VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis called on people to replace their thirst for power with the joy of quiet and humble service, as he proclaimed four new saints, including the parents of St. Therese of Lisieux.

All of Christ's disciples, especially its pastors, are called to model themselves after Jesus and "suppress our instinctive desire to exercise power over others, and instead exercise the virtue of humility."

The pope said the new saints — a Spanish religious woman, an Italian priest and the first married couple with children to be canonized together — "unfailingy served their brothers and sisters with outstanding humility and charity in imitation of the Divine Master."

On World Mission Sunday Oct. 18 in St. Peter’s Square, during the Synod of Bishops on the family, the pope created the following new saints:

• Louis Martin (1823-1894) and Marie Zelie Guerin Martin (1831-1877), the French parents of St. Therese of Lisieux. They had nine children; four died in infancy and five entered religious life. During their 19-year marriage, the couple was known to attend Mass daily, pray and fast, respect the Sabbath, visit the elderly and the sick, and welcome the poor into their home.

• Italian Father Vincenzo Grossi (1845-1917), founder of the Institute of the Daughters of the Oratory.

• Spanish Sister Maria of the Immaculate Conception (1926-1998), a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Company of the Cross.

BY CAROL GLATZ

ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE BREAKS GROUND

Father Andrew Curry, right, parishioners and friends of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in North Manchester held the groundbreaking for the new 7,000-foot parish hall addition on Sunday, Oct. 18, following the 9 a.m. Mass. Construction is expected to be completed in the summer of 2016. Designs were developed by Malcolm Associates of Claypool.
IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The following is Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades’ homily for the wedding anniversary Masses in South Bend and Fort Wayne.

We are celebrating this Wedding Anniversary Mass while in Rome this month the Synod of Bishops is meeting to discuss marriage and the family. The bishops and Pope Francis are looking at the crisis regarding marriage and family life in many parts of the world and how the Church should confront this crisis. The working document of the synod focuses on the cultural crisis and the many problems that face the institution of marriage and the many difficulties that result for the new family.

This past week, many bishops stood up at the synod to say that the Church needs to focus, not on all the challenges, problems, and difficulties, but on the Good News of the Gospel of the Family. This is the way forward. The Church needs to present the truth, beauty, and joy of the vocation of marriage, while at the same time, showing deep pastoral care, sensitivity, and compassion for those who have experienced failed marriages.

Our gathering today at this Mass is a celebration of the truth, beauty, and joy of the vocation of marriage. Gathered here with us are couples who are a living sign, that despite the frailty of the human condition, fidelity in the vocation of marriage is not only possible, it is worth the effort. It is possible for a husband and wife to live the vow to love one another in good and bad, in sickness and in health, forever, until death do them apart. I thank all our anniversary couples for your witness to God’s love. Your marriage is an icon of God’s love for us. You mirror that love which is faithful, fruitful, and forever.

Do you have experienced challenges in your married lives? The important thing when couples experience difficulties is to remember that God has united them in the sacred bond of marriage, that He is the foundation of that bond. The true bond that keeps couples together is God. That’s why prayer is so important in marriage: the husband praying for his wife and the wife praying for her husband. This helps to preserve the bond and make love grow. When there are disagreements or arguments, part of the human condition? Saint Paul gives a whole list of good and strong marriage. He says: “love one another in hand helping each other to grow, with trust in God’s faithfulness.” You don’t run away from your commitment and mission, rather you trust the truth of God’s word that what He has joined together, man must not divide.

In our second reading today, Saint Paul gives important counsel and advice to the Christians in Rome. His exhortation is totally relevant for us today. Many of the points he makes are particularly relevant for married couples. He says to them “not to be conformed to this age,” but to “discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.” In a culture of the provisional, the temporary, what Pope Francis calls a “throw-away culture,” we must resist. In all things, including marriage and family life, we must always seek first the will of God. We know His will about marriage because He is the author of marriage. He established it to be permanent and life-giving, to be the foundation and fundament of society. But how can a marriage last, given our weak human condition? Saint Paul gives a whole list of what we need to do to be good Christians, many of which are important in building a good and strong marriage. He says, “love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor.” I was thinking that in the marriage vows, couples promise not only to love, but to honor, their spouses. This is so important, essential: the honor, the deep respect, for the other. And to show this honor and respect. This can be done in many different ways. Pope Francis in Philadelphia emphasized the little acts of love that build a marriage and family.

One of the problems being discussed at the Synod of Bishops is the decline in the number of marriages. Many young people are opting to cohabitate without marriage. They fear if it is possible to make the definitive decision to marry, to love one person forever. There is a fear to make a definitive choice, a life decision. We live in a culture of the temporary, of the provisional. Dear couples, you are witnesses that the definitive commitment of marriage is possible, that the permanence of marriage is not only possible, it is beautiful. You walk together as spouses in the sometimes difficult journey of life with all its demands and challenges. You’ve learned how to face these challenges together, to journey together, hand in hand helping each other to grow, with trust in God’s faithfulness. You don’t run away from your commitment and mission, rather you trust the truth of God’s word that what He has joined together, man must not divide.

Saint Paul writes to the Romans: “Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.” When one grows slack, becomes indifferent, withdraws, refuses to forgive, or stops praying, the marriage will go off course. The good news is that with effort the joy and peace of the married life can be restored, but we need the help of God’s grace, the grace of the sacrament received. “Persevere in prayer.” Saint Paul says. Prayer is so important for all of us, in our vocation, mine included, to make us strong in our vocational commitment, to help us, to give us strength and courage to live what we promised, to go forward, to always go forward and not turn away from the path He has marked out for us.

There are crosses in every vocation. But the Lord is always there to help us carry the cross and move forward. The final cross is that the cross triumphs. The love of Christ is victorious. Marriage “is the sacrament of the love of Christ and the Church, a love which finds its proof and guarantee in the cross” (Pope Francis). We must ask Jesus to help us to love as He loved. Pope Francis said to a group of engaged couples that when they pray the Our Father and say “give us this day our daily bread,” they can also learn to pray: “Lord, give us this day our daily love.” This is the true bread of the soul which sustains us in going forward, the Holy Father says. So, anniversary couples and all married couples here today, I invite you to pray that simple prayer: “Lord, give us this day our daily love.” It’s the love of Christ that sustains and strengthens all of us on our journey through life. It is our daily bread, the bread of our souls.

May the Lord continue to bless all of you with His love! With your lives, may you continue to radiate to others the beauty and joy of the Gospel of the Family? Our world needs this Good News. This is the Good News we celebrate today. Dear anniversary couples, may Mary and Joseph, who teach us the splendor of married love, accompany you on your journey and intercede for you always!
White Mass panel discusses end-of-life rituals at roundtable

BY BERTRAND FITZGERALD

GRANGER — The roundtable discussion held after the annual White Mass at St. Pius X this Oct. 15 was an unusual glimpse into the understandings of life held by the three great Abrahamic faiths, expressed so poignantly in their respective end-of-life rituals.

The discussion was entitled, “End of Life Rituals and Traditions: Jewish, Christian and Islamic Perspectives.” Each member of the three-person clergy panel was asked to enumerate the rituals and understandings around dying in their own tradition and field questions from the gathering of medical and chaplaincy professionals.

Rabbi Michael Friedland, from Sinai Synagogue in South Bend, began the roundtable with a rich explanation of the “Vidui,” meaning “confession.” This prayer is “a liturgical expression on Yom Kippur, the day of Atonement,” which he said, “is also to be recited before death,” highlighting that “death is a form of atonement.” It states, in part, “I acknowledge ... that my life is in Your hands. May it be Your will to heal me. But if You will decree that I will not recover from this illness, I accept the decree from Your hands.”

To Rabbi Friedland, the above words voice a “recognition that we are not in control,” and help the patient come to terms with the fact that “healing doesn’t always mean curing.”

The following speaker was Father Henry Askwansa, chaplain with the ministry of spiritual care at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. He highlighted that Catholic end-of-life rituals are “based on the fact that Christians believe death is the passing of the soul to the next world.”

The most common and well-known ritual is a sacrament known variously as the Anointing of the Sick, Extreme Unction or Last Rites, which is properly followed by “Vaticum,” a Eucharistic Communion that for the dying is “the last sacrament of the Christian life.”

Nonetheless, Father Askwansa emphasized that the Anointing of the Sick is not meant strictly for situations in which death is imminent. “Since Vatican II, the emphasis is not on dying but on healing — of mind, body and spirit,” he said. From a pastoral angle, Father Askwansa noted that it can take place at “a hospital, hospice house, at home or in an extended care facility.” For that matter, “it is good practice for parishes and churches to have this sacrament celebrated for the sick and elderly during the course of the year,” in order that it be available when the sick can still fully participate, “since it is for them.”

