been a parallel outcry when it came to the more offensive act of terminating the life of the unborn child itself. As one commentator



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

observed, "Maybe it is not enough to be outraged at abortion on its face because, I don't know, killing is somehow worse if body parts are sold."

Despite this inconsistency, it is nonetheless clear that the use of tissues and organs from direct abortions raises significant moral concerns, even if the mother's signature may have been sought and obtained.

Typically when we serve as a proxy for someone and give consent on their behalf, we act simply as their agent and provide an affirmation of their original wishes ("yes, he told me he wanted to donate his kidneys"). Alternatively, if we do not know the wishes of the deceased patient, we do our best to make a reasonable decision based on the specifics of their situation, using a "best interest" standard ("based

on my friendship with him and concern for him, I think he really would have wanted to donate his kidneys"). When we serve as a proxy decision maker for a fetus, an infant, or a deceased child prior to the age of reason, it is incumbent on us to make a "best interest" decision on their behalf. The assumption is that as we cared for them in life, and had their best interests in mind while they were living, we can continue to exercise that "best interest" decision-making capacity later when they are deceased.

But if the mother of an aborted child were to sign on the dotted line granting permission to utilize fetal cells and organs, that consent would necessarily be void, because she would have already categorically demonstrated that she does not have the best interests of her child in mind, having arranged for the taking of that child's life. From the ethical point of view, she has disqualified herself from being able to give valid informed consent on behalf of her now-deceased child.

In the absence of proper informed consent, taking organs or tissues from the corpse would represent a further violation of the integrity of the child's

body and constitute a failure to respect the remains of the dead. Thus, the tissues and organs of the directly aborted child should not be utilized for research, transplantation or the development of therapies, but instead should be given a proper and respectful burial. In the final analysis, maternal consent cannot provide moral clearance for researchers to utilize fetal remains from direct abortions in their research. Such permission from the mother is not, objectively speaking, an authentic form of consent but is rather a type of "sham consent" that secures the veneer of legitimacy for what is ultimately an unconscionable research practice.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.

earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts, and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

All are equal in God's love and plan for salvation



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Jn 6:60-69

The Book of Joshua, the source for this weekend's first reading, looks at the period in the history of God's people when Joshua led them. It was after the death of Moses.

Even though these connections may seem to be clear, biblical scholars disagree about the exact date of this period as well as the time of this book's composition.

This much is clear. Hebrew history was not written as much to chronicle events and happenings as to chart the people's religious response to God's revelation.

In this reading, Joshua gathers all the people at Shechem, along with the leaders of the people, the senior members, the judges and the warriors. He puts before this assembly a blunt and fundamental question. Do they wish to follow God or not?

The people cry out that they wish to follow God. Although

on occasion they rebelled, God brought them out of Egypt and protected them as they made their weary, and dangerous, way across the Sinai Peninsula.

For its second reading, this weekend's liturgy turns to the Epistle to the Ephesians. Not uncommonly, this reading is cited as reinforcing the subjugation of women, once so prevalent, since wives are admonished to obey their husbands.

Knowing the context is essential to understanding this reading. Marriage among pagans in the Roman Empire was quite removed from modern ideals for marriage. Wives were little more than glorified slaves, virtually going to the highest bidder. They had no rights.

Understandably, many marriages were very troubled. Often, spouses detested each other. Often, wives were abused.

This epistle, a classic of Christian behavior about human living, calls for a different style of marriage. Using lofty examples to describe marriage, it speaks of the union between Christ and the Church.

At the time it was revolutionary. It established the dignity of women, because Christ loves and redeems all people equally, male and female.

In the culture of the time were responsible for the well being of families. Wives should be in accord with their husbands. Husbands, however, most

importantly, should love their wives, indeed with the same unqualified self-sacrificing love with which Christ loves the Church.

This exalts women, insisting upon the equality of all people.

St. John's Gospel furnishes the last reading.

In preceding verses, Jesus spoke about the "bread of life." Jesus is the bread of life. After Jesus spoke these words, many disciples walked away. People even today find this at least a puzzling statement.

Very critical to the story is the fact that the Twelve did not desert Jesus. The Lord asked the Apostles to look deeply into their hearts. Would they walk away with the others?

For all the Apostles, Peter responds with a magnificent expression of faith. Saluting Jesus as "God's holy one," the Messiah, in itself a powerful testimony, Peter, says, "Lord, you have the words of eternal life."

Reflection

The Church for weeks has called us to realize our limitations as human beings, and it also has reassured us that God's mercy, love and power lavishly assists humans. We will not be left helplessly to face our needs.

For instance, we risk starvation, spiritually as well as physically. We cannot produce

food on our own. God comes to us with the bread of everlasting life. Jesus is the bread of life.

We must decide ourselves either to accept this bread or to reject it. Many rejected Jesus in the Gospel stories and later.

Fully realizing their need for the Lord, the solitary source of genuine life, the Apostles are examples to follow.

As Peter declared for them, Jesus alone has the words of eternal life.

The Lord redeems us all, equal in God's love and in God's plan for salvation, if we ask for eternal life.

