November 8, 2015
Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

St. Jude Parish celebrates
30 years of Perpetual Adoration

BY MARY KINDER

FORT WAYNE — There was a joyous mood at St. Jude Church in Fort Wayne as Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades joined the parish in celebrating not only the feast day of their holy patron saint, but also the 30th anniversary of the St. Jude Perpetual Adoration Chapel. Father Jake Runyon, pastor, and Father Bob D’Souza, parochial vicar, welcomed the bishop, along with several special guests, including Msgr. Joseph Schaedel of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and former St. Jude pastors Father Tom Shoemaker and Father John Pfister, to the special Mass.

Bishop Rhoades spoke of the St. Jude Perpetual Adoration Chapel in his homily calling it “a beautiful blessing in Fort Wayne” and thanking the parish for its dedication and devotion to the Adoration Chapel.

Bishop Rhoades explained that a Perpetual Adoration Chapel is devoted to the worship of Jesus Christ through Eucharistic Adoration, which means the Blessed Sacrament is exposed and adored by the faithful 24 hours a day. The devotion ensures that someone is always praying in the chapel and recognized what the bishop called, “the many wonderful spiritual fruits of the apostolate,” which are often hidden in moments of grace in people’s hearts.

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Recently canonized saints celebrated at St. Therese, Little Flower

BY ALLISON CIRAULO

SOUTH BEND — All saints have parents, but not every saint has parents who themselves were saints. While Louis and Zélie Martin, two of the Church’s newest saints, may always be known primarily in connection to their youngest daughter, St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, the heroic holiness achieved by this French couple is worth celebrating in its own right.

St. Thérèse, Little Flower Catholic Church in South Bend has been doing just that throughout the month of October, by way of pilgrimage, all-night Eucharistic Adoration, a lecture on Carmelite spirituality, and theatrical display, in addition to a Mass celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Oct. 31, the closing event in the month-long series of festivities.

The Martins are unique among the canonized saints of the Church in that they are the first married couple ever to be made saints in the same ceremony. Their canonization was held in Rome on Oct. 18 during the final days of the Synod of Bishops on the family.

The timing of the event was no accident, says Father Tom Shoemaker, pastor of Little Flower Parish, but rather “a deliberate choice by Pope Francis.”

“The pope saw this as a reflection on the life of a family. There were no martydoms, no historic deeds, and no great acts of scholarship behind these canonizations. This is simply a family that prayed together, celebrated sacraments together, encouraged one another, challenged one another, and laughed and cried together through the ups and downs of life,” Father Shoemaker said.

If Louis and Zélie’s original plans had come to fruition, however, this holy family would never have existed. Louis, born in 1823, was apprenticed as a watchmaker in Switzerland when he felt the call to religious life. He was turned away for his
The extraordinary parents of Saint Therese of Lisieux

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The following is the text of the homily delivered by Bishop Rhoades on October 31st at Saint Therese, Little Flower, Church, South Bend:

In today’s reading from the book of Revelation, Saint John describes a vision he had of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They were standing before the throne of God and before the Lamb, singing his praise. This vision of the saints in heaven reminds us of the destiny of our human existence. On this beautiful Solemnity of All Saints, the Church invites us to reflect on the joy of heaven and to taste the joy of the saints, to be inspired by their example as men, women, and children of the Beatitudes, and to seek their intercession to help us to be faithful disciples of the Lord Jesus, to live the Beatitudes of Jesus, whatever our vocation or station in life.

Today, here at this parish named in honor of the beautiful saint and doctor of the Church, Saint Therese, the Little Flower, we gather to celebrate the recent canonization of Therese’s parents, Louis and Zelie Martin. I must admit that I didn’t know a whole lot about their life until I read a book about them this past week. I was enthralled by this book as I learned about this amazing couple, amazing in the sense of holiness, heroic virtue. It is a tremendous blessing for the Church, especially for married people, that Pope Francis canonized at the same time a husband and wife together. This is the first time this has happened in the history of the Church. It is highly recommended this biography of Saints Louis and Zelie Martin, written by Helene Mongin and published by Our Sunday Visitor. It is entitled The Extraordinary Parents of Saint Therese of Lisieux.

Saint Therese once wrote: “the good God gave me a father and a mother more worthy of heaven than of earth. Many others have testified to the truth of this statement. Louis and Zelie Martin lived heroic lives and became holy, not solely through marriage, but through, in, and by marriage. Their love for each other and for their children was deep. They had a profound affection for each other and their children. Their love and affection expanded and spread to extended family, to neighbors, and to the sick and the poor, whom they were always inviting into their home. Their beautiful Christian life, their love, had its source, of course, in God. They had a humble and intense faith. They knew and believed with all their hearts what we read today from Saint John’s first letter: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. They believed in God’s love! This is what gave them the strength to endure many sufferings and to persevere in faith. Let me name a few: they suffered the loss of four of their children at very young ages. Their sorrow was immense, but the devil could not rob them of their faith and trust in God during those incredibly painful times. They persevered in the joy of the Gospel. Their family life, despite tragedy, flourished.

The Martin family was a family of prayer. God was the center of the home. Daily Mass and daily prayers and devotions were part of the everyday rhythm of the Martin’s family life. They observed Sunday as “the Lord’s Day,” a day of worship, rest, and joy together. Louis and Zelie passed on to their five remaining daughters, including the youngest, Therese, a peaceful, humble, and intense faith.

The Martins were working parents. Louis ran a watchmaking and jewelry shop. Zelie ran a lace-making business. They were both very successful. Eventually, Louis closed his shop and devoted himself to his wife’s business. They were not only honest and just, treating their workers well and clients well, they went beyond the obligations of justice. They helped them when they were sick or in need. They made a small fortune but they were never attached to their money or material things. They were generous to others and they lived modestly.

When I think of the sufferings that are part of life, including family life, I think that the Martins are a beautiful example of endurance in faith, hope, and love. I already mentioned the death of four of their little children. I was also very moved when I read the chapter about Zelie’s suffering with breast cancer. Back then, they didn’t have the treatments we have today, nor medications for relief of pain. Zelie probably had breast cancer for many years, but it became obvious at the age of 45. That was the last year of her life. Her faith and courage during that final year reveals the depth of her holiness, her love for God and her love for Louis and her daughters. They prayed for her healing and even went to Lourdes, asking Our Lady for a cure. But Zelie entrusted her life to God’s hands; her only concern was the welfare of her husband and daughters. She died a holy death.

In the next few years, Louis who missed his wife whom he had loved with all his heart, devoted himself to his daughters, each of whom would enter religious life. That was also difficult for him, but, with great faith, he gave them complete freedom to answer the Lord’s call. He even took Therese to Rome to meet with Pope Leo XIII to receive the dispensation to enter Carmel at such a young age. You probably know the prophetic word the Pope said to Therese: You will enter if God wills it. It was a great sacrifice for Louis when his youngest beloved daughter, Therese, entered Carmel. He said: Only God can demand such a sacrifice, but he is helping me powerfully so that in the midst of my tears my heart is overflowing with joy.

There was something supernatural in the lives of Louis and Zelie that enabled them to embrace sufferings. They were given the grace of peace and joy in embracing the cross of Jesus. They teach us so much in this regard. About a year after Therese’s entrance into the convent, Louis would have an attack of illness that would eventually lead to his death. It was an attack of cerebral arteriosclerosis. This disease developed the next seven years with phases of remission and aggravation and even attacked his mental faculties. Louis offered all this suffering to the Lord, like his wife had done. Saint Therese referred to these years as the “great trial” of her life, to see her father’s mental deterioration and his being confined to a psychiatric hospital for three years.

Louis and Zelie Martin’s canonization is a wonderful blessing for the Church. What a beautiful example they are for spouses and parents, for business owners, and for the sick and suffering! They can be an inspiration for those mourning the loss of a child, for those suffering from breast cancer or from mental illness. Truly they are an example and inspiration for the Church and the world during this time of crisis in marriage and family life. We need saints! Louis and Zelie Martin were ordinary people of extraordinary love. They now rejoice in the Lord in the company of their beloved nine children. May they and all the saints intercede for us, that one day we may join them at the banquet feast of heaven!
Knowing how to cry opens one to tenderness, pope says at Mass

BY CINDY WOODEN

ROME (CNS) — While the Beatitudes can seem counterintuitive, Jesus knew that the poor in spirit, those who mourn or are persecuted and those who work for peace and justice are those who are open to experiencing God’s love and mercy, Pope Francis said.

