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St. Jude gears up for Why Catholic? Lenten program
BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Parishioners of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne will have an opportunity to join a small faith-sharing group this Lent as the Why Catholic? program returns. The second phase of the four-year program will focus on prayer, a continuation of Phase 1, which began last fall with 160 participants.

Why Catholic?, developed by RENEW International, the Catholic ministry organization that recently presented ARISE Together in Christ, is a comprehensive adult formation program that began in earnest across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in fall of 2015. The four-year program is based on the four pillars of Catholic faith as presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, offering insight into prayer, core beliefs, the sacraments and morality.

Mary Pohlman, pastoral associate at St. Jude, is excited about the program and said, “We’re gearing up for Phase 2. ... Most of the groups are going to reconnect, so we’re off to a good start.”

Father Jacob Runyon, pastor of St. Jude Parish, led a small group during Phase 1 and said of the program, “We brought Why Catholic? to St. Jude because of the recommendation of the bishop. But, I did find it good that the content was based upon the catechism. I think there is a great deal of hesitancy when it comes to reading the catechism because people find it a bit overwhelming. A program like this one helps them to learn from the catechism in an approachable way.” He added, “I think the benefits to individuals is a chance to learn, study and to meet new people.”

WHY?, page 14
Catholic Schools in the midst of changing religious landscape

The following is a copy of the speech given by Bishop Rhoades at the Light of Learning Luncheons in Fort Wayne and South Bend during Catholic Schools Week.

February 7, 2016

I have often said in my speeches and writings on Catholic education that we need our Catholic schools today more than ever. I often say this for various reasons. I’ll often mention the growing secularization of our culture, moral relativism, and other currents that are having a negative effect on our young people and their faith. Today, I’d like to again speak about why we need our Catholic schools today more than ever and why I hope that we will increase the enrollment in our Catholic schools. I’d like to do so today in light of a new survey, specifically the well-known results of the Pew Research Center survey that were released last year.

As you probably read, the Christian share of the U.S. population is declining and the number of U.S. adults who do not identify with any organized religion is growing. We see this drop in Christian affiliation more pronounced among young adults. This decline has been going on for some time, but it is particularly alarming that the pace of decline is picking up. Between 2007 and 2014, in just seven years, the percentage dropped 8%. The number of Christians in the United States fell from 78.4% to 70.6%. Over those seven years, the number of those who identify themselves as religiously unaffiliated, sometimes called “nones” increased from 16.1% to 22.8%. Most of the decline in the Christian percentage is among mainline Protestants and Catholics, with a decline also among evangelical Protestants, though at a slower rate.

As I mentioned, the decline is most acute among young adults, the so-called millennial generation. 36% of young millennials (those between the ages of 18 and 24) are religiously unaffiliated. This is a great challenge for the Church. I think a lot about this age group and the need to strengthen our ministry to and with young adults. It is alarming to me that only 16% of millennials identify as Catholic, lower than the estimated 20.8% of all U.S. adults who identify as Catholic, which itself is a decline in the overall adult Catholic population by 5.1% in the past seven years. There are now more “religious nones” in the United States than there are Catholics (22.8% vs. 20.8%). 25.4% are evangelical Protestants and 14.7% are mainline Protestants. 5.9% of U.S. adults identify with non-Christian faiths.

I don’t mean to overwhelm you with statistics. Looking at the whole, the largest religious group among adults in the U.S. is evangelical Protestant, followed by the religious nones, followed by Catholics, followed by mainline Protestants, followed by non-Christian faiths. Among these, I would name other significant things to note are the following:

1. Racial and ethnic minorities make up 41% of U.S. Catholic adults, significantly larger than that of both evangelical and mainline Protestants (24% and 14% respectively).
2. Nearly 32% of U.S. adults say they were raised Catholic. Among that group, 41% no longer identify as Catholics. 12.9% of American adults are former Catholics. At the same time, just 2% of U.S. adults have converted to Catholicism from other religious traditions. That being said, it is important also to note that 2/3 of those raised Catholic are still Catholic.
3. While 22.8% of American adults say they belong to no religion, only 5.1% are atheists and 4% are agnostic.

There has been a lot of discussion about the results of the Pew survey and various interpretations of those results. I don’t have statistics about how the number of U.S. Catholics who attended Catholic schools compares to those who did not regarding their affiliation later. In any event, the main thing I want to point out is that we must be especially cognizant, in light of the statistics, of the identity and mission of Catholic schools. They are our young people’s first exposure to the joy of the Gospel. They are the #1 outcome we should be looking for is our young people’s commitment to the faith. It’s related to what should be the #1 outcome all we should be seeking: eternal life and salvation.