READINGS

Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b Ps 34:2-3, 16-21 Eph 5:21-32 Jn 6:60-69

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14 Ps 145: 10-13, 17-18 Jn 1:45-51

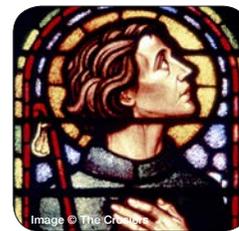
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8 Ps 139:1-3, 4-6 Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13 Ps 139:7-12b Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17 Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1-2b, 5-6, 10-12 Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1, 7-9 Mk 6:17-29



Saint of the week:

Stanislaus Kostka

1550 - 1568

feast - Aug. 15

Born in the family castle in Poland, Stanislaus was educated privately, then at a Jesuit college in Vienna, Austria. After having visions during a serious illness, he decided to enter the Jesuits. His father, a Polish senator, opposed this; he wanted Stanislaus to become a diplomat. Rejected by the Vienna Jesuits, Stanislaus walked to the Upper Germany province, where Peter Canisius took him in, then sent him to Rome. In 1567, the father general accepted Stanislaus into the Society of Jesus; for the nine months before his death in Rome, he lived a life of mortifications, ecstasies and holiness. A patron saint of Poland, he was canonized in 1726 with another Jesuit novice, Aloysius Gonzaga.

Superheroes and our daughters

Our society is mesmerized by the modern superhero. Whether it is Captain America or Thor, there is something appealing about a strong, sure man who rises up for good. In a way, I think that superhero movies are the contemporary yet retro comic book twist to the old westerns, which depicted strong cowboys fighting the bad guys, the white hats versus the black hats, if you will. At any rate, the box office shows that the public is responding incredibly positively to the genre of superhero films.

Interestingly, this is occurring when Pew Research indicates that Christians in America are declining sharply as people who identify as “unaffiliated” increase. It seems we simultaneously want a savior, a hero, but reject the One. As a culture we are turning away from Christianity — recognizing Jesus as savior of the world — and turning instead to ... an Avenger? Yes, we are, sadly, because let’s face it, Captain America is fun to watch and isn’t going to ask anything of us.

I’m not labeling Jesus as a “superhero” because that is to minimize and trivialize Him for sure, but it is interesting that recent statistics show that while our obsession with superheroes is high, religious devotion, faith in the One who can really save, is waning.

Let’s sit with that for a minute and consider how this relates to our daughters.

As a mother of six girls, I think about the following a lot: what kind of men are we counseling our daughters to look for in a date, and eventually in a husband? Are we putting value in the qualities found in a fallible Thor-like god or those found in Jesus, one who is God Himself? Are we encouraging our girls to develop a strong relationship with Jesus first, which is and

should be primary, and which will in turn become foundational in her relationship with her future husband? We should be. We should be introducing her to Christ in the Scriptures and most certainly in the sacraments, and by doing so, we raise the bar for herself, and for the human man who may one day be her spouse.

We need to turn our daughters’ thoughts to Jesus, to teach them how to fall in love with Him, not in a romantic love per se, but the kind of total love of a created being for her Creator, one that permeates her to the core and challenges her to become what she is, a love that makes her — no compels her — to be the best she can be, pouring out then that same love to everyone she meets, and ultimately, intimately and personally to her husband and children, if that is her vocation.

We should counsel our daughters to know Christ well and first, and then to look for Christ-like qualities in the young men they date, which is the pool from which they will eventually marry. This means they date young men who, like Christ, challenge them to be good and heroically lead the way.

Additionally, while physical attraction is not to be dismissed because it is after all part of God’s plan to get two people together initially to see if they are compatible, good Catholic mothers (and fathers who will lead by example) must tell their daughters that they should look beyond physical attraction for enduring virtues and qualities in a future spouse:

- A man who has faith
- A man who has patience and strength
- A man who will provide and protect his family
- A man who possesses wisdom
- A man with self control, not full of folly or attachment to



HERESA A. THOMAS

EVERYDAY CATHOLIC

frivolous things
• And perhaps most importantly, a man who is willing to sacrifice for her and for the family

A man like Christ

These qualities mentioned above manifest in a human are but a shadow of the real One she must seek. Jesus. She must also strive to emulate His virtuous example. Obviously, perfection does not exist in this world, and I’m not suggesting we hold people to unattainable standards. I’m merely suggesting we look beyond societal definitions of “heroic” and think about what really is.

God’s plan is different for each daughter. Some may have a religious vocation or stay single, but most will marry. God is the ultimate Truth, Beauty and Goodness. The more someone reflects those traits, the more he reflects God. Let us teach our girls to strive for that in themselves and to look for that in their future spouses. After all, the real hero we must teach our girls (and boys) to emulate and seek, the One who really saves, is Christ.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for August 9, 2015

John 6:41-51

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: a lesson about food for eternity. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JEW	THE BREAD	JESUS
JOSEPH	FATHER	MURMURING
NO ONE	COMES	DRAWS HIM
RAISE	LAST DAY	PROPHETS
HAS SEEN	FROM GOD	BELIEVES
ETERNAL	MANNA	DIED
NOT DIE	FOREVER	FLESH

DRAWING THEM

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

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READINGS for the week of August 30

- Sunday:** Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 Ps 15:2-5 Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18 Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13 Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8 Ps 52:10-11 Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14 Ps 98:2-6 Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Col 1:15-20 Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: Col 1:21-23 Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8 Lk 6:1-5

2015 World Meeting of Families: the family fully alive

Preparations for the 2015 World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia are heating up. As many as 2 million people are expected to descend on “the city of brotherly love” for the closing Mass with Pope Francis. New security measures continue to be announced and much of the downtown area will be closed to incoming traffic for the last couple of days in which the pope will participate in the weeklong event.