Celebrating an evening Mass Nov. 1, All Saints Day, amid the tombs of Rome’s Verano cemetery, Pope Francis assured people that the saints would intercede for them and for their beloved departed.

Hundreds of people went to the cemetery to prepare their loved ones’ graves for the Nov. 2 feast of All Souls. As Pope Francis processed to the temporary altar, he also stopped to lay a white rose on a grave.

The day’s Gospel reading was Matthew’s account of the Beatitudes, which the pope said was the path Jesus taught as the road to heaven.

“It’s a journey difficult to understand because it goes against the tide, but the Lord tells us that whoever takes this path is happy, (or) sooner or later will become happy,” the pope said.

The merciful are blessed because they have experienced the truth that everyone is in need of forgiveness and mercy, the pope said. “They don’t judge everything and everyone, but try to put themselves in the other’s shoes.”

Mass always begins with asking God’s forgiveness and mercy; it is a time when “we recognize ourselves for what we are, sinners. It’s not just a saying, a formality,” he said. “And if we learn how to give others the forgiveness that we ask for ourselves, we will be blessed.”

The Beatitudes say that peace-makers will be blessed and that is something often visible in the here and now, he said. “Look at the faces of those who go around sowing discord; are they happy? Those who always look for opportunities to trick others, to take advantage of others, are they happy? No, they cannot be happy.”

But those who patiently try each day to promote peace and reconciliation, even through small gestures at home and at work, “are blessed because they are true children of our heavenly Father, who always and only sows peace.”

As dusk approached, Pope Francis asked the thousands of people gathered in the cemetery to pray with him for “the grace to be simple and humble human people, the grace to know to weep, the grace to be meek, the grace to work for justice and peace and, especially, the grace to let ourselves be forgivable by God in order to become instruments of his mercy.”

Earlier in the day, the pope recited the Angelus with visitors gathered in St. Peter’s Square, focusing on the call to be saints that all Christians receive at Baptism.

Pope Francis celebrates the Eucharist during Mass in Verano cemetery in Rome Nov. 1, the feast of All Saints.

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.
Catholic students attending Bethel College encouraged to show solidarity, mutual respect during visit from Bishop Rhoades

BY IRENE COPENHAVER

SOUTH BEND — On his first visit to Bethel College, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades met with a group of Catholic students on Oct. 30. He offered them advice and encouraging words on the challenge of living their faith in a non-Catholic environment.

“We want to make sure that we at least had a Catholic presence and ministry to our Catholic students,” said the bishop. He recently appointed Ashley Scarbrough to coordinate activities for the students in the South Bend area. The campus group meets twice a week for prayer and social time.

“There are negative stereotypes and prejudices within other denominations (on campus) that don’t understand Catholicism,” said Rachel Kidman, junior from Dowagiac, Michigan. She said in a student body of almost 2,000, only about 90 identify themselves as Catholic. Of those only a few are active on campus.

“Christians have to be in solidarity,” Bishop Rhoades said. “We work in a spirit of mutual respect. There will be theological disagreements but we are brothers and sisters in baptism … even though we are of different traditions.”

The bishop said that the Catholic Church is in dialogue with many varying denominations. The goal is not to win the other side over but to be in positive ecumenical dialogue. “Building relationship is the key in ecumenism,” he said. “Prayer and working together is ecumenism on the ground. It is the theological (differences) that are more challenging. It’s not easy but it is worth the effort.”

“The pope tells us to go out to live the Gospel to the poor … and those who are suffering. That is really the life of Jesus.”

Rick Becker, a professor of nursing and a Catholic, said that Bethel College is one of only a few members of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCL) that will hire Catholic faculty. He added, “By doing this, Bethel is trying to live out this ecumenism.” The CCCL is an international higher education association of evangelical institutions.

The bishop encouraged the students: “Keep the faith. Build unity. Stay closer to Christ.”

A.J. Reynolds, Bethel student body president and a Catholic, said of the bishop’s visit, “One of my great challenges … was to try and engage these conversations so it’s a big victory to have him here. I hope this leads to future dialogue.”

“I’m encouraged to be a young person of the faith,” said Reynolds. Kidman echoed his sentiments, “I found it encouraging that he wanted us to work toward unity and that he is working on that with our area colleges.”

Zack Spaulding and Teresa Berger, both seniors at Indiana University South Bend, were in attendance and extended an invitation to the bishop to celebrate a Mass on their campus.

To develop a deeper relationship in Christ, the bishop advised prayer, especially before the Blessed Sacrament. “A personal encounter (with Jesus) is everything,” he said. Bishop Rhoades added that praying the 20 mysteries of the rosary alone or with a group should be a priority for the students.

“Being Catholic can be countercultural. We are living in a world of ‘isms’: relativism, secularism, individualism,” said the bishop. “Christians have to be in dialogue to the poor … and those who are suffering. That is really the life of Jesus.”

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Educación para el Ministerio hosts conference on the family, mercy

**BY LOURDES SILVA**

GOSHEN — A full day of workshops were facilitated to the students of “Educación para el Ministerio” at St. John the Evangelist, Goshen, on Oct. 31, the vigil of All Saints Day.

This event was conducted in collaboration with the diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministry, director for Hispanic Ministry Enid Roman De Jesús, and the main presenters, Dr. Peter Casarella from the University of Notre Dame, and Fred Everett, diocesan director for the Office of Family Life.

The Office for Hispanic Ministry and the Educación para el Ministerio students were appreciative for the full day of workshops. Themes presented included “La Familia” (Family) Year of Mercy, and communication of parents with their children on the delicate theme of virtues.

Another segment provided preliminary information of the diocesan sites designated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades for the opening of the Holy Doors with special celebrations on Dec. 13. The Jubilee Year of Mercy, pro-

mulgated by Pope Francis, commences Dec. 8, on the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Spiritual and corporal works of mercy can be done to gain indulgences during the year.

An initial inauguration for the year will be held at three sites: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend and the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame. Information about the opening of the Holy Doors will be announced at a later date.

Enid Roman, the director of the Office for Hispanic Ministry offered formation to the laity for parish ministry on Friday, Oct. 30, at Our Lady of Hungary Church in South Bend. Father Kevin Bauman, pastor of Our Lady of Hungary, requested the formation to fortify and strengthen parish leaders. The formation also offered instruction for the upcoming Year of Mercy. Participants are shown in front of the altar with Our Lady of Guadalupe and pictures of the dearly departed family of parishioners.

**ST. LOUIS ACADEMY CLOSES 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Libbey Oberley, Principal Vanessa Diller and Bethany Rorick pose with a birthday cake at a reception celebrating the 100th anniversary of St. Louis Academy in New Haven. The seventh-grade girls dressed as nuns for a play presented to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. They represent the teachers at the school in 1915.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass at St. Louis Parish on Nov. 1 culminating the yearlong 100th-year celebration of St. Louis Academy. Shown in the photo behind the school are the following: from left, Josie Ball, religious education director; Father Ben Muhlenkamp, pastor (in back); Vanessa Diller, St. Louis Academy principal; Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades; Cheryl Klinker, former principal; and Father Stephen Colchin, former pastor.
as church and state were officially estranged in Mexico.

Women’s right to maternity leave must be protected, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Businesses are called to promote harmony between work and family for their employees, especially for women with children or who are starting families, Pope Francis said. The pope said that many times, women who announce their pregnancy are fired from their positions, even when they must be protected and helped in this dual task: the right to work and the right to motherhood. “The challenge is to protect their right to a job that is given with full recognition while at the same time safeguarding their vocation to motherhood and their presence in the family,” the pope said Oct. 31 in an audience with the Christian Union of Italian Business Executives. Catholic men and women in the world of business are called to live faithfully “the demands of the Gospel and the social doctrine of the Church,” he said, and become “architects of development for the common good.”