Our Catholic schools are communities that live and act with the fundamental conviction stated so beautifully by Pope Francis: The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. The joy of the Gospel is our vow: that our children and young people experience the joy of the Gospel by encountering Jesus in their minds and hearts. Various studies have shown a significant degree of disaffiliation especially among youth and young adults today, a disorientation resulting from a rejection of the transcendent, a growing deterioration of ethics, a steady increase in secularism and relativism. The superficiality from an information-driven society affects our young people in a significant way. We are called to teach them to live in a profound way, the way of Jesus Christ.

This is our first and most important task: evangelization, proclaiming Christ. Proclaiming Christ means showing that to believe in and to follow him is not only something right and true, but also something beautiful, capable of filling life with meaning and purpose, and even in the midst of difficulties. There is an inseparable bond, our Holy Father teaches, between truth, goodness and beauty. (The Joy of the Gospel #167). That’s why we need Catholic schools. We need schools of the Gospel, schools of truth, goodness, and beauty. I pray that our students, presently and after they graduate, will choose the path of faith and love, and live the life of the Lord and faithful members of His Body, the Church.

Some might say we just need to continue doing what we’re doing. I think we’re doing a good job, don’t get me wrong, but we cannot settle into the status quo. If we do, we won’t be excellent. We will settle into mediocrity. In the face of the changes in our culture, we must be creative, intentional, and attentive to outcomes concerning our mission. The #1 outcome we should be looking for is our young people’s commitment to the faith. It’s related to what should be the #1 outcome all we should be seeking: eternal life and salvation.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Like Europe, we need to be agents of the new evangelization in our schools so our young people are formed as committed disciples of the Lord and faithful members of His Body, the Church.
Donation envelope enclosed in this issue

With the announcement of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis implored Catholics across the world to consider how each one of us might enter into this Holy Year in a special way. We are encouraged to forgive, listen to God’s Word and practice the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. We are to consider a pilgrimage and engage in interfaith dialogue with our Christian brothers and sisters.

So how could a newspaper, Today's Catholic, enter more fully into the Year of Mercy? The answer is pretty simple: It’s to tell your story of mercy. It may be by the story of how you collected water to give to the thirsty, or perhaps how you helped to feed the hungry by supplying food for the youth retreat weekend at your parish. Maybe you were able to say the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the family at the bedside of a loved one who was dying, or perhaps you finally sought out that family member who you haven’t spoken to in years just to say, “I’m sorry.”

Your Catholic story of mercy may only be one story, but it is significant. Your story has the capacity to inspire and to encourage others. By telling these stories, Today's Catholic has a great opportunity to simply report on what happened, but to help others see the miracle of the works of Christ’s mercy all around them. It is our hope that others will read these works of mercy and want to also enter in and create their own stories of mercy. So, read more about these works of mercy in Today's Catholic feature Living the Year of Mercy. You can also find these stories through a special page at www.myyearofmercy.org.

In this week’s edition of the paper you will find an enclosed envelope for a financial contribution to Today's Catholic. If you have donated before, I sincerely thank you for your generosity. Even through difficult economic times, you have been supportive of our work through your financial contributions and we are so grateful.

To all of our readers, I ask you to prayerfully consider a gift to Today's Catholic. Every single gift enables our staff to continue to tell the stories of the Year of Mercy. Through your generosity, we are to produce the paper both in print and online at www.todayscatholicnews.org and look forward to the expansion of our reach through multiple sources. Thank you for helping us continue our work. Please enclose your gift in the envelope, or go online to donate electronically at the online giving page at www.todayscatholicnews.org. While you are there, sign up to receive Today's Catholic news through e-mail. We thank you for your generosity.

Stephanie A. Patka
Secretariat for Communications

‘Battling your Goliath:’

Rekindle the Fire Diocesan Men’s Conference

BY TIM JOHNSON AND KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — “Battling Your Goliath” is the theme for the upcoming Rekindle the Fire Annual Diocesan Men’s Conference on Saturday, Feb. 20, in Fort Wayne Coliseum Exhibit Center.

Three dynamic nationally acclaimed Catholic speakers will mark the day — Matt Fradd, Dr. Marcellino D’Ambrosio and Jesse Romero. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will conclude the conference with the celebration of Mass at 4 p.m. Father Jacob Meyer, parochial vicar at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, and Father Ben Muhlenkamp, pastor of St. Louis-Besancon Parish, New Haven, will be the emcees for the day.

Rekindle will be offered from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

New this year will be interactive battle sessions with the three speakers.