Last month, for example, we reported that Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades would be celebrating two Masses in downtown Philadelphia. Due to security issues, the first of these that was scheduled to take place at the historic Shrine of St. John Neumann on Friday, Sept. 25, has been moved up a day. This Mass will be celebrated especially for those with disabilities and their caregivers on Thursday, Sept. 24,

at 7 p.m. It will still be followed by a reception. The second Mass will still be celebrated especially for all pilgrims from our diocese at St. John the Evangelist Church on Saturday, Sept. 26, at 8:30 a.m. All are welcome to either or both of these downtown Masses.

We continue to get inquiries from families in our diocese that are going on their own to Philadelphia. Some will be participating in the full week of events, which begins with the Theological Congress at the downtown convention center on Sept. 22. Some are only coming for the closing Mass with the pope on Sunday, Sept. 27. We recommend checking in regularly on the World Meeting of Families website to find the latest information: www.worldmeeting2015.org. Also, it is still not too late to register for the four day Congress if you are thinking about attending.



FRED AND LISA EVERETT

LOVE IS OUR MISSION

The Congress will consist of keynote addresses interspersed with simultaneous breakout sessions. Bishop-elect Robert Barron will give the opening keynote on Tuesday afternoon on “Living as the Image of God: Created for Joy and Love.” On Wednesday morning, African Cardinal Robert Sarah, the new prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, will give another keynote address on “The Light of the Family in a Dark World,”

and later that afternoon, Helen Alvaré, mother of three and former spokeswoman for the U.S. Bishops on Pro-Life Activities, of Women, will speak on “Creating the Future: The Fertility of Love.” On Thursday morning, Dr. Juan Francisco de la Guardia Brin and Mrs. Gabriela N. de la Guardia will speak on “A Gift from God: The Meaning of Human Sexuality,” followed that afternoon by Cardinal Luis Tagle, the Archbishop of Manila, on “The Family: Home for the Wounded Heart.” On Friday morning, Cardinal Seán Patrick O’Malley, the Archbishop of Boston, will team up with Pastor Rick Warren, author of “The Purpose Drive Life,” to speak on “The Joy of the Gospel of Life.” Presenters for the breakout sessions include well-known Catholic apologists Scott Hahn, Christopher West, Janet Smith, Greg and Lisa Popcak, Simcha Fisher, Chris

Stefanek, Rose Sweet, Terry Polakovic, Ron Belgau, among dozens of others.

During the week of the World Meeting of Families, we will be posting observations and updates from Philadelphia on our office Facebook page: www.facebook.com/familyprolife. We may, for example, be gathering at a particular site to share thoughts and refreshments at the end of the day, and will be posting when and where on Facebook. So whether you will be attending the World Meeting of Families in person or in spirit, be sure to check us out there.

Fred and Lisa Everett are co-directors of the Office of Family Life.

Fall Sports



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Pre- view



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Homecoming—September 18

4:30 p.m.—Mass with Fr. Jonathan Norton, class of 2000

Distinguished Knights will be honored

5:30 p.m.—Tailgate

7:00 p.m.—Luers vs. Concordia

Adult Bonfire following the game featuring the band "Bonafide" with lead vocalist and fiddler, Heidi Herber, class of 1990, sponsored by



www.bishopluers.org

Good Luck Knights!

Fall sports programs primed with loads of talent

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — John Bennett returns as athletic director for Bishop Dwenger and Rick Brown is back for Bishop Luers. With the summer months winding down, rosters have been firmed up and athletes from the Fort Wayne area Catholic high schools are primed for the fall season. Both Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger return loads of talent in northeast Indiana as they vie for Summit Athletic Conference (SAC) titles and deep postseason runs. Here is a preview of the 2015 teams.

Bishop Luers High School fall sports

Cross-country

Under the direction of first-year head coach, Nichole Wellman, the Bishop Luers cross-country program lists 31 athletes on the 2015 roster, which includes 13 seniors. Returning varsity include runners Dana Baldus, Kaitlin Emmet, Madison Busch, Emily McManus, Maria Lill, Steve Moore and Patrick Rorick.

Emmett, Rorick, Moore and Busch will serve as captains this season. During the 2014 postseason, the Knights had five runners advance to regionals, one of which went on to semi-state. With a strong senior class, Bishop Luers has a goal of working as a team, pushing forward and improving each race. New to the course this year and expected to make an impact will be Joe Deiser, Stephen Busch and Leah Hall. Wellman coaches to guide young adults to use their God-given talent, whether in a race, in the classroom or somewhere else and to push themselves and their teammates to do their best. The math teacher adds, "The athletes I coach are truly an inspiration to me."

Golf

Coach Tom O'Brien predicts the Bishop Luers golf team should be "very balanced" this season. The Knights welcome back senior Madi Jenkins to the links who has not played since her freshman season. Jenkins medaled for the team in two summer tournaments along with Sarah Braun and Katie Leja. The 2014 all-conference selection, Katie Pendergast, also returns for Bishop Luers. Along with their six seniors, the Knights also list six new freshmen on their roster. "We may start a little slow, but we should be pretty darn good once we get going," concludes O'Brien.