“The workplace and the executive offices can become places of sanctification through everyone’s commitment to build fraternal relations among business owners, managers and employees, while encouraging shared responsibility and collaboration in the common interest of all involved,” he said.

Religious freedom said to merit ‘seat at the table’ with other concerns

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In many nations around the world, “religious freedom flourishes,” but in too many other countries, “people face daunting, alarming and growing challenges because of their faith,” a State Department official said Oct. 27.

“People believe that the freedom of belief is a fundamental achievement of ‘Nostra Aetate,’ the Second Vatican Council’s declaration on relations with other religions. Although it is the shortest of the Second Vatican Council’s documents, its influence continues to be felt in the life of the Church today, said speakers at an anniversary conference Oct. 26-28 sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue and the Pontifical Commission for Religious Relations With the Jews. Combomini Father Miguel Angel Ayuso Guixot, secretary of the interreligious dialogue office, said that while much has been done since the document’s publication, there is still much more to do in advancing relations between the Catholic Church and non-Christian religions. “So many words have been said but there has also been much silence,” Father Ayuso said. “The path indicated by ‘Nostra Aetate’ is still of great relevance and, as it says in the declaration, still today we are exhorted to recognize, preserve and advance all the spiritual, moral and socio-cultural values found in religions.”

One of the fundamental achievements of “Nostra Aetate,” he continued, “was the Church’s recognition of what is true and holy in other religions, said Cardinal Jean-Louis Tauran, president of the pontifical council. In the document, ‘for the first time, the magisterium recognized that holiness can be found also in other religions and that this can lead to a ‘ray of that truth that illuminates all mankind.’”

Cardinal says in homily Pope Francis will visit Mexico in February

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis will visit Mexico in February, marking the pontiff’s first trip to the heavily Catholic country, said Cardinal Norberto Rivera Carrera of Mexico City. Cardinal Rivera regularly urged the late Pope John Paul II to visit in Mexico Feb. 12 during a homily Nov. 1, but he offered no other information on itineraries or the length of the stay. “From that day onward, we will receive him with a lot of affection,” he said. The Vatican has not confirmed the dates. Father Héctor Gómez, chancellor of the Mexico City Archdiocese spokesman, said Vatican officials responsible for organizing papal trips planned to arrive in Mexico Nov. 2, where the pope might visit “are still to be determined,” he said. Vatican and Mexican Church officials confirmed in October that Pope Francis would visit Mexico in 2016, triggering media speculation on where he would visit and pronouncements from Mexican bishops that the pope would pay visits to their states. “It’s due to the decadence of the political class and it wanting to ‘take advantage’...of the pope’s enormous popularity,” Father Valdemar said of the enthusiasm for the pope among politicians, a group that clung to anti-clerical ideals in past decades.

China announces it will change its policy, allow all families two children

BEIJING (CNS) — China’s Communist Party leaders announced they would change the nation’s one-child policy, which most strictly applied to Han Chinese living in urban areas of the country.

The Oct. 29 announcement was contained in a Xinhua news agency report on the Communist Party’s Central Committee meeting. It said China would allow all couples to have two children, but did not provide additional details. The Chinese government imposed its one-child policy in 1979 to curb the growth of the population that, at that time, was reaching 972 million people. The policy most strictly applied to Han Chinese, but not to ethnic minorities around China. Han families in rural areas could apply to have a second child if the first child was a girl. In areas where the policy was enforced, parents could lose their jobs for having more than one child. Sometimes the second or third child was penalized and could not be registered, so he or she could not go to school.

Despite the policy’s enforcement, the policy might not be enforced. “Experience has informed our work,” he said. “We know how deeply abortion fails women at every level.”

Countries have moral obligation to help refugees, says U.N. leader

WASHINGTON (CNS) — When Antonio Guterres, former prime minister of Portugal, became the 10th U.N. high commissioner for refugees in 2005, the world was a different place, and his agency — charged with protecting and resettling the world’s refugees — was helping about 1 million people return to their homes each year, while the annual number of global refugees was decreasing. There was even speculation, he said, about the need for the agency. “Now, unfortunately, things have changed quite dramatically,” he told participants at an Immigration Law and Policy Conference Oct. 29 at the Georgetown University Law Center. He illustrated the shift with a list of numbers including the overall figure that there were nearly 60 million refugees worldwide in 2014. But what is even more dramatic, he said, is the “staggering escalation of displacement by conflict in the past few years.” In 2011, 14,000 people were forced to flee their homes each day. This figure rose to 23,000 in 2012, 32,000 in 2013 and 42,500 in 2014. The numbers are increasing enough, but as Guterres added, the conflicts these people are fleeing are not ending so they have no homes to go back to.

China’s new two-child policy is a victory for human rights, he said. “But if we don’t change the way we talk about it, we will not be able to change the world,” he said. “In the face of this kind of challenge, we must respect the law, but we must also say that the law is not enough.”

Heritage Foundation panelists explore Planned Parenthood alternatives

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As a panel convened at the Heritage Foundation’s Capitol Hill headquarters to focus on alternatives to Planned Parenthood for women, one potential alternative to Planned Parenthood described the harvesting of fetal tissue and body parts during abortions at their clinics and discussing the sale of post-abortion fetal tissue. For the women who go to the Visitation Mission and Sister Magdalene Teresa, a Sister of Life who is director of her order’s Visitation Mission in New York City, “After 40 years of Roe v. Wade, we know that we don’t want this happen one more time,” she said during the Oct. 29 panel discussion. The Heritage event comes after a series of undercover videos released this summer showed photographers and others associated with Planned Parenthood describing the harvesting of fetal tissue and body parts during abortions at their clinics and discussing the sale of post-abortion fetal tissue. For the women who go to the Visitation Mission, Sister Magdalene Teresa said 1,000 pregnant women a year do — “pregnancy shatters her identity, her sense of who she is. The woman becomes someone who can be used by one who is decent, trustworthy, and can look out for other people.” She said, “Experience has informed our work. We know how deeply abortion fails women at every level.”

News Briefs

Sister Ida Lagonegro, the community Superior of the Dimesse Sisters Community in Kangemi, Kenya, shows the vestments Pope Francis will use at Mass when he visits Kenya in late November. Despite ongoing violence in the Central African Republic, Pope Francis said he hopes to be able to visit the country in late November and to anticipate the Year of Mercy by opening the Holy Door of the cathedral in Bangui, the nation’s capital.

CNS PHOTO/THOMAS MUKOYA, REUTERS
Angels Club Holds Prays for Poor Souls

The St. Michael’s Angels Club in Plymouth had their annual Halloween party Sunday, Oct. 25. Each year the Angels Club members enjoy games, a hayride, a visit to the cemetery to pray for the poor souls and carving pumpkins. Each girl carves her own unique cross into her pumpkin. The pumpkins are then put on the church steps for the whole parish to enjoy. They are lit up on the eves of All Saints Day and All Souls Day.

The Sisters of Providence and others gather at the shrine to pray for the many intentions sent to the shrine. Special prayers are offered for the needs of all families, asking for the protection and intercession of Our Lady of Providence as Queen of the Home.

A feast day in the Catholic faith tradition is a day set aside to commemorate the life of an individual or a specific event. Our Lady of Providence is a reference to Mary, mother of Jesus.

This year, the feast will coincide with the commitment ceremony of the new Providence Associates.

For more information, call 812-535-2946 or email ProvCtr@spsmw.org.

Outstanding Distinguished Knight recipients honored

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has announced the 2015 Distinguished Knight Recipients. These awards, presented through the Office of Institutional Advancement at Luers, honor an alum and an honorary alum who contributed outstanding service to the Catholic Church and its principles.

Bishop Luers Principal Tiffany Wanyo recognized Sister Janet Gildea, class of 1974 as Bishop Luers 2015 Outstanding Alumna. Sister Gildea first began her commitment to serve the needy while a student at Bishop Luers, volunteering at Lutheran Hospital and Matthew 25 Clinic before attending The College of Mount Saint Joseph in Cincinnati.