In this theme, Father Askwansa echoed Rabbi Friedland, who urged those even possibly approaching the end of life to pray the Vidui, “just in case,” and quoted a traditional Jewish saying concerning it: “Many have confessed and did die. With the reward from your confession may you live.”

The final presentation was from Imam Sirajidan of the Islamic Society of Michiana.

The Imam emphasized that although death is certainly “not a pleasant topic, not a topic of dinner tables or lunch breaks,” in truth the total human is not confronting its destruction, since “the human being in the Islamic understanding is immortal, non-perishable, with its body and spirit.”

Rather in death it is “passing” between “phases that we as human beings and animals go through”: The first is in the womb, when “the spirit is joined to the body and limbs are formed.” In the next phase, this life, humans go through a subset of phases, “just like through seasons.”

“When the fall of life comes, we pass to another phase, ‘life in the grave,’” when “the spirit is separated from the body,” and, even though the phase is penultimate, “in the Islamic faith we say that if this person was good and served God as ultimate truth and did not do evil, then his reward will start even in the grave.”

Finally, there is the life of the spirit, “in our original place,” the “gardens, where Adam and Eve came from.”

Because of his divine origin, the Imam stressed the “dignity of the human being,” from which it follows that “honor to the body as it moves through the stages of life,” must be given. This entails refraining with respect to the body of the deceased, from “everything that hurts a living person,” including embalming and autopsy, although “there are exceptions.”

A very similar emphasis on human dignity was evident in Rabbi Friedland’s commentary in the question-answer session that, human dignity ought to be respected even when a patient is close to death and perhaps coma-tose through simple courtesies like refraining “from talking about them as a third party in the same room.”
Pope calls for ‘synodal’ Church where all listen, learn, share mission

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Marking the 50th anniversary of the Synod of Bishops, Pope Francis outlined his vision for a Church that is “synodal” at every level, with everyone listening to one another, learning from one another and taking responsibility for proclaiming the Gospel.

“The journey of synodality is the journey that God wants from His Church in the third millennium,” the pope said Oct. 17. “A synodal Church is a listening Church, aware that listening is more than hearing. It is a reciprocal listening in which each one has something to learn.”

Pope Francis, members of the Synod of Bishops on the family, theologians and other guests dedicated a morning to marking the anniversary of Blessed Paul VI’s dedication a morning to marking the anniversary of Blessed Paul VI's institution in 1965 of the synod as a forum for sharing the faith and concerns of the world’s Catholics, reflecting together and offering counsel to the pope.

Referring to the Greek roots of the word “synod,” Pope Francis said, “walking together — laity, pastors, the bishop of Rome — is an easy concept to express in words, but is not so easy to put into practice.”

In fact, before Pope Francis spoke, five cardinals, an archbishop and the patriarh of the Chaldean Catholic Church spoke about the blessings and challenges of the synod process over the past 50 years. They agreed that while the synod’s methodology has improved over the past five decades, there still is work to do.

“We must continue on this path,” Pope Francis told them. “The world in which we live and which we are called to love and serve, even with its contradictions, requires from the Church the strengthening of synergies in all areas of its mission.”

Using the synod on the family as an example, the pope said it would have been impossible for the 270 bishops and priests who are voting members of the assembly to speak to real needs and concerns without listening to and trying to learn from Catholic families.

“It was that conviction that led me when I asked that the people of God be consulted” before the synod, the pope said. “How would it have been possible to speak of the family without calling upon families, listening to their joys and their hopes, their pains and their suffering?”

The need for everyone in the Church — from the pope on down — to listen and to learn from others is based on the conviction, clearly explained by the Second Vatican Council, that through Baptism and Confirmation all members of the Church have been anointed by the Holy Spirit and that the entire Christian community is infallible when its members discern together and speak with one voice on matters of faith and morals, Pope Francis said.

“The ‘sensus fidei’ (sense of faith) makes it impossible to rigidly separate the ‘ecclesia docens’ (teaching Church) and the ‘ecclesia discens’ (learning Church) because even the flock has a ‘nose’ for discerning the new paths that the Lord is opening up to the Church,” the pope said.

But ensuring the synodality of the entire Church will be impossible, he said, if people misunderstand the Church’s hierarchy and see it as a structure in which some people are placed above others.

The Church’s structure, the pope said, “is like an upside down pyramid” with the top on the bottom, which is why the ordained are called “ministers” — they serve the others. In a diocese, he said, the bishop is the “vicar of that Jesus who, at the Last Supper, knelt to wash the feet of the apostles,” and the pope is called to truly be “the servant of the servants of God.”

“We must never forget: for the disciples of Jesus — yesterday, today and forever — the only authority is the authority of service; the only power is the power of the cross,” he said.

The world needs the Catholic Church to witness to that Christian vision of community, participation, solidarity and joint responsibility, he said. “In too many countries power is in the hands of just a few people; the dignity of many is denied and authority is abused. Looking specifically at the Synod of Bishops, the pope said the process for each synod must begin with listening to the faithful. The second stage is to have the pastors listen to each other. The role of bishops at a synod is to “act as authentic custodians, interpreters and witnesses of the faith of the whole Church, attentively distinguishing it from the often changing fluxes of public opinion.”

The third stage of a synod is to listen to the pope, the bishop of Rome, called to make pronouncements “not based on his personal convictions, but as the supreme witness of the faith of the entire Church,” he said.

The fact that the synod is not a decision-making body and acts only “with and under” the pope, he said, “is not a limitation on its freedom, but a guarantee of unity.”

Pope Francis delivers his blessing during an event marking the 50th anniversary of the Synod of Bishops in Paul VI Hall at the Vatican Oct. 17. The pope outlined his vision for how the entire Church must be “synodal” with everyone listening to each other, learning from each other and taking responsibility for proclaiming the Gospel. From left are: Bishop Fabio Fabene, under-secretary of the Synod of Bishops on the family; Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri, general secretary of the synod; Pope Francis; and Cardinal Peter Erdo of Esztergom-Budapest, Hungary, relator for the synod.

Located in Coldwater Centre at Wallen Road

Walk by the Spirit

Please give generously!
NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College dedicated the O’Connor Commons, a three-acre green space at the center of its campus, during a ceremony on Thursday, Oct. 15. The dedication was given by Holy Cross Brother John Paige, president of Holy Cross College. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades was in attendance to bless the commons and the newly constructed North Hall.

The commons was made possible by a $1 million gift from Barbara O’Connor, from San Carlos, California, in memory of her late husband, John V. O’Connor.

Mike Brach, vice president for advancement, provided the opening welcome and introduction. Also speaking at the ceremony were Father Frank Pavone, president of Priests for Life, and Barbara and John O’Connor’s son, Andy, who works at Holy Cross College while pursuing a master’s degree in social work.

In addition to the new dormitory and commons, new basketball, beach volleyball and regulation dodge ball courts were constructed adjacent to the Pfeil Recreation Center. Expanded parking on the southeast side of the college allows easy access to activities and events for students and visitors of the college.

The O’Connor Commons has already proven to be a vital part of the Holy Cross community. The Student Government Association has held events on it, and students routinely use it as a study and social interaction space. In his remarks during the dedication, O’Connor said, “I’ve heard many students say that Holy Cross has a real campus feel now. It’s a space that brings life to the college.”

For many of the faculty and staff, the commons carries a deeper, more philosophical meaning. “With its undomestic interior — lacking fountains, statues or structures — the O’Connor Commons reflects the college’s functionality: informal, inviting, welcoming and easily accessible,” said Kelly Jordan, vice president for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.

John O’Connor attended the nearby University of Notre Dame, and the family first became involved with Holy Cross College when their son, Andy, enrolled as a freshman. The O’Connors were impressed with their son’s emotional and intellectual growth as a student, and they felt strongly that Holy Cross College should continue its mission to provide for future students’ academic and spiritual needs. Before his death in 2012, O’Connor established a student scholarship at Holy Cross College, but he also believed, as his son Andy said during the dedication ceremony, “that the parking lot next to the Pfeil Center needed to be something else,” something that would better support the Holy Cross community.

North Hall is currently a women’s residence hall and houses 68 students, expanding Holy Cross’s on-campus housing by 30 percent. It also contains a sacred space and fireside bistro area.

Construction began on North Hall and the O’Connor Commons after a groundbreaking ceremony last year. The work was completed by Holladay Properties. The commons was officially opened for use before the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year.