Volleyball

Bishop Luers volleyball will return two seniors and five sophomores from the 2014 varsity squad. Senior setter Kayla Knapke and senior Nakaya Thompson, who are poised for a breakout season, will lead the Knights. Coach Jay Golsteyn adds, "We have five soph-

omores who look to play large roles on the team this year. Luers should be able to attack the ball from either antenna." With a goal to improve on their 2014 finish, Golsteyn foresees the team achieving a record over .500. "All our hitters are really good so we will be able to spread

the ball out and be effective with anybody we set," Golsteyn continued. Like every year, the match against Bishop Dwenger will be a highlight of the season. "They are really good this year but we're hoping we can pull a rabbit out of the hat and pull an upset," concludes Golsteyn, a two-time All-American and former IFFW standout.

Football

Led by 21 seniors, the 2015 Bishop Luers football team will have a good mix of experienced and new players. After an impressive 11-3 overall finish a year ago, the Knights return five starters on the offense and six defensive players. Senior captains include Justin Dippold, Savion Golden, Mick Palmer and Daemen Williams. Senior Noah Wezensky is back with 30 touchdowns and just 1,400 yards away from school and city-passing records, while Austin Mack is closing in on the most school-career receiving records. Defensively, Isaac Morken returns for his third season as starting safety with 75 tackles last year. In 2014, Bishop Luers tied for first place in the conference going 6-1 and made a semi-state appearance. This year they will have size up front and speed at the skill positions on both offense and defense. In his third season, Coach Kyle Lindsay, a decorated Luers quarterback himself, adds, "Work ethic, attitude and leadership have been strong thus far. I believe this team can play with anyone if they stay focused on each opponent."

Girls' soccer

In his rookie season, Coach Jozsef Feher will look to his seven seniors to make a big difference for the Bishop Luers soccer team, especially captains Madeline Reimbold and Jordan Turpchinoff. Junior Kennedy Brough will also have an impact on the midfield and offense, while three incoming freshman (Rachel Notter, Ashlynn Gray and Katelynn Gray) show a lot of potential. Feher holds an NSCAA National Coaching diploma, USSF National B coaching license and formerly coached for the South Side High School program.



Tennis

After the most successful boys' tennis season since 1968, Bishop Luers is looking forward to 2015 and taking to the courts. The Knights went undefeated in conference play (7-0) and won the SAC championship a year ago in a come-from-behind clinching match against Bishop Dwenger. Even after graduating a large group of seniors, Coach Joel Pyle is excited about the potential of his returning talent. "And we're impressed with what we've seen from our newcomers," says Pyle, who played tennis for Huntington University. "We have added experience by former underclassmen in big matches and our positive attitude and effort continue to improve," says the father of three. As a team, Bishop Luers has goals for 2015 to repeat winning the SAC, advance in the postseason and continue to develop their underclassmen. The Knights' team captain is senior Ethan Brown.

Boys' soccer

The Bishop Luers boys' soccer team started practice at Lutheran Unity Field right beside the Bishop Luers football field on Aug. 3. They will open the season at the SAC Jamboree then travel to Canterbury High School for their first match of the regular season on Aug. 20. In other early action, they will travel to the Bishop Luers boys' festival on Aug. 22. Coach John Myers returns a strong senior class and will mix in some juniors and sophomores. Returning varsity players include Jake Shifflet, Luke Fabina, Jake Fabina, Luis Munoz, Jorge Barron, Noah Hoeffel, Brady Bubb, Brandon Bowers, Chris Carranza, Brett Sensibaugh and James Ingar, while newcomers to watch are listed as John Hipskind, Vinnie Connett, Julian Baltazar and Jackson Hser. Myers predicts a better than .500 finish and a postseason run from his squad for 2015.

Bishop Dwenger High School

Cross-country

Part of a highly successful program as assistant the past five years, Thomas Crum will take over as the head coach for the Bishop Dwenger cross-country teams this season. The sales associate at Three Rivers Running Company has not changed much of the workout routine in the preseason and has been busy preparing his squad for fall races. The Saints lost a lot of experience to graduation. Their roster lists nearly 65 young men and women for 2015, but only around 20 upper classman. "We will be young, but are excited for the upcoming season," Crum explains. Returning with postseason experience for Bishop Dwenger this year are Megan Brelage, Alex Barton, Blake Malone and Bryson Tretter.

Tennis

With a goal of winning a conference title, repeating a sectional title and being competitive all season, Coach Tim Koehl and the Bishop Dwenger men's tennis team is ready for action. The Saints return five seniors from a year ago: Patrick Holly, Patrick Blee, Griffin Lapan, Gavin Williams and Anthony Lorenger. Players that may also see action include junior Kyle Weingartner, sophomores Drake Lapan, Luke Maskal and freshman Jeremiah Jauch. The roster lists 17 total players this season and will be led by Holly who is back as No. 1 singles for the third year in a row and will set the tone for the success of the team. Koehl adds, "Lapan and Blee are bringing a lot of experience to the team as well."

Boys' soccer

The Saints' boys' soccer team returns 11 varsity players in 2015 and has high hopes to improve on last year's record under Coach Carl-Philip Dorissant.

"With more experience, we look forward to achieving our expectations, which include winning the SAC and getting past sectionals," Dorissant says. He will look to senior captains John Pollifrone, Cesar Borjas and William Glowacki for leadership on and off the field. Pollifrone was a 2014 first team all-conference selection. Other key players include Trevor Landers, Austin Ly, Jaxon Simerman, Andy Bruns and newcomers Colin Strout, Chino Eke and Sergei Collins (full time varsity). Dorissant summarizes, "I started preparing for this season the minute after our 2014 Sectional loss and can't wait for our first opponent Aug. 18."