After graduating from Indiana University School of Medicine, Sister Gildea entered the Sisters of Charity congregation. Her desire to serve God’s needy took her to Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she worked at La Familia Medical Center and San Vincente Clinic. Sister Gildea then answered God’s call and founded La Clinica Guadalupe, a medical clinic in the desert east of El Paso, Texas. The clinic offers medical care, wellness clinics, educational seminars, and spiritual support to uninsured, desparate and needy families. In 2001, the sisters extended their mission across the border to establish The Santo Nino Project in Anapra, Mexico. Several times a week, she and the sisters minister to children with severe handicaps and their families.

The Outstanding Honorary Alumna for 2015 is Mary Keefer. The Bishop Luers’ mission statement declares, “We are the Light of the World.” and Keefer, exemplifies this statement in both word and action. Her passion for her work, her faith, her devotion to family, as well as her daily examples of true Christianity, are only a few of the ways she has made an enormous impact on Luers’ students, staff and community.

Keefer began her own Catholic education at Cathedral Grade School, after which she made the short move to Central Catholic High School, graduating in 1966. She continued on with her education at St. Francis and then to Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne (IPFW) where she received her bachelors, masters and administration degrees. She had a dedication to her profession — really “her calling” and served children with unvaried passion.

Keefer spent 18 years around the “room,” as she always called Bishop Luers’ campus. She loved being at Luers and it showed in her interactions with everyone she encountered.

Pregnancy and parenting support program going statewide

INDIANAPOLIS — Over the past year, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence funded a $1 million pilot program known as Indiana Women Seeking Access to Parenting Support Services Program. The program served 8,737 women at 17,445 visits from 33 counties.

Real Alternatives, Inc. was selected to administer the program that assists women in unexpected or crisis pregnancies with accessing other support services, during the pregnancy and through 12 months after the birth of their baby.

The Greater Catholic Conference commended Gov. Pence for bringing this life-affirming program to Indiana women in need.

Women experiencing an unexpected pregnancy are encouraged to call the statewide hotline number, 1-888-LIFE-AID to be connected for help.

TV Mass needs volunteers

The TV Mass in Fort Wayne is seeking volunteers to work behind the scenes producing a television Mass for the homebound. Experience in operating cameras and technical equipment is a plus. Contact the diocesan Office of Communications at 260-744-0012.
The devotional pieces of Divine Mercy

BY TIM JOHNSON

AUBURN — Many readers may be devoted to the daily recitation of the Chaplet of Mercy, but there are four other devotions of Divine Mercy to note as well. They include the feast day, the image, the novena and the hour of mercy. Father Dan Cambra, a priest of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception whose charism is to promote Divine Mercy, recently discussed the Divine Mercy devotions after he made a presentation at Immaculate Conception Parish in Auburn.

The Chaplet of Mercy is one of the five devotions that Jesus revealed to St. Faustina, Father Cambra said.

One prays the Chaplet of Mercy, “we pray on the beads of the rosary the prayers that Jesus gave her to pray,” Father Cambra said. “So it is a completely unique devotion that was revealed by Jesus to St. Faustina.”

On several occasions, Father Cambra noted, Jesus told Faustina to pray it for the dying, especially people who were not at peace dying because they had great anxiety over the state of their soul. Father Cambra noted.

St. Faustina would often pray the chaplet — and sometimes even bilocate — at the bedside of anxious dying person and they would suddenly feel at peace, Father Cambra said.

At one point in the “Diary” Jesus tells Faustina: “If a person even bilocate — at the bedside of dying because they had great anxiety over the state of their soul.”

Father Cambra noted that a lot of people draw back — calling it magic — “Well, it’s not magic,” Father Cambra said. “The chaplet is a prayer in which we offer to the Father the satisfaction of Christ’s redemptive act. We appropriate it for ourselves and for the conversion of sinners.”

Faustina was often asked to pray it even for the dead. Faustina reported three incidences when a recently deceased sister came to her asking her for prayers. When Faustina prayed the prayers they received a great deal of peace and would return to her and show her gratitude.

“The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is part of that call to be co-operators with God’s grace. Just as Christ died on the cross for our sins, so now we offer His passion and suffering back to the Father for those who are in need of God’s grace and mercy,” said Father Cambra.

“When I first looked into joining the Marians, that aspect of praying for the souls in purgatory as being central to our priestly vocation very much appealed to me,” Father Cambra said. Even though the congregation was already promoting the Divine Mercy message, Father Cambra was not familiar with the message when he entered the order. When Father Cambra read in the “Diary” that Sister Faustina prayed the Divine Mercy chaplet for the souls in purgatory, she made a comment: “How thin the veil is — the Church triumphant in heaven, the Church militant — you and I here on earth still struggling against our own sinful ways and the possibility of temptation around us — and the leaves of suffering, who had at least been guaranteed that they will one day be worthy of heavenly glory, but must still continue to purge themselves of that which they cling to which is not of God.”

In 2000, Pope John Paul II proclaimed the feast of Divine Mercy, the second Sunday of Easter, and canonized Sister Faustina. In the Gospel that week, Jesus walks through the door and says to everyone gathered: “Peace be with you.”

In the image of Divine Mercy, Jesus’ left hand is touching His chest, and from there, from His heart, shine rays red and pale, “reminding us of the blood and water that was shed when His heart was pierced by a lance,” Father Cambra said. “His other hand is raised in blessing.”

The feast of Divine Mercy is about reconciliation both with God and with others, Father Cambra said.

The feast and image itself are intimately connected, Father Cambra noted.

In the image, Father Cambra also pointed out some things that are often overlooked. “One of the most important ones I believe is the foot,” Father Cambra said. “The left foot of Jesus is stepping out towards us.”

In the Sacred Heart devotion, St. Margaret Mary received Jesus’ revelation of His love. He asks St. Margaret Mary to love Him.

In the Divine Mercy messages, which is in many ways foundational to the Sacred Heart message, “Jesus goes beyond the love, to be the mercy of God. He no longer waits for us to come to Him.”

The idea of the Divine Mercy image, with that foot stepping forward, “is a reminder to us, very powerfully, that if we make some effort Jesus is ready to receive us,” Father Cambra said.

The feast of Divine Mercy is one of those things that we are yet to appreciate,” Father Cambra added. “It’s an opportunity to say, ‘I’m sorry for all my shortcomings,’ but more than that, ‘I give thanks and praise that Your mercy is ever flowing.’ And the feast and the image kind of pull together as a single unit.”

With the Novena of Divine Mercy, “Jesus is giving us something very unique,” Father Cambra added.

“The novena for the preparation for the feast of Divine Mercy is completely different from all those other novenas,” Father Cambra said. “It’s not about praying for something that you want, it’s about putting on the mind of Christ. In that sense, it’s a novena for the post Vatican II mentality. … How can I be more Christ-like to my brothers and sisters?”

The first thing, Father Cambra said, “is to pray, for their conversion, the acts of charity that come through being merciful — especially the people that we find it difficult to be merciful towards — our coworkers, our neighbors, our family and friends, the inlaws — everybody that comes into contact with us.”

The chaplet is part of that offering up the action of Christ for the conversion of sinners, Father Cambra added.

The fifth devotion, the hour of mercy, for Father Cambra is the “key that unlocks the door to the understanding of a lot of the other devotions and all the revelations of St. Faustina.”

Faustina was asked to pray the Stations of the Cross at 3 p.m., to spiritually connect to the suffering of Christ, an arduous task of Christ’s final hours and death.

To meditate on the sufferings of His disciples, the sufferings of His mother, is to see how, in fact, one’s sufferings are no less significant, but actually made more significant if they are joined to the sufferings of Christ.

“We offer our sufferings up as a tribute to Him who suffered for us,” Father Cambra said. Since “pain and suffering is a part of life, why not use it as an opportunity to grow in holiness and prayer,” suggested Father Cambra.

A good resource to begin to discover Divine Mercy is the Bible. Another resource is to pray before the Eucharist. “Placing our burden and our vulnerability to the Father the satisfaction of our sins, to the Father the satisfaction of our sins, Eucharist causes us to recognize the infinite humility of God,” Father Cambra said. “Not only did He decide to take on the eternal throne and joy outside of place, of time — He became man, was born of the Virgin Mary — that was a huge step in humility, more than any of us can ever achieve, ever even consider.”