Holy Cross College held a dedication and blessing ceremony with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades for the newly constructed O’Connor Commons on Thursday, Oct. 15. The college’s new residence hall, North Hall, was also blessed.

Planned Parenthood says it will no longer take payments for fetal tissue

NEW YORK (CNS) — The president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America said Oct. 13 that the organization’s clinics will no longer accept reimbursement for fetal tissue procured in abortions and provided to researchers.

Cecile Richards said the decision was made “to completely debunk” a series of 11 videos released in recent weeks by the Center for Medical Progress showing physicians and others associated with Planned Parenthood describing the harvesting of fetal tissue and body parts during abortions at their clinics. The videos were filmed undercover, are what researchers are charged for the tissue and parts.

The revelation has prompted investigations by state and federal officials into Planned Parenthood’s activities across the country and has led to calls to end federal and federal funding for the organization.

Planned Parenthood receives more than $500 million of its $1.3 billion annual budget from federal and state programs.

In reaction to Richards’ decision, Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, called it a “tragedy” and said it “does not settle any controversy.”

“Nor does it answer any of the questions that the ongoing investigations into Planned Parenthood’s actions have raised,” he said in a statement.

Richard’s remarks echoed a letter sent to U.S. senators in early August by Boston Cardinal Sean O’Malley, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ pro-life committee.

Richards and other top Planned Parenthood officials claimed the videos were edited to manipulate the interviews and any mention of money for tissue and body parts is related to customary handling fees. The Center for Medical Progress stands by its videos.

Richards called the center and other pro-life organizations “extremists” whose attacks “have nothing to do with our fetal tissue donation compliance process,” because their goal is “to ban abortion in the U.S. and block women from getting any health care from Planned Parenthood.”

Today, we’re taking their smear campaign and pushing forward with our important work on behalf of millions of women, men, and young people,” she said and described her organization’s role in fetal tissue as “very limited.”

“The participation by a handful of our affiliates in supporting women who choose to make fetal tissue donation has always been about nothing other than honoring the desire of those women and contributing to life-saving research and cures,” she said.

According to 2013 data, the latest available, Planned Parenthood says abortions represent 3 percent of the total services its facilities provide. It’s latest annual report shows its facilities performed 327,653 abortions in 2013 — one-third of all abortions in the U.S. that year.

Planned Parenthood also disavows birth control and does some women’s health screenings, services its supporters say are especially needed by low-income women who otherwise could not afford them.

“While Richards extols the wonderfulness of the nation’s largest abortion provider, it begs the question raised in House committee hearings: Why shouldn’t federal family planning money go to federally qualified health centers which don’t perform abortions?” said Dave Andrusko, editor of National Right to Life News, in a commentary about Richards’ letter to Collins.

His remarks echoed a letter sent to U.S. senators in early August by Boston Cardinal Sean O’Malley, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ pro-life committee.

“The most recent revelations about Planned Parenthood’s willingness to traffic in fetal tissue from abortions, and to alter abortion methods not for any reason related to women’s health but to obtain more ‘intact’ organs, is the latest demonstration of a callousness toward women and their unborn children that is shocking to many Americans,” he said.

He urged senators to take the federal money that goes to the Planned Parenthood and instead fund women’s health care providers that do not promote abortion.
Help integrate migrants, protect their dignity, says Vatican official

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The international community must help protect the human rights and dignity of migrants regardless of their legal status, said a Vatican official.

“The dignity of the human person always takes precedence over partisan interests and economic considerations” regardless of the challenges the influx of migrants may pose on the societies that accept them, said Father Gabriele Bentoglio, undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Travelers. He spoke at the Eighth Global Forum on Migration and Development in Istanbul, Turkey Oct. 15. The Vatican released a copy of his talk Oct. 17. A clear sign that the international community has worked to come together as a family of nations can be seen in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development — the recently adopted plan to free the human race from poverty, Father Bentoglio said in his talk. However, the increasing number of migrants, he said, is evidence of the unjust distribution of the Earth’s resources, “which are meant to be equitably shared by all.” Migrants move in hope of ensuring a decent life for their families, taking a leap of faith many times at great personal cost, he said.

Attachment to wealth leads to family division, wars, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The attachment to money leads to broken families and causes wars, Pope Francis said at his early morning Mass. The pope said that although Jesus is not against wealth in itself, he does warn of the idolatry that is created when one becomes attached to riches, thus leading to division. In his homily at Mass Oct. 19 in the chapel of his residence, the Domus Sanctae Marthae, the pope reflected on the day’s Gospel reading (Lk 12:13-21), which recounted Jesus’ warnings against attaching and envying one another and disputed between two brothers. “Let us think of how many families we know who fight, who do not greet each other, who hate each other because of an inheritance,” the pope said. “And this is one of those cases. The love of a family, the love of children, of brothers and sisters, of parents is not the most important; no, it is money. And this destroys.” Pope Francis also noted that this attachment to wealth is behind the conflicts affecting the world today, particularly from arms trafficking and those who profit from war. Greed, he said, gives a false sense of security that “always ends badly.”

Ukrainian bishops say military struggle must be matched by moral change

KIEV, Ukraine (CNS) — Ukraine’s Catholic bishops have urged citizens to back a “profound transformation” by voting in upcoming elections in areas controlled by the national government. “While defending our native land from the enemy, we are also called on to develop our state — a national house in which harmony and justice, honesty and respect for each person’s dignity will reign,” the bishops said. “Our future depends equally on courage and endurance by our soldiers at the front, and on the integrity and responsibility of politicians. We cannot allow our military to protect us from the enemy at the cost of life, while returning home to find a country eroded within by corruption, bribery, dishonesty, populism and irresponsibility.” In a pastoral message to be read in all churches Oct. 18, the bishops said Ukrainians had shown a readiness to work for justice and the common good during the 2004 Orange Revolution, and again during the 2014 Revolution of Dignity, which led to the flight of pro-Russian President Victor Yanukovich. They added that the Oct. 25 local elections would mark a key stage toward “positive and irreversible social change,” which depended “on the personal transformation of every citizen, a change of thinking and a decisive, radical choice for goodness.”

Pope to visit Africa Nov. 25-30; including Central African Republic

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Despite continued instability and outbreaks of violence in the Central African Republic, the Vatican announced Pope Francis will spend about 33 hours in the country during a Nov. 25-30 visit to Africa. Releasing the schedule for the trip, the Vatican said that while the pope is in the Central African Republic Nov. 29-30, he will visit a refugee camp, hold a meeting with evangelical Christians and visit a mosque in Bangui, the nation’s capital. The country has known little peace or development in its 55 years of independence. In March 2013, a rebel movement, Seleka, led by Arab-speaking Islamists, suspended the nation’s constitution. French and African peacekeepers were deployed in January 2014 and the rebels were driven out of the capital. The National Reconciliation Forum, convened by the country’s transitional parliament in May, has been trying to bring Seleka and its Christian-dominated rival, Anti-Balaka, into talks and preparations for elections that originally were scheduled for Oct. 18. The vote, however, was postponed after violence broke out again in late September. Kenya is the first stop on Pope Francis’ first visit to Africa as pope; there, too, he will meet with ecumenical and interreligious leaders, but he also will visit the Kangemi slum on the outskirts of Nairobi. Traveling to Uganda Nov. 27, the pope will honor the memory of the 25 Anglican and 22 Catholic Ugandan martyrs, killed for their faith on the orders of King Mwanga II between 1885 and 1887.

Migrant holds food received from Red Cross workers at Slovenia-Croatia border

A migrant holds food received from Red Cross workers Oct. 19 at the Slovenia border in Tnovec, Croatia. A Vatican official has stressed the importance of migrant integration and human dignity.

Papal favorability numbers rise following September U.S. visit

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (CNS) — A Marist Poll survey commissioned by the Knights of Columbus found Pope Francis’ favorability made significant gains among Catholics and among Americans overall in the wake of his Sept. 22-27 visit to the United States. Among practicing Catholics, 90 percent now say they view Pope Francis favorably, up from 83 percent in August, one month before his visit. Among all Americans, the pope’s numbers jumped from 58 percent to 74 percent. Asked if they are clear about Pope Francis’ vision for the Church, 55 percent of Americans said yes, up from 43 percent, and 88 percent of practicing Catholics said the same; up from 73 percent. Fifty-six percent of Americans said they now feel better about their own faith because of his visit, including 86 percent of practicing Catholics. Another survey finding showed that 58 percent of Americans, and 82 percent of practicing Catholics, are more likely to engage in charitable activity as a result of Pope Francis’ trip. The telephone survey was conducted Oct. 1-9 among 1,095 U.S. adults ages 18 and up, including 269 self-identified Catholics, 160 of whom said they practice their faith. The margin of error in survey results was plus or minus 3 percentage points for Americans, plus or minus 6 percentage points overall for Catholics, and plus or minus 7.7 percentage points for practicing Catholics in that group.