Girls' soccer

According to Bishop Dwenger Athletic Director John Bennett, Jeff Killion returns to coach the highly successful girls' soccer program. The Saints will open with a conference game against Northrop. Max Sports reports that the blue and gold finished with a 9-6 overall record a year ago and went unbeaten (7-0) in conference play.

Football

After 13 seasons at the helm of the highly decorated Bishop Dwenger football program, Coach Chris Svarczkopf will sit out this season for medical reasons. Interim Coach Ernie Bojrab will take the reins for 2015 after four years on the Saints' staff. Bojrab lists 31 seniors and returns six defensive starters and seven on the offense for their shotgun triple option scheme. He explains, "We are excited and optimistic about the off-season training and our experience coming back." Seniors Nick Fiacable, Noah Freimuth, Landon Campbell and Zach Norton will serve as captains for the squad, while junior Blake Podschlne is listed as the signal caller. Bishop Dwenger is loaded with talent and will have experience in several key skill positions including offensive linemen, running backs, quarterback, safeties, cornerbacks, long snapper, kicker and punter.

Golf

The Saints' lady linksters are a young team this year. Led by junior Katherine Hill, sophomores Sarah Frazier, Brooke Kinder and Taylor Martin, Bishop Dwenger also lists incoming freshman Lucy Wagner who will be trying to make the jump to varsity this season. Coach Kurt Leffers and his squad had success last year winning two early invitationals, which helped prepare the team to win the SAC seasonal competition and the year-end tournament. The Saints took second in the sectional and regional meets and went on to end the season 12th place in the state. Leffers' team has a goal to practice harder and work at improving their game, if only by a couple shots each, to return to state and finish higher.

Volleyball

With three new juniors and six returning players with starting experience, Coach Tim Houser (37-29) feels the Bishop Dwenger Saints are looking to compete for the SAC volleyball title, a sectional win and a run at the state title. Abbie Grace Lee is back as libero for her fourth season at the varsity level. Carly Robinson and setter Alaina Schenkel will play their third season and Ellen Ross and Abby Bojrab are back for their second year on varsity. Newcomers to watch for at the varsity level for Bishop Dwenger are middle hitter Josie Kolkman, Katie Fredbloom, Marissa Godfrey and Caitlyn McTague. The Saints finished 19-14 a year ago and recently won an eight-school Hoosier Open on their home court over the summer months.



Saint Joseph High School sports looks toward successful season

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

SOUTH BEND — Milder temperatures and sunny skies helped make a great start for the Saint Joseph High School fall athletic season. Teams have spent the summer conditioning, practicing and building programs with the goal of a successful season.

Cross-country

Head Coach Michael McCarthy noted the long-term team goal is to run their best in October and reach semi-state, after missing out on semi-state last year with a very young team. Six of the top seven from regionals return, with an Indiana All-Star and All-Stater Jacob Turner having graduated.

“The boys’ team will have a proven front runner in track state finalist Matt Morris. Matt’s cross-country personal record of 16:28, ranks No. 8 all time in Saint Joe history and after a great track season and high mileage summer he will give us a frontrunner and possible event winner at every meet we compete in,” said McCarthy. “Track state finalist Grayson Radvansky, along with newcomer juniors Andy Powers and Brendan Bradley will give us a formidable 1-4.”

According to McCarthy the biggest team need is to develop a solid number five runner. The key to team success at the invites and during the state series is the quality of runners

1-5, with intra-team competition for spots five, six and seven being very important.

McCarthy said the girls’ team, similar to last year, will rely on a tight pack through the season. Incoming freshman Grace Beehler has run excellent summer road race times and appears to be the number one runner.

“Returning varsity runners Hannah Conner, Taylor Rock, Emily Anderson and Katrina Sakimoto should begin the season in the top five. With all of these girls having run two to three years, and a senior class of 12, experience and motivation to succeed should be high,” said McCarthy.

The girls’ team goal will initially be the same as the boys’ — complete every part of every practice as best they can, logging all results and receiving and considering constant feedback on daily performance goals, in an effort to be best prepared for the Aug. 22 opener.

Football

Coach Ben Downey predicts a close, competitive and exciting game every single Friday night. “Our strengths are supporting each other and loving competition,” noted Downey. Downey feels the team needs to continue working on preparation, learning from mistakes and working thru adversity. “Our goal, as always, is to represent the Saint Joe community. Specifically, we want to play hard, play smart and have fun,” said Downey.

Girls’ golf

Fun is inevitable for the 23 girls on the golf team roster. Coach Harry Verhiley encourages the golfers to learn the game of golf and have a great time while doing it.

“The strength of our team is our senior leaders: Brianna Hart, Ceci Pekarek and Abby Sexton. They are good role models for our younger players and we expect them to be good decision-makers on and off the course,” said Verhiley.

According to Verhiley, they will be working on attitude and confidence, built on a solid routine so the girls can trust their swing. “We want the girls to learn to accept the swing they bring to the golf course on any given day; scoring comes only with that swing. That requires acceptance of all shots. We need to except the bad shots, shrug them off and move on to the next shot,” said Verhiley.

The team has two goals for this season: have fun, and focus on the process of playing, not the results.

Boys’ soccer

“I think this year the team should be very competitive. We are a young team again, returning two seniors and many juniors with plenty of experience from last year’s regional championship runner up — losing to the eventual state champion Goshen in a shootout,” said Coach Alberto Verteramo about his predictions for the season.