Father Cambra said if one reads the “Diary,” they should not read it too fast. He suggests reading two pages a day and occasionally taking a day off. Many find it difficult, he said, as it does not read like a novel.

Of the “Diary,” Father Cambra noted, “These are the internal workings of the Holy Spirit of a young woman who was called to great sanctity. If you read two pages a day … you can still get that same amount in a year.”

Father Cambra has read the “Diary” 12 times and learns something new and profound every time.


Visit the diocesan website: www.dioceseofwsb.org/faustina for trailer and additional information about the play.

Tune in to Redeemer Radio on Friday mornings for the opportunity to win tickets.
Brother Roy Smith shares his gifts

BY MOLLY GETTINGER

NOTRE DAME — It is not every day that you meet someone who turned down a full tuition football scholarship to become a religious brother. Holy Cross Brother Roy Smith, is just such an individual.

Born in Indianapolis in 1943 as the eighth of nine kids to two devout converts of Catholicism, Brother Roy’s upbringing was imbued with the Catholic faith. “The Church, the parish, was very much a part of our life. On holy days of obligation when there was no school, the schedule was Mass, breakfast, chores and then we could go out and play,”

Brother Roy attended Catholic schooling his entire life. As a student at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, much of Brother Roy’s upbringing revolved around sports. He competed in basketball, football and track, and excelled in all three. As a senior, Brother Roy earned all-state honors, and he began to be noticed by football recruiters.

It seems, however, that God had other plans. Amid the touchdowns and slam dunks, Brother Roy found himself drawn to the brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross who ran the school. He felt as if the brothers noticed and cared about him, and he began to witness the way they mentored and truly cared for students.

Throughout his senior year, Brother Roy had multiple offers to play football in college, including a full tuition scholarship to play football for the University of Louisville.

As the year continued, Brother Roy’s discernment deepened. Brother Roy shared, “Rudy Mueller, the Louisville recruiter, said that if I went to the brothers now and changed my mind later, I could still have the scholarship in one year.” This solidified it for Brother Roy. Upon graduation, Brother Roy hung up his dreams of playing for the Chicago Bears and winning the Super Bowl.

Instead, he responded to the vocation of becoming a Congregation of Holy Cross Brother, hoping to impact others in the same way the brothers had impacted his life.

Brother Roy shared that, “I love the Eucharist, but I never felt called to the Priesthood. I was drawn to teaching.”

He continued, “The Lord calls us to be who we are. I was created as a black male and that is the gift, the vehicle, if you will, the Lord asks me to exhibit a part of the face of God. A portion of the way for me to share my gifts has been as a Holy Cross Brother.”

Brother Roy attended St. Edward’s University, majoring in history with a minor in English, and graduated in 1965. “While there,” Brother Roy said, “I had the opportunity to participate in civil rights picketing and demonstrations.”

“Witnessing the dedication and fidelity of participants who were my teachers has been enriching,” he said. “More so they have become my confreres, friends who continue to give their lives for others. In a supportive way they challenge me to be the best I can be.”

The mentoring to him as a high school student that the Holy Cross Brothers provided remained a model for the way Brother Roy has lived his life. After college graduation, Brother Roy was placed at Saint Joseph High School in South Bend. “As a teacher,” Brother Roy said, “I learned the first year and taught the second.” This began a long career of working with youth.

After two years, Brother Roy moved to Milwaukee, working at St. Charles, a home for emotionally-disturbed delinquent boys. His involvement in the civil rights movement continued, as he participated in the open housing marches in Milwaukee in the late 1960s. During his 12 years in Wisconsin, Brother Roy spent five working on his master’s in social work, and he became childcare supervisor. This later came in handy when he worked as a social worker in Boyssville in Clinton, Michigan.

In 1978, Brother Roy was asked to be personnel director for the Midwest Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross. During this time, Brother Roy said, “one of the joys was to see the great work the brothers did.”

In 1985, Brother Roy began working for Catholic Charities of Fort Wayne-South Bend as a social worker. He was involved in their Rainbow Program, family counseling and refugee resettlement. With the war at Vietnam coming to a close, he worked with quite a few Vietnamese refugees.

In the late 1980s, Brother Roy once again returned to the high-school setting, this time as a social worker. He moved to Holy Trinity High School in Chicago, where he served as a social worker for eight years.

Currently, Brother Roy is the development director for the Congregation of Holy Cross. He serves on a number of boards, including the Black Catholic Advisory Board.

“Advisory Board.

Currently, Brother Roy is

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FORT WAYNE — James and Wendy Summers are in love with their Catholic faith. Active members of St. Pius X Parish in Granger, the Summers are eager to share this love of the faith with those they encounter. And they want others to reach out in the spirit of inclusion.

James recently expressed in a session at the ZEAL Missionary Discipleship Summit on Oct. 10, that many are surprised to learn that the faith-filled Summers are Catholic.

James works with a lot of communities as it relates to diversity and inclusion. In the community, he often works with community engagement with many African-American pastors, and he often is asked: “You’re Catholic?

What it represents, James said, is “I’m not what they thought Catholics were like.”

“It’s all about relationships,” James noted. “It’s not what we say. It’s what we preach at people. It’s not that we try to convert people. It’s very much a matter that we show faith in our actions and then people themselves turn around and say, ‘I want what you’ve got. I want to understand what makes you be that way.’ And then they want to be engaged.”

James and Wendy Summers shared what is like for them to be a minority — Black Catholics — in the Catholic Church, and shared just a few simple steps to make all feel welcomed and included in their parish and communities and the faith.

In sharing his story, James grew up in Evanston, Illinois. His mother was Catholic, his father was Episcopalian and converted to Catholicism.

In sharing her story, Wendy used a quote from Sister Theo Bowman: “I am authentically Black, and I am Catholic.”

In her family, the faith was connected with the faith. Her mother had been Catholic since she was 4 years old, fell in love and married. They wanted to raise their children in the Catholic tradition. They wanted their children to be engaged and connected with the faith.

Wendy sums up in a depressed all-Black community in the Chicago area, but her family lived in a very middle class neighborhood. There were a lot of Catholics in the middle class, she noted. Wendy and her four siblings attended Catholic schools for 12 years.

At St. Pius, James got involved. "It's not that we try to convert people. It's very much a matter that we show faith in our actions and then people themselves turn around and say, 'I want what you've got. I want to understand what makes you be that way.' And then they want to be engaged." James and Wendy Summers share their journey of faith in the session, “One Body, One Family: The Value of Diversity and Inclusion” at the ZEAL Missionary Discipleship Summit at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne on Oct. 10.

The value of diversity and inclusion

By Tim Johnson

After purchasing their first home, a fixer upper in a predominantly Black community, James, following the footsteps of his father-in-law, became a lector at St. James Church. "I found that this was something that I absolutely loved to do," James said. "We became very engaged, very involved." James offered his gifts as a religious education instructor, "and once again we're building into this sense of feeling stronger in our faith," he related.

While this is true, however, Wendy was pregnant with twins and the pregnancy ended with a miscarriage.

"Everyone in my parish knew I had a miscarriage," she sadly shared. "No one in that parish made it their personal business to reach out and comfort us. No one said, 'We have this wonderful faith. Use your faith as your crutch.' There again I was at a parish where I was going through the most difficult time of my life. Catholic there was that wonderful opportunity for someone to evangelize to me and no one did it."

Wendy shut down. "I was just there to get my ticket punched," she said.

The Summers family later moved to a more affluent suburb of Wheaton. There, they tried to become engaged and involved in a parish, a predominantly white parish. The family registered and James indicated his interest in being a lector at his new parish.

"No one responded," James said. So he reached out again. It wasn't until a priest from their former parish contacted a family he knew at the new parish that James was invited to "audition" to be a lector. James auditioned and was accepted.

"It's not what's said, it's what's heard," James said. "What I was hearing was 'they just didn't really feel comfortable that I could be smart enough or intelligent enough, or articulate enough to be a lector.'"

He became a lector, but still felt a level of superficiality. "I was used to person to person in love," The older couple came walking over to us out of the blue and he stuck out his hand and said, "Hi, I'm Bill Wiegler, welcome to St. Pius."

"And I looked in his eyes and I saw Christ," James said.