At audience, pope asks forgiveness for scandals in Rome, Vatican

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — With 30,000 people gathered in St. Peter’s Square, Pope Francis asked forgiveness for scandals that have occurred within the Church recently. “Before beginning my catechesis, I would like — in the name of the Church — to ask your forgiveness for the scandals which have occurred recently both in Rome and at the Vatican,” the pope said. “I ask your forgiveness.” The pope’s off-the-cuff remarks Oct. 14 followed a reading from St. Matthew’s Gospel in which Jesus warns of scandalizing the “little ones.” Jesus’ words are strong, aren’t they?” the pope said. “Woe to the world for scandals. Jesus is a realist. He says it’s inevitable that there will be scandals, but “Woe to the one who causes scandal.”” The pope told people attending his weekly general audience. Pope Francis did not explain what scandal or scandals he was referring to, but his comments came during a week that saw the leak of a private letter sent to him by several cardinals expressing concern with the Synod of Bishops on the family.
Knights Service Day to be kicked off at Marian High

MISHAWAKA — Paqui Kelly addressed the Marian High School student body, along with faculty, staff and parent volunteers as they gathered for a rally on Oct. 15 to send forth the volunteers into the community for the high schools’ second annual Knights Service Day. Forty-two agencies, schools and senior facilities were served in the South Bend, Mishawaka, Elkhart, Bristol and Plymouth area. The Marian students seek to serve the unborn, infants, elderly, poor, disabled, sick, immigrant, abused, unemployed, illiterate, imprisoned and lonely.

Knights Service Day was initiated as a way to celebrate Marian’s 50th Anniversary in 2014 and had such remarkable success that it was adopted as an annual opportunity to connect with and volunteer in the community. Michael Portolese, senior at Marian High School and president of the Mayor’s Youth Council in Mishawaka said, “I am grateful for the opportunity to volunteer with my entire school and I feel honored to participate in an event of this magnitude. It makes me feel like a better person and I’m excited to see how I can make an impact this year.”

Marian will host a Career Day on Friday, Oct. 30, featuring young alumni professionals as speakers for the student body. For details about that event and other Knights events visit www.marianhigh.org.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and the pinnacle of the year for events at Kelly Care Foundation whose mission is to support organizations, initiatives and programs that align with their values of health, education and community. For more information about the meaningful work they do, visit kellycarefoundation.org. The Science Research Class at Marian will have particular interest in Kelly’s message as they are connecting the realms of science research and passionate evangelism through fundraisers and participation in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk later in the month.

Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers to present mission at St. Bavo

MISHAWAKA — Speaker and frequent EWTN guest, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, will be presenting a parish mission at St. Bavo Church, 511 W. 7th St. in Mishawaka from Sunday, Nov. 1, through Wednesday, Nov. 4, beginning at 7 p.m.

Deacon Harold is a powerful and passionate advocate and is the founder and director of DeaconHarold.com, a Christian evangelization and apologetics organization dedicated to the dissemination and promotion of Catholic values, principles and teaching. He is a permanent deacon of the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon.

Topics include: Sunday, Nov. 1 “The Unfailing Love of God”
Monday, Nov. 2 — “Encouraged by a Prophetic Call: The Life ofvoids us of God”
Tuesday, Nov. 3 — “All Things Work for Good”
Wednesday, Nov. 4 — “Marriage and Family Life: The Domestic Church.”

Fort Wayne’s Robert Jones ordained Marianist priest

DAYTON, Ohio — Robert Craig Jones was ordained a Marianist priest on Oct. 3, at Queen of Apostles Chapel in Dayton, Ohio. A r c h b i s h o p Joseph Tobin of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis celebrated the ordination.

A native of Fort Wayne, Father Jones, 39, has a bachelor’s degree in math from the University of Dayton, a Marianist-sponsored university. Although he had met brothers and priests from the Society of Mary (Marianists) at University of Dayton, it wasn’t until he had graduated and was teaching high school that he began to consider a religious vocation. He professed first vows as a Marianist brother in 2007 and perpetual vows in 2010. He has a master’s degree in pastoral ministry from Boston College and completed seminar studies at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome.

Father Jones is spending a pastoral year at Our Lady of the Pillar Parish in St. Louis, Missouri.

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of St. Jude’s Perpetual Adoration

FORT WAYNE — The 30th anniversary of St. Jude’s Perpetual Adoration celebration will be held Oct. 28 beginning at 6:30 p.m. with Mass celebrated at St. Jude Church by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. There will be a reception immediately following Mass.

Contact Cheryl Schleinkofer at schlknfr@frontier.com or 269-797-9221 for more information.

American Holy Cross priest named auxiliary bishop in Peru

CHOSICA, Peru (CNS) — An American member of the Congregation of Holy Cross was named an auxiliary bishop for the Diocese of Chosica.

Bishop-designate Arthur J. Colgan, 68, a native of Dorchester, Massachusetts, has served as vicar general of the diocese since 2010.

The appointment was announced at the Vatican Oct. 13.

“As I pray about my appointment, I know that my experience in the past is that the Lord provides the grace and the wisdom we need to respond to His calls in the course of our life, so I trust that that will be the case this time, too,” Bishop-designate Colgan said in a statement released by his order.

Holy Cross Father Richard V. Warner, superior general of the congregation, said the bishop-designate has served the Church and the congregation well throughout his 42 years as a priest.

“He has been an inspiration for the people to whom and with whom he has served for many years. We are honored that our Holy Father has called him to this new ministry,” Father Warner said in a statement.

Bishop-designate Colgan was ordained to the Priesthood Oct. 27, 1973, and has spent most of his religious life ministering in Peru. He has served as pastor of local parishes in Peru and in various leadership and administrative capacities in Peru and the U.S.

In addition to serving as vicar general of the Chosica Diocese during two separate times, Bishop-designate Colgan was vicar general of the Diocese of Chimbote from 1978 to 1980 and episcopal vicar of the Archdiocese of Lima from 1993 to 1997.

He also was superior general of the Holy Cross congregation in Peru, 1974-1975, served as pastor of two parishes in the 1980s, and was executive secretary of the Commission for Social Action of the Peruvian bishops’ conference from 1982 to 1992.

Bishop-designate Colgan left Peru for the U.S. in 2000 to serve as provincial superior of the eastern province of the Congregation of the Holy Cross based in Bridgeport, Connecticut, for nine years. He returned to the Chosica Diocese to serve as vicar general in 2010.

His episcopal Ordination is set for Dec. 12 in San Andres de Huaycan Cathedral in Chosica.

USF to present lecture series on Islam, capital punishment

FORT WAYNE — The Department of Philosophy and Theology and the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Saint Francis will hold a free public lecture, “Eastern Christians and Islam” on Wednesday, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. on the campus of the University of Saint Francis, Brookside Ballroom, 2701 Spring St., Fort Wayne.

The lecture is part of a series offered by the Department of Philosophy and Theology throughout the academic year. Dr. Adam DeVille, associate professor of theology, will address his previously untold story of Christian-Muslim relations in the Middle East and cover the present conflicts and future prospects of peace.

The School of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the St. Thomas More Society of Fort Wayne are also hosting “Rethinking Capital Punishment in the 21st Century: A Roundtable Discussion.” Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Dr. Earl Kumfer, professor of philosophy and theology at the University of Saint Francis, Dr. O. Carter Sneed, director of the Center for Ethics and Culture and professor of law at the University of Notre Dame, and the Honorable Wendy Davis, criminal judge in Allen County Superior Court, will be leading the discussion at this free event on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. on the campus of the University of Saint Francis, North Campus auditorium, 2702 Spring St., Fort Wayne.

For additional information, contact Emily Lautzenheiser at 260-399-8066 or elautzenheiser@sf.edu or visit the website at http://philosophy.sfu.edu/lecture-series/.
Overcoming obstacles: Miscarriage

BY MAUREEN OTREMBA, MA, AND JIM OTREMBA M. DIV, MS, LCSW

WASHINGTON (USCCB) — The Rite of Marriage includes three direct questions posed to the couple. The third of these is “Will you accept children lovingly from God and bring them up according to the law of Christ and His Church?” While couples answer “yes” to this question every day, it probably doesn’t occur to most that perhaps children may not be a part of the future. The rite almost implies that children will be a part of the couple’s lives. Yet 15 percent of all recognized pregnancies end in miscarriage, and it is estimated that as many as 50 percent of all pregnancies result in miscarriage, since most miscarriages happen before a woman even knows that she is pregnant.