The strength of the team is the goal keeping and the experience

gained last year by the young players. One area Verteramo feels the team will need to work is on the defense.

“The goal for the season is to develop our defense as a strength and to continue developing the young players,” noted Verteramo.

Girls’ soccer

“This is my first season as the head coach after Johan Kuitse moved to Colorado. But I have been with the program the past 15 years as the JV coach,” noted Coach Phil DePauw. “Despite that transition, we have a lot of continuity in the coaching staff and anticipate a great season.”

According to DePauw they play very strong competition in the regular season including powerful programs from the area, the northwest of Indiana and Indianapolis. In particular, the tournament they host to begin the season will feature matches against Zionsville, Noblesville and Chesterton. This will test their young defense since they lost three of their starting four defenders.

“We should have a strong attack. We have three all-state returning starters in Sammy Gambol at forward, Morgan Scott at center-midfield and Cat Edmonds at goalkeeper. We have a large senior class so we will rely on them for leadership,” said DePauw.

Boys’ tennis

Coach Steve Bender said his

team is excited for the upcoming season. They will return five of the top seven players and have a total of 35 on the team. “Our strength is that we have a veteran team with lots of flexibility with our lineup,” said Bender.

Areas that need work are winning the big matches. “Goals are always the same: NIC champs, sectional champs, regional champs, semi-state champs — head to finals at Indy,” noted Bender.

Volleyball

Coach Mary Kay O’Connell believes this will be a positive and successful season. One in which the team could really grow and develop into a stronger unit as the season progresses. “We have a solid core of returning varsity players that will provide good leadership, poise and strong skills,” said O’Connell about the team’s strengths. “We have a strong serving and ball handling team.”

The goal for the season is focusing on each individual match with an ideal outcome of 1-0. “We’re not putting ridiculous pressure on ourselves, we know that we may not be able to come up with a victory after every match. If we fall short we’ll evaluate the match and try to make changes and improvements as we move onto the next match. The overall goal is to work hard, grow together as a team, have fun and improve as the season progresses. We’ll always give it our best effort,” noted O’Connell.

Marian High School fall sports looks to ‘try and thrill’

BY TRISH LINNER

MISHAWAKA — With veteran and newbie coaches returning this season for Marian sports, the fall athletic season is underway with championships in mind. Productive training and team chemistry breathe a promise of success for the talented Marian High School athletes.

Football

The theme for Marian football this year is on a mission — “It isn’t about what we do, but how we do it!” Coach Reggie Glon is determined as he enters his 22nd season as the head coach of Marian High School and 30th overall to win a championship. Glon is hoping that the 23 seniors returning this year will lead the way.

Last year’s team ended at 8-3 overall and 5-1 in the NIC coming up just short of winning a conference and sectional title. Despite graduating 19 players from last year’s team, Glon’s expectations have not changed for this senior class. “We want to play for championships in November,” Glon said.

The Knights will enter a new era of NIC scheduling this year, adding state powers Jimtown, Bremen and New Prairie to the schedule, along with John Glenn, Washington, and Riley in their NIC division. The Knights will also play cross-over games with traditional rivals

Mishawaka, Saint Joseph and Clay to create a very competitive schedule.

The Knights return six starters on offense. At the ultra back position will be last year’s leading rusher and receiver Jake Whitfield (1,591 yards and 26 TDs). Returning up front for the Knights is a veteran group of offensive linemen — three-year starters PJ Ernst, Christian Dennis and Kenny Derucki, along with two-year starters Nick Pingel and Rogelio Rodela. Two players are competing for the QB position this year, junior Bryce Tomasi and senior Joe Ravotto and both are expected to see playing time.

On defense the Knights also return six starters, led by middle linebacker Patrick Coulter, the team’s leading tackler the last two years. Also returning will be three-year starters Nate Thomas (DL) and Joe Ravotto (DB) with other starters returning Alex Mroz (DB) Gavin Verslype (LB) and Anthony Blum (DE). In the kick game last year’s starter Jack Tiller will again handle all the punting and kicking duties.

Boys’ cross-country

Dave Walsh returns for his second season as the cross-country coach for both the boys’ and girls’ teams. “The boys’ team returns four varsity letter winners including senior Jacob Imus, our strongest runner right now. The majority of our runners are new to the sport but

everyone is working hard and the team is progressing well through the early training sessions,” said Walsh. He expects some challenges this season since his runners have less meet experience and the team will be facing some strong conference foes. However, “as our runners gain experience, they will learn to compete effectively,” Walsh said. The team begins their season on Aug. 22 with the NIC stomp.

Boys’ tennis

Coach Robert Long is entering his third season as head coach for the boys’ tennis squad. After graduating nine seniors from last year’s team the squad is young this season with only one senior, and six returning varsity players. Even though the players are young, Coach Long expects good things. “We will be competitive in the upcoming season,” he said. Assistant Coach Daniel Tryniecki agrees, adding, “Practices have been productive and there is a lot of team chemistry thus far. Freshmen and sophomores have especially shown a lot of promise, including Josh Bussan. Movement and net-play are priorities for us to work on, while ground strokes have been an area of strength.” The team opens their season on Aug. 22 at home with the Knights Varsity Tennis Invitational.