Wendy commented how Bill intentionally welcomed the family. Bill was not a greeter, not on the welcoming committee. "When I intentionally reach out to someone, it makes a difference," Wendy encouraged. "Reach out person to person in love." The Wieglers and Summers have been friends for 16 years.

"When people intentionally reach out, it made a difference," James said.

Wendy added that James got involved. He attended a Christ Renews His Parish weekend. Wendy was an extraordinary member of the Exchange, but still did not feel engaged until Julie Meyer, mother of Father Jacob Meyer, asked Wendy one Sunday at church to go on a CRHP weekend. Wendy attended the CRHP.

"(Meyer) intentionally including me, changed the woman I was." said Wendy. "As a result of this, while I was engaged until Julie Meyer, mother of Father Jacob Meyer, asked Wendy one Sunday at church to go on a CRHP weekend. Wendy attended the CRHP.

November is National Black Catholic History Month

The Black Catholic Advisory Board of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and St. Augustine Parish, South Bend, will be offering several events throughout the month.

• 2015 SANKOFA: A Celebration of Black Catholic Faith and Culture will be celebrated at St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Fort Wayne, on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The conference, themed, “Black Souls Matter: Standing on the Rock, Pressing Toward the Mark” features keynote speaker Brian Greenfield from Tampa, Florida, director of campus ministry for the Jesuit High School there. Registration fee is $15 and includes lunch. To register visit diocesefwb.org/dbcm.

• “Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline: What Faith-Based Organizations and People Can Do” is an event sponsored by The Community for Peace and Non-Violence and St. Augustine Catholic Church, 1501 W. Washington St., South Bend, from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 14. A light brunch will be served.

• The Black Catholic Advisory Board and the Tolton Society of St. Augustine Church, 1501 W. Washington St., South Bend, will offer “Abortion, Healing and Forgiveness: A Conversation with Sally Thompson,” on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Abortion, the death penalty and quality of life issues disproportionately impact African Americans. Thompson is professor of Urban Life Matters. Her conversation will be about life. This event includes brunch and is open to all regardless of race, religion, etc. For more information, visit www.diocesefwb.org/BCAB.

• An essay contest for high school students on the theme: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations ... One Church Many Cultures,” is being offered. The essay should not exceed 300-350 words. Contact Wendy.summers@comcast.net. Deadline for submission is Tuesday, Nov. 10.
Strength in adversity: When families are everything

VAJHFHIDYF (CNS) — The Catholic Church has long defended the family as the basic unit of society and as a “school of humanity.” The family as a bastion of love and protection in times of war and disaster is a reality, not a pious platitude, said two members of the Synod of Bishops.

Ukrainian Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk, major archbishop of Kiev-Halych and head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, saw the reality as a youth when Ukraine was under the Soviet Union’s communist rule and he sees it today as hundreds of thousands of people are displaced by the fighting in his country’s Eastern region.

Philippine Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila said he’s heard every time an earthquake or typhoon hits his country and also in the relationships of refugees forced to flee violence.

Both Archbishop Shevchuk and Cardinal Tagle participated in the Synod of Bishops on the family Oct. 4-25.

“She is our ultimate appeal,” Pope Francis, synod members also showed their special concern for families fleeing violence, especially Christian refugees, said two members of the Synod of Bishops, according to the moral teaching of the Church.

In recent years, several Catholic healthcare entities and medical professionals have been punished by people who seek to require that they provide abortions and sterilizations. The notion seems to be that religious freedom (or, for that matter, morality) should not interfere with the practice of medicine. It’s fine to have a little church and a little Catholic and Mary, but an increasingly influential segment of the population argues that Catholic hospitals and healthcare workers are no different from others. Opponents of truly Catholic healthcare demand that our faith not be reflected in how we practice medicine and serve others.

This argument from people who have never run healthcare entities is rather odd, since the Church invented the hospital. While clinics and doctors may provide services to people in the pre-Christian world, an institution dedicated to medicine and in-patient care developed from monasticism.

In the fourth century, St. Basil the Great took the institutionalized system of care that existed within the monastery and combined it with the public work of charity that lay Christians had been doing, and the hospital was born.

Great is much easier to direct the Church or to charity, if we are so able, than to dissemble the actions of our culture, or our own instincts. We should in God and allow nothing to distract us from our Christian duty. Eternal life awaits those who truly follow Jesus.

Freedom to care

In his recent address in Philadelphia, Pope Francis noted that “various forms of modern tyranny seek to suppress religious freedom, or (…) try to reduce it to a subculture without right to a voice in the public square.” Powerful political and cultural leaders often do not oppose religious freedom outright. Rather, they seek to regulate religion to a private sphere.

They claim that religious freedom permits us to worship, but people of faith must shield their religious convictions when they leave the sanctuary and serve the public. This is a severely restrictive understanding of freedom.

The false notion of religion as a purely private affair has fueled a spate of threats to Catholic hospitals and medical professionals who serve people according to the moral teaching of the Church. In recent years, several Catholic healthcare entities and medical professionals have been punished by people who seek to require that they provide abortions and sterilizations. The notion seems to be that religious freedom (or, for that matter, morality) should not interfere with the practice of medicine.

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Great is much easier to direct the Church or to charity, if we are so able, than to dissemble the actions of our culture, or our own instincts. We should in God and allow nothing to distract us from our Christian duty. Eternal life awaits those who truly follow Jesus.

The poor widow who gave to the temple a small donation, but great for her in poverty, is the paragon of love for God and trust in God. Jesus spoke of her as such.

Her example is a testament of absolute faith.

Reflection

The widow’s mite, read in this selection from Mark, often is used either to urge generosity in giving to worthy causes, or to define the motive for giving to the Church or to another activity for a noble cause.

While these interpretations are correct, the lesson is not just about money and about being generous. It also is about trusting God and about priorities in Christian living. We must trust in God despite the false impressions that true directions sent by us to the world, the flesh and the devil.

Being generous with God also means being generous in trusting God. It is much easier to direct the Church or to charity, if we are so able, than to dissemble the actions of our culture, or our own instincts. We should in God and allow nothing to distract us from our Christian duty. Eternal life awaits those who truly follow Jesus.

READINGS

Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16 Ps 146:7-10 Heb 9:24-28 Mk 12:38-44

Monday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 1 Cor 39c-11, 16-17:14 212-23

Tuesday: Ws 2:23 — 3:9 Ps 34:2-3, 16-19 Lk 17:3-10

Wednesday: Ws 61-11 Ps 82:3-4, 6-7 Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Ws 7:22b — 8:1 Ps 11989-91, 130, 135, 175 Lk 17:20-25

Friday: Ws 13:1-9 Ps 192:9-12 Lk 17:26-32

Saturday: Ws 18:14-16, 19-9 123-2, 36-37, 42-43 Lk 18:1-8

Be generous in trusting God

The Sunday Gospel

Msgr. Owen F. Campion

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mk 12:38-44

The First Book of Kings furnishes this weekend with its first reading from the Scriptures.

Political governance, in the minds of the ancient Hebrews, was not the chief function of their kings. Rather, assuming the nation’s faithfulness to God, and to the law of God given through Moses, was the primary demand upon kings. Nothing was more important than the people’s fidelity to God.

Since this religious function was so vital, prophets were important. Not surprisingly many stories in the Books of Kings also give great attention to the prophets.

Such is the case this weekend. The central figure in this story is Elijah, the prophet. In the story, Elijah appears at the gate of a city and encounters a woman collecting twigs and branches to use as firewood.

She obviously is quite poor. First, she must forage for fuel, and standing in line for food, water and clothing, it is not really surprising that she is poor. The woman’s flour and oil would provide. The story ended when he asked for food that she would not die. He said that if she fed the prophet, then God would provide. The story ended by saying that by sharing with the prophet, the woman’s flour and oil never ran out.

For its second reading, the Church this weekend gives us a passage from the Epistle to the Hebrews. Scholars do not know precisely who the author of this epistle was. Regardless of identity or personal circumstances, the author knew very well the history and tradition of Judaism, and the author was a skillful writer.

Building upon Jewish themes, the author writes about Jesus in the most respectful language.

The saying declares that God has ordained that all people must die, but God also has ordained that all may live if they turn to Jesus.