The Catholic Church rightly insists on the sanctity of life from the moment of conception, but we need to do a better job of ritualizing the loss of life when a miscarriage does occur. Couples often bear this grief in silence and confusion. The world seems to be telling them that a life was not lost, that a tragedy has not happened. And yet, parents know otherwise. Their hearts and minds cope with grief and sorrow that is no less real for going unaffirmed.

When a couple experiences the pain of miscarriage people may try to be helpful and supportive, but often their words are more of an obstacle than an aid to healing. Here is some wisdom that has helped others through this silent sorrow.

It is right to grieve. People may say things like, “It’s just as well; there was probably something wrong with the baby,” or “Well, at least you know you can get pregnant.” Such comments can lead us to think that there’s really no reason to feel sad. But remember: a life has been lost, along with the many dreams you had for this baby. Take the time to grieve and be gentle with yourself as you are grieving. Treat yourself like a best friend and give yourself permission to be good to yourself during this difficult time.

Surround yourself with people who understand, and avoid people who don’t. Even your best friend may not know how to support you. If necessary, avoid her or him for a while, and seek out others who have been through this sad experience and can validate your feelings. Give yourself permission to share with some people and not with others.

Name your baby. This simple yet profound action is a concrete way of affirming that this life was and is a unique person. It can even be helpful to put the child’s name on a Christmas ornament, a stone in your garden, or some other place where you will see it.

Pray even when words won’t come. God is indescribably near to the broken-hearted, although it may seem like God is very far away. Speak words from your heart, even if they are words of anger, rage, disappointment, frustration or hopelessness. God has heard it all (even from His beloved Son) and is big enough to handle your grief. You are carrying a special sorrow and are united to the sufferings of Christ in a unique way.

Men and women grieve miscarriage differently. Some women find the site “Hannah’s Prayer Ministries” particularly helpful as they grieve miscarriage. Some local Catholic hospitals have a support group for those experiencing pregnancy loss.

For Further Reading:

After Miscarriage: A Catholic Woman’s Companion to Healing and Hope by Karen Edmisten

Solace and Strength in the Sorrow of Miscarriage by Joanne* (name changed)

Loving Parents After Miscarriage by Mary McClusky

Post abortion ministries offer forgiveness and mercy

BY KAY COZAD

As Pope Francis announces the jubilee Year of Mercy to begin Dec. 8, the Catholic faithful are committing to being the face of that mercy to those wounded by abortion. Sharing the message of God’s mercy and forgiveness, Project Rachel, the post-abortion reconciliation ministry of the Catholic Church offers hope and healing for women and men suffering from the pain of abortion and its aftermath. Along with Project Rachel, which offers one-to-one companionship and counseling, operating within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are two nascent ministries — Divine Mercy Ministry and A Haven for Healing — which offer group support for women wounded by an abortion experience.

Divine Mercy Ministry began in earnest in May of 2012 serving those in need in the Fort Wayne and surrounding areas. A Haven for Healing is in its first year with meetings held in both the South Bend and Michiana areas. Both of these “grassroots” ministries are approved by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

Not only does Project Rachel offer a healing venue in which specially trained caregivers, including priests and other religious, lay staff, mental health professionals and volunteers work one-to-one with women and men wounded by an abortion experience, but the ministry is also able to direct those who would benefit from a group setting to the newly formed support groups.

In Fort Wayne, the Divine Mercy Ministry group meets at a confidential location twice a month from September through late April, with monthly meetings May through August, incorporating Bible study, song, group sharing and prayer. Though the meetings are sequential, they are not a therapy group, but rather a community of faith for women and men wounded by abortion and its aftermath.

“We move through the grief process, with a strong emphasis on forgiveness. Bible verses are sprinkled throughout to help women see how the Word of God can assist them in their healing,” says one Divine Mercy core leader, adding that the group’s caring chaplain offers the opportunity for Reconciliation at most meetings as well.

The South Bend area support ministry, A Haven for Healing, meets in fall and spring sessions at a confidential downtown location. The fall session is meeting currently and is closed to new participants. However, the ministry welcomes any inquiries and has information and brochures available upon request. The group uses a Bible study specific to issues of post-abortion trauma and provides a safe place where participants “can express regret, shame, despair and grief, … ask Jesus for forgiveness, and find relief, peace and even joy.”

Both ministries are facilitated by prayerful and compassionate leaders and include a priest chaplain, but are resolute in acknowledging, “We are not a therapy group, but rather a support group.”

Confidentiality is paramount to both groups as it is with Project Rachel. The Divine Mercy core leader notes compassionately, “We do not advertise the dates or locations of meetings anywhere, so that we can protect the confidentiality of every participant. Once a woman contacts us, we set up a one-on-one consultation and only after the woman agrees to join the group are they given the location and times. We are very cognizant of the need for privacy and confidentiality.”

A Haven for Healing advocate and board member notes the importance of the support group venue saying, “Meeting in a group with other post-abortive women allows participants to listen to each other describe their experiences and their deepest pains, … they learn that they are not alone in such feelings. … The women are truly a gift to each other.”

The men and women of the groups are pleased that Project Rachel and the support group ministries are available to meet the individual needs of the participants. “We offer a group format, whereas Project Rachel offers more one-on-one companionship. I love that we have both ministries because there are so many different needs out there. Some women may initially meet with a companion from Project Rachel and then move into a group format. There is something really powerful about being in a group with other women who share your experience and your pain,” says the Divine Mercy core leader.

She concludes saying, “We have done so well in the Catholic Church bringing the pro-life message to the world and fighting for the unborn. It is time that we learn to love, support and bring post-abortive women back into the fold.”

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Computer genius Walter O’Brien speaks to students

BY CORINE ERLANDSON

FORT WAYNE — Walter O’Brien, IQ genius and computer expert, spoke at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School to fifth through eighth graders, including students of the Starbase 2.0 program, on Oct. 16.

Walter O’Brien is the CEO of Scorpion Computer Services and also co-producer of the CBS dramatic series “Scorpion,” based on his life story. Born in Ireland, O’Brien was 13 years old when he hacked into NASA computers. He later hacked into the Bank of England’s computers.

O’Brien attended high school and college and put his high intelligence and computer knowledge to productive use by founding Scorpion Computer Services, which is a think tank and consulting business. Scorpion provides intelligence to business and governmental organizations. The company applies computer science and artificial intelligence to solving problems that client organizations

have, such as preventing computer hacking.

O’Brien gave some examples of the work his company does. In Baghdad, Iraq, Scorpion Computer Services was able to detect someone planting an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) by using photography and GPS to find and retrieve the device.

O’Brien also gave examples of how Scorpion Computer Services is developing artificial intelligence robots. He showed an example of “Big Dog” or an animal-like robot that can carry a soldier’s heavy supplies over rough terrain and not get knocked over.

O’Brien spoke to the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton students and also some of their family members, as it was “Generations Day” when grandparents and other relatives visit the school. O’Brien’s talk was followed by a question-and-answer session.

Walter O’Brien’s visit and talk was sponsored by Strikel Industries and Starbase Indiana that promotes programs in schools that teach STEM concepts (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) to students. The day before, O’Brien was the keynote speaker at the Northeast Indiana Defense Industry Association conference. After the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School talk, O’Brien was planning to visit Indiana Tech in Fort Wayne.

Walter O’Brien stands at the center the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School Starbase 2.0 students. Also pictured are Starbase teachers and officials.

Technology, Engineering, Math) to students. The day before, O’Brien was the keynote speaker at the Northeast Indiana Defense Industry Association conference. After the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School talk, O’Brien was planning to visit Indiana Tech in Fort Wayne.

Walter O’Brien gives an autographed photo to student Christopher Swiatek.

Fall Sharathon

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The shrouded sorrow of miscarriage

Full is the air where I live and there seems to be a rash of new pregnancies among the adult children of many of my friends and coworkers. We hear frequently the voices of each other's medical providers as they come together to congratulate each other on the new grandchildren to be born who will bring new life to our families, and catch up on how each mom-to-be is faring.