Girls’ soccer

Coach Djamel Charnat is pre-

paring for his seventh season as head coach of the girls’ soccer team. The team returns 12 varsity players including seniors Abby Felix, Megan Rieker, Emily Deputy, Sarah Eperjesi, Jessica Tellez and Cecilia Nyers. Two JV players will be moving to varsity as well as five incoming freshmen, which will join the squad. “I think the chemistry of the team that we have will be the biggest contributor to the success of the team this year. Also, a few new freshmen that will make an impact from the start,” said Charnat. The toughest teams on the schedule have traditionally been Saint Joseph and Penn, and Charnat does not expect that to change this season. The team opened their season with the Warsaw Tiger Scrimmage on Saturday, Aug. 15, and Charnat is ready for a promising season.

Girls’ cross-country

Like the boys’ squad, the girls’ team is also young and fairly new to the sport. However, the four returning varsity runners, three sophomores, Hannah Majewski, Hannah Stein and Charlotte Voor, were regional qualifiers last year. Senior Mackenzie Deguch also returns after being injured last season. “It will definitely help us to have her back in the meets,” said Coach Walsh. “In addition, several capable athletes, juniors Claire Fewell and Maddy McTigue and sophomore Emma Kearns switched from other

sports to cross-country this fall, and they will be strong competitors for us. In addition we have a number of promising freshmen and the entire team is working hard and making very good progress,” concluded Walsh. With more experience he believes the girls’ team will become more competitive as the season progresses. The girls’ team will also participate in the NIC stomp to open their season on Aug. 22.

Girls’ volleyball

This year’s team will have a new look after graduating six seniors that played a major role in the success of the team. Coach Dan Anderson enters his 23rd season as the head volleyball coach, and knows defense and skills will be vital to the team’s success. Returning starters include senior Abby Whitfield, junior Emily Sharp and junior Marielle Corbett. Corbett will miss several games due to an injury before season. Making her high school debut will be freshman outside hitter Bella Ravotto. Junior Abbey Wood will be middle hitting along with sophomore Allison Thornton. Setting will be senior Abby Pozivilko and sophomore Kelsey Ketcham. Right side hitting and back row positions are held by junior Ali Sharp and junior Katie Murray. Coach Anderson is looking forward to a great season, “We will try and thrill,” he said.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or email: fhogan@diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.

Cardinal Fest planned

Fort Wayne — St. Charles will have Cardinal Fest Sept. 11-13 beginning with a junior high dance Friday, games and food and drinks on Saturday and a 5K walk/run on Sunday. Visit www.CardinalFest.com for information.

Bike to build an orphanage in Haiti

Fort Wayne — A bike ride of 17 mile, 35 mile and 100 K course options will be offered Saturday, Sept. 5, at 10 a.m. at the University of Saint Francis. Post-finish lunch to be at Deer Park Irish Pub. Register at BikeReg.com.

Day of Reflection

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, Sept. 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Caring for Creation." Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is \$20 and includes lunch. Register by Aug. 28 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at 574-259-5427.

Ancilla College to host scholarship dinner

Plymouth — Ancilla College will host the "Changing Lives Scholarship Dinner" on Friday, Nov. 6, from 6-9 p.m. at Swan Lake Resort, 5203 Plymouth Laporte Tr. There will be guest speakers, musical entertainment, dinner, and live and silent auctions. Recipients of the John Chandler, Ancilla Award, and Randy Danielson, Sister Mary D. Outstanding Alumni Award will be honored. Proceeds will benefit scholarships for students.

Saint Joseph plans open house

South Bend — Saint Joseph High School will host an open house of the school facility on Aug. 21,

prior to the varsity football opener versus Concord from 6:30-7:30 p.m. The first 150 alumni attending will receive a Saint Joe gift bag. For more details call Henry Chandler at 574-234-2904.

St. Augustine Parish to hold picnic

South Bend — St. Augustine Parish in South Bend will hold its Annual Parish Picnic on Sunday, Aug. 30, from 12:30-6 p.m. at St. Patrick's County Park, 50651 Laurel Rd., in the Berta Shelter. There will be food, fun and games for all.

Demonstration set at Planned Parenthood facility

Mishawaka — St. Joseph County Right to Life will host a demonstration on Saturday, Aug. 22, from 10-11 a.m. in front of the local Planned Parenthood, 3005 Grape Rd., Mishawaka.

Bishop Luers High School plans reunions

Fort Wayne — The class of 1980 will host a class reunion at Phoenix Restaurant and Bar, 1122

Broadway, on Saturday, Sept. 19, at 6:30 p.m. No admission fee. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Contact Matt Fabina at MattFabina1@gmail.com. The class of 1985 will be host a class reunion at the Most Precious Blood bowling alley, 1515 Barthold St., on Saturday, Sept. 19. Mass at 5 p.m. with reunion from 7-11 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person. Contact John Jenkins at john.jenkins@bhemail.com.

Baby Boxes founder to speak at Knights screening of film on abortion

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 553 will host Monica Kelsey, international pro-life speaker and founder of the Safe Haven Baby Boxes project Monday, Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. at 553 Washington St. A screening of the film "40," which traces 40 years of the pro-life movement since Roe v. Wade will also be shown. A freewill offering will support the Baby Boxes program. Refreshments served. Call Bill Schmitt at 574-232-6777 for information.