This is possible because of the sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary, and because of the reality of Jesus as a human and as the Son of God, in the mystery, theologians call the Incarnation.

St. Mark’s Gospel offers us the last reading. It is a familiar story, appearing also in Luke, but not in Matthew.

The message is clear. The poor widow who gave to the temple a small donation, but great for her in poverty, is the paragon of love for God and trust in God. Jesus spoke of her as such.

Her example is a testament of absolute faith.

Reflection

The widow’s mite, read in this selection from Mark, often is used either to urge generosity in giving to worthy causes, or to define the motive for giving to the Church or to another activity for a noble cause.

While these interpretations are correct, the lesson is not just about money and about being generous. It also is about trusting God and about priorities in Christian living. We must trust in God despite the false impressions that true directions sent by us to the world, the flesh and the devil.

Being generous with God also means being generous in trusting God. It is much easier to direct the Church or to charity, if we are so able, than to dissemble the actions of our culture, or our own instincts. We should in God and allow nothing to distract us from our Christian duty. Eternal life awaits those who truly follow Jesus.
Preaching the strange word

A bout 15 years ago, I prepared an elective class at Mundelein Seminary, which I entitled “The Christology of the Poets and Preachers.” In this course, I endeavored to explore how a poet’s or preacher’s imaginative world might contribute to our understanding of the Biblical story, the strangest things. And they understood that entering the world of a text is a sort of monastic novitiate if he is to understand the story I’m trying to tell. J.R.R. Tolkien’s masterpiece “The Lord of the Rings,” which is a rollicking adventure story, and an evocation of the Catholic faith, begins with about 75 pages describing the birthday party of Bilbo Baggins. When Tolkien was challenged on this score, he responded in a manner very similar to Eco’s: he explained, had to learn the languages, characters, weather, topography and history of his imaginative world; otherwise they would never get Tolkien was trying to communicate. Though he never said so explicitly, we could deduce the same principle from Melville’s lengthy (even tiresome) detailing of the arcana of whaling. The fundamental problem with much of the preaching after Vatican II is that it got this principle backward. It tended to make the Bible accessible to our consciousness and thereby tamed it, often turning it into a faint echo of what could be heard in any other religious text or within the culture itself. But if what the preacher is offering can be found, often in more compelling form, elsewhere, people will leave the Church in droves.

The Methodist theologian Stanley Hauerwas relates a story of his time as Gifford Lecturer in Scripture. He had been invited to preach at the Cathedral of Edinburgh and discovered a practice that went back to the Reformation period: a sexton of the Cathedral literally locked Hauerwas into the pulpit and told him that he wouldn’t be a mystagogue, a knowing guide and canny explorer. And this was one has to enter into the jungle of Scriptures, they knew, open up under the culture itself. But if what the preacher is offering can be found, often in more compelling form, elsewhere, people will leave the Church in droves.

Bishop Robert Barron is an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries. He has repeatedly reminded the public that religious freedom is not merely private. It is a freedom to serve in public, and indeed, in the healthcare setting, a freedom to care. Faith in the Lord who calls us to service forms the bedrock on which many of the Church’s greatest contributions to the world have been built. We serve the poor, the vulnerable, and the sick because of our religion, not in spite of it. We cannot compromise the principles on which our institutions are based.

Word on Fire

BISHOP ROBERT BARRON

might sum this up as follows: entering the world of a text is required if one is to understand the themes of a text.

A good preacher unfolds the patterns of meaning within the Biblical universe—precisely so as to draw our world into that world. The fundamental problem with much of the preaching after Vatican II is that it got this principle backward. It tended to make the Bible accessible to our consciousness and thereby tamed it, often turning it into a faint echo of what could be heard in any other religious text or within the culture itself. But if what the preacher is offering can be found, often in more compelling form, elsewhere, people will leave the Church in droves.

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Bishop Robert Barron is an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries.

Sainet of the Week

Charles Lwanga and Companions

c. 1860 - 1886

Feast: June 3

Charles and 21 other Ugandan martyrs, ages 14 to 30, were officials and pages in the court of King Mwanga II of Buganda, the king, after first accepting Christianity among his people, began to insist that converts abandon their new faith. He also prayed sexually on the young men at court. As head of the pages and their chief cat- echist, Charles tried to protect his charges. But, when they would not reject Christianity, they were killed in 1885-86; some were speared to death and others, like Charles, were burned alive. These first martyrs from sub-Saharan Africa were canonized in Uganda in 1964 by Pope Paul VI; they are the patrons of African Catholic Youth Action, con- verts and torture victims.

WELDON

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Aaron Weldon is a Program Specialist for the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty.

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COUGARS REMAIN NO. 7 IN NAIA COACHES’ FOOTBALL POLL Despite improving to 8-0 and remaining one of three unbeaten teams left in NAIA football, the University of Saint Francis is No. 7 in the NAIA Football Coaches’ Top 25 for the third consecutive week, the university reported Oct. 26. The Cougars are just three ratings points back of the third unbeaten team — Doane (Nebraska) at No. 5 and eight back of No. 4 Grand View (Iowa).

St. Charles, St. Vincent take home diocesan playoff football crowns

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — It was a clean sweep for the CYO teams when their ICCL foes came to town for the much-anticipated diocesan showdown. As the 2015 football season came to a close, the best of the best from South Bend matched up against Fort Wayne’s finest on the Kevin Donley field at the University of Saint Francis’ Bishop D’Arcy Stadium on Sunday, Nov. 1.

The first game pitted the two leagues’ tournament runner-ups — the St. Vincent Panthers vs. the Saints from Mishawaka Catholic.

Coach Kevin Thompson reported that his Panthers’ offensive line — center Josh Scroggins, guards Steven Guisinger and Jordan Roy and tackles Alex Fasnaugh and Vincent Fiacable — set the tone on their first drive getting the ball with a short field and opening up a nice hole for Tang Mantuang to score on a three-yard run.

The other two St. Vincent scores came from the arm of Ben Schneck connecting with receiver Howard Steele to make the final, 24-0, Panthers.

Thompson also credited the Panther defense for the way they stepped up against the Saints’ hard-running game. Corey Ryan led the way on defense with several key tackles along with help from ends Alex Fosnaugh and Carson Podschline, then finishing off with great pass coverage from corner back Noah Drabecki, ICCL’s Paul and safety Hunter Burns.

Thompson admitted, “This was a very tough game to prepare for. We knew nothing about Mishawaka Catholic other than what we had read in Today’s Catholic and their reputation of being a tough power running team. It took a total team effort this week on both sides of the ball.”

St. Vincent finished with an impressive 6-3 record with all three losses coming at the hands of CYO powerhouse St. Charles. They met their 2015 goal of playing in a diocesan game capping off a successful rebuilding process after a one-win season a year ago.

“It was great to finish on a high note. Not many teams get to end their season with a win,” concluded Thompson.

Mishawaka’s unit logged a 6-2 overall record and was crowned the regular season ICCL league champs. Coach Tony Violi summarized, “It was a great season and a great opportunity to come play St. Vincent and a great coach. We have a lot of respect for them. Although I wish we would have played a little better, our hearts were in the right place. It just wasn’t our day. I’m proud of our kids.”

Next up, Coach Sam Talarico shared that the St. Charles Cardinals brought home their second consecutive undefeated diocesan championship with a resounding 40-0 victory over a very tough St. Anthony squad.

Their current 20-game win streak, which started with the 2013 runner-up diocesan game, remained intact and has yet to be snapped after two full seasons of play in 2014 and 2015.

As they have been all year long, the Cardinals were led by their workhorse, Patrick “P-Fin” Finley, who had over 200 yards of all-purpose yards and three touchdowns including an incredible opening 70-yard kickoff return for a touchdown in which he broke numerous tackles and reversed the field to start the Cardinal scoring frenzy, 6-0. The talented tailback, who dominated in all three facets of the game, also had a 70-yard kickoff return and a 50-yard rushing touchdown.

Talarico stated, “Patrick Finley is a very special football player who had a very special performance today. When you match superb speed with a level of aggressiveness and instincts that is off the charts, you get P-Fin.”