But recently our gathering took a traumatic turn when we learned that one of our friend's daughter had miscarried just days before. The joy we've worn on our sleeves for each new life suddenly dimmed as our hearts ached for the new mom-to-be in her loss. "How is she?" we all asked. Our friend simply said she was over it physically, but still "kind of stunned." She seemed "cried out for the moment — like I am," our friend finally admitted numbly. I have not experienced a miscarriage, but my mother's heart tells me this grief is like no other. Frequently in our mourning-avoidant culture support might say that we never really knew the tiny soul that lived such a short life in utero, so there is really nothing to grieve. "It’s no big deal, you can have other kids," they sometimes add, unaware of the consequences of such a statement.

Those who have experienced this kind of loss know that there is much to grieve. The infant that grows inside a woman, even without being seen or heard, can, dreaming of a bright future of the kind of loss know that there is much of such a statement.

I have learned that child loss is a layered loss of hopes and dreams. The infant who grows inside a woman, even without being seen or heard, can, dreaming of a bright future of the kind of loss know that there is much of such a statement.

And what of the fathers of these lost babies? Many times these young dads are not even acknowledged in the process. The baby was never visible outside the womb — therefore considered by some as not a baby at all. Because they could not touch this baby in their arms these dads are encouraged by current cultural misperceptions of grief to "just try again." My mother's adage, "love them low, not surprisingly, finds himself feeling a similar state of shock that he sees his beloved wife in. Yet for now he has stepped into his role as provider/protector and in spite of his grief he is simply taking care of the business of the day.

And of course, this loss affects other family members as well, evidenced by the pain in the eyes of our friend who lost her grandchild, as she speaks of her entire family’s dreams dashed grandpa to aunt to in-laws.

As my group of grandmas discussed this sad situation, I found myself surprised at the number of women who have experienced a miscarriage but never spoke of it. One of the grandmas acknowledged that her first pregnancy many years ago ended in miscarriage. She was able to keep child and that the norms at the time required simply not speak of it, even behind closed doors. How unfortunate, she lamented, that she and her husband carried their grief quietly, shrouded in the solitude of their hearts all of their days.

Another of the grandmas spoke of how her own sister endured a miscarriage several years ago. To their credit, but against family wishes, they held a memorial service replete with a beautiful little casket, Scripture, music and prayer. She felt the ceremony was a powerful beginning to the healing process for the young couple as they grieved the loss of their child.

I have learned that child loss is a layered loss of hopes and dreams for the future. The need to express the inner grief is as relevant as for any loss. When we are open to grief, whether ours or another’s, we can honor even the loss of the unseen gifts of life.

Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and news editor of Today’s Catholic newspaper.

Love God and wholeheartedly trust in the Lord

The Book of Jeremiah provides this weekend’s first reading. A few facts about Jeremiah are known from the book itself. He was from Anathoth, a village only a few miles from Jerusalem. He was the son of Hilkiah and was known as a prophet for over 40 years. Being the son of a priest, in all likelihood he was quite familiar with the traditions of the ancient Hebrews. He would have been particularly aware of the importance of the Exodus, the flight from Egypt and slavery, that molded the Hebrews into one distinctive race, and the meaning in their settlement in the Holy Land.

Hebrew belief was clear. They did not escape Egypt simply because they were lucky, or because they were clever. To the contrary, they succeeded in fleeing the miner- als they had endured in Egypt only by the direct intervention of God.

Jeremiah saw events in his own lifetime as threatening, and as awful, as had been the plight of his people centuries earlier in Egypt. He lived to see Babylon completely overpower and take the Hebrew homeland, and he saw the coercion brought to bear upon his people by Babylon and other imperial neighbors.

He addressed these threats, and also the humiliation and destruction of being overtaken, with faith that the merciful God of the Exodus again would rescue the people. This weekend’s reading is a powerful affirmation of God’s power and goodness, assurance that once more God will protect and lead the people.

As is typical of this book, reading literature is moving in its eloquence and feeling.

For the Gospel, the Church presents a selection from the Epistle to the Hebrews.

This New Testament Scripture is abundant in its references to ancient Jewish beliefs and customs. Its eloquence and feeling.

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The mystery of male-female complementarity

James Parker came out at age 17 and later entered into a relationship with another man. He worked as a gay activist for a while, but his personal experiences of intimacy and human sexuality eventually led him to grasp that “same-sex marriage, but just doesn’t exist, even if you want to say that it does.” He concluded that trying to persuade those with homosexual inclinations that they can have marriage like heterosexual couples is basically to “hoodwink” them: “Deep down, there is no mystery between two men, ultimately.”

This striking insight helps bring into focus the authentic and remarkable mystery we encounter in the joining of husband and wife in marriage. That abiding mystery touches on their one flesh union and reveals an inner fruitfulness, enabling them to contribute together something greater than either can do alone, namely, the engendering of new life in the marital embrace. Ultimately, that life-giving mystery flows from the radical male-female complementarity.

Pope John Paul II commented on this “mystery of complementarity” when he noted how “uniting with each other (in the conjugal act) so closely as to become ‘one flesh,’ man and woman, rediscover, so to speak, every time and in every way, the mystery of creation.”

The personal and bodily complementarity of man and woman, along with the “duality of a mysterious mutual attraction,” reminds us, again in the words of the pope, how “femininity finds itself, in a sense, in the presence of masculinity, while masculinity is confirmed through femininity.”

In recent times, nevertheless, the importance of the bodily and spiritual complementarity of man and woman has come to be diminished or even undermined our own procreativity has effectively diminished our ability to perceive the inner order and interpersonal meaning of our own sexuality. Pope John Paul II once described the root truth about human sexuality as that “characteristic of man — and woman — which permits them, when they become ‘one flesh,’ to submit at the same time their whole humanity to the blessing of fertility.”

The routine promotion of contraceptive sexual relations across all strata of society has effectively collapsed the mystery of sexuality into the trivial pursuit of mutually-agreed-upon pleasurable sensations. It has managed to reconfigure that sexuality into, basically, sterile acts of mutual auto-eroticism. Men and women, neutered and neutralized by various surgeries, pharmaceuticals or other devices, no longer need each other in their complement-ary sexual roles, with homosexual genital activity claiming the status of just another variant of the same game. This deleted vision of our sexuality strips out the beautiful mystery at its core and diminishes our human dignity.

Human sexuality clearly touches deep human chords, including the reality of our solitude. In the depths of the human heart is found a desire for completion through the total spousal gift of oneself to another, a gift that profoundly contributes to alleviating our primordial sense of human solitude. Both Pope John Paul II and Pope Francis have noted how the deeper mystery of communion that we seek through intimacy is connected to this desire to overcome solitude. We are ultimately intended for communion, so our experiences of human solitude draw us into relationship, and beckon us to an encounter with the other.

Yet the union of friendship that arises between two men, for example, or between two women, while clearly important in helping to overcome solitude, can be predicated only on non-genital forms of sharing if their friendship is to be authentic, fruitful and spiritually life-giving.

Genital sexual activity between members of the same sex fails to communicate objectively either the gift of life or the gift of self. Such activity counters authentic intimacy by collapsing into a form of consensual bodily exploitation, contradicting the very design and meaning of the body in its nature as masculine or feminine. It represents, in fact, the lifeless antithesis of natal fruitfulness and faithfulness.

The beauty and meaning of every sexual encounter in marriage, then, is rooted not only in faithful and exclusive love, but also in the radical complementarity of spouses manifested in the abiding mystery of their mutual procreativity. Pope Francis, speaking in the 2015 Synod of Bishops and addressing the theme of “The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and in the Contemporary World,” reiterated this divine design over human sexuality when he stressed: “This is God’s dream for His beloved creation: to see it fulfilled in the loving union between a man and a woman, rejoicing in their shared journey, fruitful in their mutual gift of self.”

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D., serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

MCCLOW CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

You must find ways to experience His love in your heart as a beloved son. Talk to your priest or someone you know who is living the faith. Go to a conference; go to a Rekindle meeting; go on retreat; listen to Catholic radio; or start reading the Gospel of John. And above all else, start talking to God as a friend, which is simply prayer. You can’t give what you don’t have.

If you have had this amazing encounter with Christ remember it, relive it. Its identity is based on remembering who we are in Christ, and it leads us to joy, “The joy of men … who love God attracts others to Him.” (Vespers, Sept. 24, 2015)

Authentic Catholic men receive love as some offer it as spiritual fathers. Love must be encountered, received and experienced in our heads, heart and hands for us to be fully integrated or wise.