REST IN PEACE

Avilla

Francis John Meyer, 89, St. Mary of the Assumption

Decatur

Fred J. Schultz, 63, St. Mary of the Assumption

Pauline R. Miller, 89, St. Mary of the Assumption

Donaldson

Sister Alice Kunkel, PHJC, 94, Catherine Kasper Home

Fort Wayne

Sarah A. Trumbull, 20, Our Lady of Good Hope

Barbara A. Uecker, 77, Most Precious Blood

Marjorie A. Roach, 93, St. Jude

Gerald J. Schenkel, 76, St. Vincent de Paul

Christopher E. Dodane, 43, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel

Bruce A. Westrick, 64, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Granger

James W. Brambert, 85, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Evelyn J. Grilli, 87, St. Bavo

Joseph H. Nash, 94, St. Bavo

Lela M. Lisi, 88, Queen of Peace

Genevieve C. Kalil, 92, St. Monica

New Carlisle

Alan J. Kaminsky, 66, St. Stanislaus

New Haven

Betty Joyce Sexton, 88, St. John the Baptist

Ortheda C. Huguenard, 86, St. John the Baptist

Gerald S. Lopshire, 79, St. John the Baptist

Notre Dame

Father William P. Melody, CSC, 86, Sacred Heart

Joshua Lincoln Keultjes, 28, Sacred Heart

South Bend

Beverly L. Morris, 85, St. Matthew

Betty L. Catanzarite, 84, Christ the King

Beatrice M. Tyson, 73, St. Augustine

Alice M. Burke, 93, St. Anthony de Padua

Robert Paar, 62, Our Lady of Hungary

William T. Engeman, 77, St. Therese Little Flower

Lorraine J. Jackowiak, 88, Holy Cross

Suzanne Mary Van Goey, 84, Holy Cross

Michael J. Henthorn, 74, St. Joseph

Thomas M. Slott, 88, St. Hedwig

Wabash

Josephine Foust, 75, St. Bernard

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Prisoners, volunteers, teens invited to celebrate jubilee with pope

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — More than a dozen individual celebrations will be scheduled for the Jubilee of Mercy in 2016, giving pilgrims the chance to celebrate their own holy year with Pope Francis in Rome.

The yearlong extraordinary jubilee will include a number of individual jubilee days, such as for consecrated men and women; deacons; priests; catechists; the sick and disabled; teenagers and prisoners. Young people will be able to celebrate their jubilee with the pope at World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland.

The Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, which is organizing events for the Holy Year of Mercy, published a full calendar of events online at www.im.va.

Because the Holy Year is meant to be lived as a pilgrimage, people taking part are asked to prepare themselves with prayer



and sacrifice, and make a portion of the journey on foot.

Efforts also will be made to offer concrete signs of God's love and mercy by offering tangible

assistance to those in need, and bishops and priests around the world are asked to conduct "similar symbolic gestures of communion with Pope Francis" in their dioceses by reaching out to those on the margins.

The motto, "Merciful Like the Father," is an invitation to follow the merciful example of God, who asks people not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love, the council said.

One way the pope wants to show the Church's "maternal solicitude" is to send out "missionaries of mercy" — that is, specially selected priests who will preach and teach about God's mercy. They will be given special authority, the pope said, "to pardon even those sins reserved to the Holy See."

Some of the major events planned in Rome for the jubilee year:

- Opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica, Dec. 8, feast of the Immaculate Conception.
- Opening of the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. John Lateran and in the cathedrals of the world, Dec. 13.
- Opening of the Holy Door of

the Basilica of St. Mary Major, Jan. 1, feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God and World Day for Peace.

- Jubilee for those involved with guiding or organizing pilgrimages and religious tourism, Jan. 19-Jan. 21.

- Opening of the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, Jan. 25, feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.

- Jubilee for Consecrated Life and the closing of the Year for Consecrated Life, Feb. 2, feast of the Presentation of the Lord.

- Sending forth the Missionaries of Mercy, St. Peter's Basilica, Feb. 10, Ash Wednesday.

- Jubilee for the Roman Curia, Feb. 22, feast of the Chair of St. Peter.

- "24 Hours for the Lord" with a penitential liturgy in St. Peter's Basilica, March 4.

- Jubilee for those who are devoted to the spirituality of Divine Mercy, April 3, Divine Mercy Sunday.

- Jubilee for teens aged 13 to 16 to profess the faith and construct a culture of mercy, April 24.

- Jubilee for deacons, May 27-29, the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

- Jubilee for priests, June 3,

feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

- Jubilee for those who are ill and for persons with disabilities, June 12.

- Jubilee for youth, July 26-31, World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland.

- Jubilee for workers and volunteers of mercy, Sept. 4, the vigil of the memorial of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta.

- Jubilee for catechists, Sept. 25.

- Marian Jubilee, Oct. 8-9.

- Mass celebrated by Pope Francis in memory of the faithful departed, Nov. 1, feast of All Saints.

- Jubilee for prisoners, Nov. 6.

- Closing of the Holy Doors in the basilicas of Rome and in the dioceses of the world, Nov. 13.

- Closing of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica and the conclusion of the Jubilee of Mercy, Nov. 20, feast of Christ the King.

The Jubilee of Mercy has an official website in seven languages at www.im.va; a Twitter handle @Jubilee_va; a Facebook page; and accounts on Instagram, Flickr and Google+.

The official prayer in English is at: <http://www.im.va/content/gdm/en/preghiera.html>.

The prayer in Spanish is at: <http://www.im.va/content/gdm/es/preghiera.html>.

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