St. Charles also had two scores from Patrick O’Keefe who scored on a 30-yard pass reception and a 50-yard bootleg run. Talarico added, “O’Keefe is a playmaker. He always makes the big play when you need it.”

The Cardinals’ final touchdown was “pick-six” from Hayden Ellinger who returned an interception for 30-yards for the score. Ellinger, Devon Tippmann, Lucas Krohn and Finley were extraordinary at the linebacker position all season. Krohn completed the Cardinals’ scoring with a blocked punt that turned into a safety.

Talarico was also very pleased with the amazing play of his line man. “Nolan Hoffman, Justin Drabecki, Jacob Lehrman were all outstanding in the trenches,” the three-time diocesan championship coach stated.

He added, “St. Anthony was an outstanding team. Coach (James) DeBoe does a great job.”

In the loss, the Panthers kept from a shut out scoring on aquarterback sneak in the third quarter by Luke Leonard.

DeBoe simply stated, “We ran into a much better team today. St. Charles is a great program with an excellent coaching staff.”

St. Anthony finished a stellar season posting a 6-2 record and was the ICCL tournament champs.

“I’m very proud of our team. Our eighth-grade group has been very successful over the last four years,” concluded DeBoe. Their eighth graders finished with an impressive 27-5 four-year career record and three ICCL championships.

During their broadcasts this season, Redeemer Radio referred to the players in the youth program as the “Stars of Tomorrow.” As they move on to the high school level, it will be fun to watch these young athletes on the Friday night gridiron where all four diocesan high schools are still in action — and it’s November.

INDIANAPOLIS — As youngsters around the Midwest dressed as ghosts, goblins and popular minions, there was a group of 26 from Marian High School that were adorned in blue and silver brandishing tricks hoping to receive the biggest treat to be given on this holiday, an Indiana state boys’ soccer title.

Instead on coming home with a pillow case full of candy the Knights of Marian brought back to Mishawaka a trophy that would be a testament of teamwork and perseverance for the ages as they accomplished the ultimate goal by winning their first state championship in boys soccer.

Marian defeated Indianapolis Ritter, 3-0, to earn the state title.

“I’m so excited for the kids,” commented long-time Coach Ben Householder. “I never expected it, I knew we were talented and had a great group of guys but this is surreal.”

“Marian has been blessed with some good teams in the past, but an injury here, a penalty there and some bad luck can result in a loss on the long road to state,” impressed Householder. “I think that some of last season’s disappointment drove our players to work harder and remain focused.”

The first game of the sectional may have been the biggest hurdle for the Knights as they surpassed Bethany Christian, 1-0, in a high-scoring contest match.

“The boys took the Bethany game as a warning signal of what can happen in the tournament,” remarked Householder. “After that game, we really regained our focus and got on a roll.”

The next big challenge would be in the regional semi-finals as goalkeeper Michael Cataldo stepped up and the victorious Knights won on penalty kicks in overtime to an impressive Boon Grove squad.

“Semi-state was another
St. Joseph Catholic School in Garrett welcomed Seminarian Nathan Maskal, who visited with the fourth, fifth and sixth-grade classes. Maskal is spending a pastoral year at St. Mary of the Assumption in Decatur. He told the students about his studies and the long process of becoming a priest. The students were fascinated and asked many questions. The seminarian also quizzed the students with some Catholic trivia. Students who wanted to learn more about his vocation were invited to a luncheon. In the photo, from left, front row, are the following: Max Carey, Matthias Hefty, Katherine Hileman, Jude Hoeffel, Ashley King, Katelyn Joseph, Garrick Roemer and EmmaRose Gowgiel; second row, Andrew Molargik, Cole Carey, Zachary Joseph, Jack O’Connor, Jessica Culbertson, Katherine Lewis, Lily Carey, Isabel Fielden and Barbara Berry; third row, Jacob Molargik, Douglas Merriman, Ethan Lester, Seminarian Nathan Maskal, Camdyn Phillips, Serenity Lewis and Sarah Schlosser.

**MARIAN**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

good day for us,” explained Householter. “We lost a couple of defenders in the morning to injury and a couple of sophomores filled in and claimed the night-cap by allowing just two shots on goal.”

“The foursome I’m the most proud of are the seniors: forward Augie Hartnagel, defender Christian Verstraete and midfielders Richie Ontiveros and Kevin Villa-Torres,” added Householter.

“They all took the younger players under their wings, worked with them and encouraged them and strengthened all three areas of the field.”

The Knights’ story was that of domination as through the state tournament as they scored 30 goals to their opponents three including five shutouts along the way.

“It took all the efforts of the players that have gone through our program over the years to get to this pinnacle,” stated the most-winning coach in Marian soccer history. “I’ve been coaching here for 18 seasons and the numbers of former players on hand for the championship game humbles me, we even had one from our first campaign in attendance”

With no other games to play, the Knights capped their magical run with a school best 20-2 record, a share on the Northern Indiana Conference Title and the biggest treat of all.

“Honestly, it still hasn’t hit me yet,” proclaimed Householter. “I guess next is a little R&R and then back to being a dad and a husband.”


On the feast of All Souls, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a noon Mass in the Resurrection Mausoleum Chapel of the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne.
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Snowflake bazaar
Huntington — St. Mary Parish will have a snowflake bazaar with crafts, bake sale and raffle in the St. Mary gymnasium, 903 N. Jefferson St. Saturday, Nov. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 8, from 10-11 a.m. Lunch served at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Elizabeth Ministry plans memorial Mass
Mishawaka — The Elizabeth Ministry will have a memorial Mass on Monday, Nov. 16, at 7 p.m. at Queen of Peace Church. The Intention of the Mass is for children of all ages who have died, including those who have been lost from miscarriage or abortion. A reception will follow for additional fellowship, comfort and support.

Music Boosters plan craft bazaar
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger Music Boosters Christmas Craft Bazaar will be held Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school’s gymnasium. Over 150 crafters, artisans and vendors. Proceeds will benefit the music programs at Bishop Dwenger High School.

St. Thomas plans holiday marketplace
Elkhart — St. Thomas PTO will have a holiday marketplace Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the school, 1112 N. Main St. Admission is free. Vendors of art, crafts and gifts, homemade food served and Santa will be there from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Catholic Women plan bazaar
Bluffton — St. Joseph Parish Council of Catholic Women will have a craft and arts bazaar Saturday, Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church, 1300 N. Main St.

Spaghetti dinner planned
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus 5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, Nov. 12, from 4-6 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $2.50 for children 5-12.

Bishop Luers High School announces fall activities
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Luers French Club will have a rummage sale Friday, Nov. 13, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the school, 1311 N. Main St. Monday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information contact Carrie Bubb at cbbubb@bishops.org. The Henry Keefer Scholarship exam will be Saturday, Nov. 14, from 8-11:30 a.m. Contact Jenny Andorfer at jandal@bishops.org for information. The open house will be Wednesday, Nov. 18, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the school. Contact Jenny Andorfer at jandal@bishops.org for information.

In addition to these events, there are many more activities and opportunities to support Catholic schools and organizations. Check with local parishes, schools, and community centers for more information on upcoming events and how you can get involved. Stay engaged and support your local Catholic community!
INSIDE THE FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES AT THE VATICAN: WHAT POPE FRANCIS WANTS AND WHY

JOSEPH ZAHRA
Vice-Coordinator of the Council for the Economy for the Holy See

Yesterday, Nov. 11, 2015
4:30 p.m.
Eck Visitors Center Auditorium

Join us for a discussion of the current work for the Holy See.

JOSEPH ZAHRA
Vice-Coordinator of the Council for the Economy

Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community.

Open to the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community. The public is welcome.

Mr. Zahra’s visit is courtesy of the Centenial Jesus Pro-Pritate Foundation.

SAINTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lack of knowledge of Latin and

and family life.

of Alençon.

and Zélie, born in 1831, was also
drawn to religious life but was

and told she had no voca-

and became skilled in the man-

The couple was married on July

of Alençon point lace.

in October in honor of the Martins, perhaps

or work were not

for which mar-

in the life of faith,

for these new

Louis and Zélie Martin’s
canonization is a wonderful
blessing for the Church.

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

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

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

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 informational brochures and to view a video presentation.

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

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

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