How do we heroically live out love as spiritual fathers? Pope Francis explains, “A grateful heart is spontaneously impelled to serve the Lord and to find expres-sion in a life of commitment to our work. Once we come to real-ize how much God has given us, a life of self-sacrifice, of working for Him and for others, becomes a privileged way of responding to His great love.” (Vespers, Sept. 24, 2015)

Our response to this love must be lived heroically, but not neces-sarily consciously. The pope states that happiness and holiness are “always tied to little gestures.” … These little gestures are those we learn at home, in the family … quiet things … little signs of tenderness, affection and compas-sion … small daily signs which make us feel at home.” (World Meeting of Families, Sept. 27, 2015)

As spiritual fathers living out our priesthood, we must give blessings and hugs upon awakening or before bed. We must have little ways of acknowledging our friends and co-workers. Our daily liturgy consists of these little rituals and routines that communicate our love for others. Moreover, “the heart of the pope (and spiritual fathers) expands to include everyone. To testify to the immensity of God’s love is the heart of our mission.” …

Pope Francis knows “there is always the temptation to give in to fear and self-pity,” “But we also know that we have been given a spirit of courage and not of timidity.” (To the U.S. bishops, Sept. 23, 2015) To conquer fear, we must experience and remember in our hearts God’s love for us as sons. This will “impel” us to action with “bound-less love.” …

Dave McClow, M.Div., is a counselor with the Pastoral Solutions Institute Tele-Counseling Services. Read more at CatholicExchange.com.

The SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for October 25, 2015

Hebrews 5:1-6; Mark 10:46-52

Following is a word search based on the Second Reading and Gospel for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SCIENTIFIC SENSE OF BIOETHICS

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

OFFERINGS

50  Affirmative
51  Annoy
52  Color

PENTECOSTAL SENSE OF BIOETHICS

M K 10:35-45 and Jer 31:7-9; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52

ACROSS
1 Expression
4 Luau dish
7 Fast plate
10 Stick
12 John did to the tomb
13 Biblical ‘you’
14 Blood vessels, flowed from Jesus’
15 A sacrifice is a sin
17 Hamlet was one
19 Clothes pressers
20 ‘It over’
22 Rodent
23 Individual plants, or animals
26 Jesus did in boat
29 Condemn
30 Next Pope Paul #
31 Time period
32 Possessive pronoun
33 50 days after Easter
36 Scared you?
37 Thread
38 back for bread
40 Neckband
42 “He will see his…”

DOWN
1 Not downs
2 Power system
3 Lesser Spanish nobility
4 For
5 Lost
6 “The Lord crushed him in…”
7 Lower leg
8 Descendants
9 Type of work boat
11 St. Catherine of
12 Horse’s gait
16 Extremely long time periods
18 Sea eagle
21 Detour
22 Kimono sash
24 Mudder
25 “A high priest without…”
26 Tetta (2 wks.)
27 Jean Vianney’s town
28 Touch affectionately
30 Knitting stitch
33 Malchus the slave lost
35 Outer layer of bread
36 Sly
37 Tint
38 Ceases
41 Herr’s wife
42 Not ordained
43 Those who make the food laws (abbr.)
44 Brain scan
45 Before, postically

The CrossWord

October 18 and 25, 2015

Based on these readings: Lv 3:10-11; Heb 4:14-16; Mk 10:35-45 and Jer 31:7-9; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52

Answer Key can be found on page 15.
St. Charles, St. Vincent advance to football finals

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In the first round of Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football playoff action, two winners advanced to the championship round and a chance for the coveted trip to the diocesan showdown. St. Charles continued their win streak downing Central Catholic, 50-12, and St. Vincent hung on to top the Knights, 14-6.

Coach Kevin Thompson feels the 2015 season has been a very positive one for St. Vincent. The Panthers finished the regular season with a record of 4-2-2. Both losses came at the hands of the No. 1 seed, St. Charles. The team is led by a wonderful eighth-grade class with 18 of the 20 players returning from last year’s one-win season.

“They have worked hard each and every week to better themselves and have an opportunity to play in the CYO championship and a diocesan game. We achieved part of that goal today by beating a strong Knights’ team. Playing a team three times in one season is always hard,” detailed Thompson.

The Panthers started off with an opening drive that stalled at the 22-yard line. But the defense picked them up on the Knights’ first offensive play by forcing a fumble that was recovered by middle linebacker Jordan Hanner. After an impressive run around the outside by Thang Mantuang, St. Vincent got to the one-yard line where quarterback Ben Schreek punched in the score. St. Vincent’s second score came midway through the second quarter when Schreek hooked up with Griffin Eifert on a 46-yard play action pass. The Knights never quit fighting and scored with 1:19 left in regulation. They attempted an onside kick, but the Panthers were able to recover and run the clock out.

In the other matchup, Central Catholic struck first on a brilliant opening kickoff return for a touchdown resulting in the first deficit St. Charles has seen all season. Cardinal Juden Parnin immediately responded with a 65-yard return down to the Irish five-yard line. Hayden Ellinger finished off the drive to make the score 6-6. Cardinal O’Keefe had touchdown receptions by wide receiver Parin, Brenden Lyle and Jeren Kindig, the Cardinals’ starting defense has not yet yielded a point. Owen Sharpe, Lucas Krohn and Harrison Howe all had several tackles for losses and linebackers Devon Tippmann, Finley and Ellinger continued to create a steel curtain of defense for St. Charles.

With the CYO championship and a chance to be in the big game with South Bend on the line, Coach Sam Talarico insisted, “We will need to be ready. St. Vincent is very well coached and they are getting better each week. I hope we come out and play our best game of the year.”

Panthers, Crusaders face off for ICCL football semi-final showdown

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWKA — The crisp fall air set the stage for a classic showdown for the St. Anthony Panthers and the Holy Cross Crusaders in the Inter-City Catholic League semi-final. The match would pit two titans that were separated in early September by one score. The Crusaders boasted a trio of linemen, John Drive, A.J. Nafziger and Chaz Black, and were countered by an equally talented group of unsung heroes in the trenches that included Ryan Flannery, Michael Corney, Charlie Graham, Will Faulkner, Cole Chrzan and Charlie Leonard.

The stage was set — both teams peaking — the Crusaders would be a ticket to the big dance to face the Saints of Mishawaka Catholic, who had defeated St. Matthew, 36-20, moments before kickoff.

On the first series of the game there was something missing in the composition of the Crusader backfield. Present were the workhorse backs of Patrick Driscoll and Miguel Zyniewicz but the absence of their talented quarterback Evan Price, who broke his collarbone just five days before kickoff, was obvious.

The Crusaders moved the ball early by forcing the cloud of dust kicked up by the left side of their line, but it stalled after a couple of untimely penalties.

The Panthers of St. Anthony would have a bit more success as quarterback Luke Leonard systematically hauled the ball off to Kenzel Kelly, Tyler DeBock and Mitchell Floran, threw a couple of passes that found their marks and finally on the 11th play of the drive burrowed into the end zone from five yards out. The offering from backup kicker Graham was blocked leaving the door open and the score, 6-0.

The Crusaders next drive was only three plays and they were forced to punt giving the Panthers their only field goal of the game.

Two plays later, Patrick Driscoll split the Panthers defense and jaunted 78 yards to pay dirt leaving the maroon-and-gold-clad opponent momentarily stunned and making the score 6-6 going into the locker room at half time.

The second half looked as if it would be a continuation of the first as the Panthers’ drive stumbled with yet another fumble recovery from Jaskiewicz. However, the Crusader offense hadn’t have the same success as their drive was marred by penalties requiring a punt that was blocked by Charlie Leonard giving his team the ball at the 21. It took the all-panthers all one play as Florian burst through the line and raced untouchable into the end zone.

Graham’s points after kick was true pushing the lead to 14-6 with 2:29 left in the game.

The Crusaders understood what was ahead of them and utilized a plethora of formations and involving Asante Anglin and Gavin Stefanuk in the mix driving the ball down the field until fourth and 19. The Panthers’ DeBock ended the march with a bone-shaking stop short of the first down marker.

The rest of the contest was the Panthers playing the clock and keeping the ball on their side of their pitch as the last ditch effort of the Crusaders ended in a fumble setting the table for the finals.

“I want first to congratulate the Panthers and their coaches on a well-played game and then let our kids know how proud I am of them working through the injuries and competing at a high level,” expressed Coach John Krzyzewski.

“We left it on the field. There are lessons you can learn in defeat that you can’t teach when you win. I wish the St. Anthony team well.”

“What a hard hitting great ICCL battle, I know they were a few guys down, but they came to play and we expected that out of them,” remarked Panther Coach James DeBoe. “We had to make some adjustments, but our players responded and I couldn’t be happier with the way they responded right now.”

The league championship will be played Sunday, Oct. 25 at 3 p.m. at Saint Joseph High School’s Father Bly Field and set up the rematch between the Saints of Mishawaka Catholic and the St. Anthony Panthers.

“I expect an incredibly good game,” comment Mishawaka Catholic Skipper Tony Violi. “The first game was decided by one foot as their kick after touchdown sailed just wide. The yardage gained by both teams was separated by just one yard.”

“I expect a classic ICCL battle,” added DeBoe. “We have a little bit of a revenge factor being our only loss. Both teams will be at their best.”
Volleyball champs wrap up CYO season

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Another season of volleyball has wrapped up and three new champions were crowned on Saturday, Oct. 17, at the St. Charles Hessen Center. The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) volleyball season and overall team strength. The Squires are a great team. They are just really good kids,” Welch summarized.

In the middle showdown of the day between the small school combined teams, the reigning champs for the past three years, St. Rose/St. Louis was taken out by the undefeated Squires from St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, 19-25, 25-18 and 15-9, for the Blue League title. The Twins came out strong showing their athleticism as the first game winning 25-19, but it was all Hessen Cassel after that claiming the second game, 25-18, and the final, 15-9.

A proud Squire Coach Troy Girod felt his steadfast girls came back the second game encouraging each other, talking more and pushing forward. The Squires are a great passing group — their focus this season and overall team strength.

“The Velvet Muff” is an adult, fictional short story of a family shredded by the scourge of domestic violence. It is set in the early 20th century on Chicago’s West Side, a neighborhood of hardworking, faith-filled families.

Two sisters raised and educated in South Bend by Sisters of the Holy Cross, one of whom is a Holy Cross missionary nun, have collaborated on and published this illustrated short story — suitable for teens and adults.

Writer Mary Breslin told Today’s Catholic, “This my fifth book for charitable causes — my sister was illustrator of two of these. We donated funds from the last book, a children’s story set in South Bend, to our alma mater, Holy Cross School. The subject was bullying.”

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. All proceeds from the sale of “The Velvet Muff” will be donated to House of the Good Shepherd in Chicago, a facility that helps victims of domestic violence.

One hundred years have passed since the family portrayed in this story struggled coming to grips with the domestic violence that crept into their loving circle. Sadly, the problem still exists — more and more families are in crisis because of it. Breslin said, “The purpose of this book is to raise awareness and garner funds to further eradicate this problem.”

To order the book contact Mary Breslin at mary_breslin@hotmail.com.

Mary Breslin, author of “The Velvet Muff,” presents a copy of the short story illustrated by her sister, Holy Cross Sister Angela Mary (Carey), to the Sisters of the Holy Cross. Left to right, seated, Sister M. Esther (Black), Mary Breslin, Sister M. Joan Elizabeth (Johnson); standing, Sisters Kathleen Reilly, Mary Ann Ubbing and M. Clare Alfred (Bill).

Short story sheds light on issue of domestic violence

ROSELLE, Illinois — The crack of a bat on a warm summer’s day is music to the ears of baseball fans, but the cracking sound of a slap across the face or a breaking bone — when an abuser unleashes his or her wrath on another — is a horrific sound.

Domestic violence fractures families. Offenders often terrorize their victims and frequently inflict lifelong emotional scars on innocent children.

“The Velvet Muff” is an adult, fictional short story of a family shredded by the scourge of domestic violence. It is set in the early 20th century on Chicago’s West Side, a peaceful neighborhood of hardworking, faith-filled families.

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**What’s Happening?**

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

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**Holy Name Society fish fry**
New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, Oct. 23, from 4-7 p.m. Adults $8, children 5-12 $4.50 and children under 5 free.

**Craft show, candy and bake sale**
Fort Wayne — The Rosary Society of Most Precious Blood Church, 1515 Barthold St., will have a craft show and bake sale Saturday, Nov. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school gym. Raffle, door prizes every half hour and food available at a nominal cost. Wheelchair accessible.

**Queen of Peace plans holiday bazaar**
Mishawaka — A holiday craft bazaar will be Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Queen of Peace Church, 4508 Vistula Rd. Craft vendors, piggy raffle, cash raffle, bake sale and other refreshments available.

**Saint Joseph High School Drama Club to perform ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’**
South Bend — The Saint Joseph High School Drama Club will present “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” at the University of Notre Dame’s Washington Hall, Thursday, Oct. 22, and Friday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m.

**Day of Reflection**
Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, Nov. 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “If Grain Could Talk.” Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is $20 and includes lunch. Register by Nov. 6 to Sister Barbara Anne Halfmann at 574-259-5427.

**Breakfast to support Hope Clinic**
Decatur — The Knights of Columbus, 1703 High St., will have a breakfast Sunday, Oct. 25, from 8 a.m. to noon. A freewill offering will be taken to raise money for a new ultrasound machine for the Hope Clinic.

**Theology on Capp**
Mishawaka — High School teens are invited to Theology on Capp, Monday, Oct. 26, from 6:30-8:40 p.m. at the Knights Hall, 114 W. First St. A Halloween party will be followed by a talk on spiritual warfare by Father Bob Lengerich. Visit www.marianhs.org/Content2/486 for details.

**40 Days for Life continues**
South Bend — The final 8 a.m. Mass for 40 Days for Life will be Saturday, Oct. 31, with Holy Cross Father Bill Miscamble. Masses are held at the Life Center on Ironwood Circle each Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. Sidewalk advocate training is available each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Prayer witnesses are needed indoors and outdoors until Nov. 1.

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**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE**
All Souls Day Mass

*In the Resurrection Mausoleum Chapel of the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne* 3500 Lake Avenue

**Monday, November 2, 2015 - Noon**
**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Celebrant**
SAINTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Some 65,000 people attended the Mass, including the more than 300 cardinals, bishops and others taking part in the Oct. 4-25 synod on the family.

While the pope’s homily pointed to the new saints as inspiring examples of joyful servants who completely trusted in God, he dedicated the bulk of his reflection on the day’s readings and the Christian meaning of authority and hierarchy. He said the prophet Isaiah said the servant of the Lord “is not someone of illustrious lineage; he is despised, shunned by all, a man of sorrows. He does not do great things or make memorable speeches; instead he fulfills God’s plan through his humble, quiet presence and his suffering.”

It was Jesus’ life and attitude of profound service that “were the cause of our salvation and the reconciliation of mankind with God,” the pope said.

Jesus invites everyone to follow Him on this same path of love and service, he said, and to “reject the worldly temptation of seeking first place and commanding others.”

“Faced with people who seek power and success, the disciples are called to do the opposite,” the pope said.

Those who exercise “genuine authority” in the Church and the Christian community are those who serve others and “lack real prestige.” Jesus calls people “to pass from the thirst for power to the joy of quiet service,” the pope said.

Jesus’ teaching and example clearly show there is “no compatibility between a worldly understanding of power and the humble service, which must characterize authority.”

“Ambition and careerism are incompatible with Christian discipleship; honor, success, fame and worldly triumphs are incompatible with the logic of Christ crucified.”

Because Jesus fully shares in the human condition, with the exception of sin, He can empathize with human weaknesses, the pope said. “The fact that He is without sin does not prevent Him from understanding sinners.”

Through Baptism, all Christians must share in this ministry by opening one’s heart to God in order to receive His love and charity, which is to be received not only “for ourselves, but also for others.”

Pope Francis again praised the new saints before reciting the Angelus in St. Peter’s Square and called for their intercession.

He asked families to entrust their joys, dreams and difficulties to Sts. Louis and Marie Guerin Martin; he asked that the example of St. Grossi be an inspiration for people dedicated to offering young people a Christian education; and he prayed that St. Maria of the Immaculate Conception “help us live in solidarity and in closeness with those most in need.”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ireland

Today’s Catholic Travel announces a pilgrimage to St. Patrick’s Ireland

Ireland Today’s Catholic Travel is happy to announce a pilgrimage to St. Patrick’s Ireland in the fall of 2016. The 10-day trip Sept. 4-13, 2016, will present opportunities for the faithful to visit historic sites.

Visit www.todayscatholicnews.org/tct for brochures and details.

South Bend Pilgrimage

with

Father Zach Barry, parochial vicar
St. Vincent de Paul in Elkhart

Fort Wayne Pilgrimage

with

Father Jacob Meyer, parochial vicar
St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne

Visit www.todayscatholicnews.org/tct or call Tina Schneider or Bethany Belleville at 260-456-2900 for details.