Matt Fradd experienced a profound conversion at World Youth Day in Rome in 2000 and afterward committed himself to inviting others to know Jesus Christ and the Church Christ founded. Fradd speaks to about 50,000 people every year and has been a guest on the BBC, EWTN, ABC and “Catholic Answers Live.” He is the founder of The Porn Effect (www.theporneffect.com), a site dedicated to exposing the reality behind the fantasy of porn and offering help to those who seek sexual freedom.

Fradd works for Covenant Eyes, an apostolate dedicated to helping to protect families from the dangers of Internet pornography.

Fradd’s talk is titled, “The Man Talk,” in which he will “appeal to the hearts and desires of men to show them that who they desire to be in their heart of hearts is in fact the man God is calling them to be — commanding them may be.”

“God’s commands don’t require us to repress our deepest desires but instead to invite them forth,” said Fradd, adding that most think if they become what God is calling them to — holiness — they will become boring, less themselves. “We have to know that this is actually false. That holiness is the full flourishing of our humanity. And that’s what God is inviting us to.”

He hopes that the men of the diocese will take with them the inspiration to make a positive change in their lives. “They, like me, have given in to the lives that the world has given them and the world has safeguarded that these lives and those promises of the world don’t satisfy. And so they, like me, are yearning for something fuller, something more authentic, something more beautiful, adventurous. So that’s what I want to invite them to. It’s an adventure of holiness,” he said.

His interactive battle session will cater to men, ages 18-39.

Marcellino D’Ambrosio earned his doctorate in theology from General Biblical interpretation through the instruction of Cardinal Avery Dulles. In 2001 he left university teaching to direct the Crossroads Initiative, an international apostolate of evangelization and renewal. Dr. D’Ambrosio is a New York Times best-selling author, Catholic TV host, and has appeared on Fox News’ “Geraldo Rivera At Large” and Bill O’Reilly’s radio show as an expert commentator on Catholic issues. He can be followed at www.dubrily.com or his dr.italy Facebook page.

His topic will be “Blessings of the Brotherhood,” he told Today’s Catholic.

D’Ambrosio said, “In a society preoccupied with romantic love and sisterhood, Christian brotherhood is making a comeback. When Catholic men organize into ‘a band of brothers,’ there is support, accountability and fruitfulness in Christ that is impossible when men live as ‘islands’ unto themselves.”

“The burdens grow lighter and the light grows brighter when men gather together as one,” D’Ambrosio said. “This talk will include stories about what men gathered together have accomplished in the history of the Church plus practical tips for men organizing themselves into small groups for prayer, study and support.”

Jesse Romero is a full-time bilingual Catholic Lay Evangelist, who is nationally acclaimed for his dynamic, upbeat preaching. Born and raised in southern California and a retired Los Angeles deputy sheriff, he is a devoted husband and father. He was a three-time world Police Olympic Boxing Champion and a two-time USA Middleweight Kickboxing Champion.

As a speaker, Romero has the ability to make the sometimes-complex teachings of the faith understandable with his straight talk approach. His messages are totally Catholic, Biblical, Christ-centered and delivered with energy and conviction that has become a Jesse Romero trademark.

He speaks with a sense of urgency as if every opportunity to preach may be his last. Romero is a cradle Catholic who experienced an interior conversion through the reading of the Gospels. His conversion has launched him into a preaching ministry called “On Fire Evangelization.” His mission statement is “Love God, slay error — save souls.”

His conference topic is “Three kinds of men — wolves, sheep and sheepdogs.”

“Every man falls into one of three categories,” Romero told Today’s Catholic. “You’re either a bad man — metaphorically known as a wolf. Or you’re a lukewarm, indifferent secular man — you’re symbolically a sheep. Or you’re a man of faith and action — you’re a shepherd. A sheepdog serves the Shepherd who is Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God doesn’t want fans. He wants followers. God doesn’t want spectators. He wants gladiators.”

Romero will also speak at Rekindle’s Hispanic event on Feb. 19 from 7-9 p.m. in the Appleseed Room of the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

Romero said, “Men will be challenged to look deep in their heart and see where they fit in. Islam is top heavy with committed men. Catholics need to show that same resolve and allegiance to our faith and ‘step into the breach’ (Ezekiel 22:50), and push back against the culture of death and proclaim the Catholic Gospel from the rooftops.”

“Men have built the culture of death — drugs, porn, abortion, homosexuality, etc.” he said. “Only men can destroy it and replace it with virtue, goodness, beauty and truth.”

“We only have one life to live,” he said. “Let’s die trying.”

The welcome and opening of the conference is at 9 a.m. with Father Ben Muhlenkamp speaking at 9:30 a.m. Lunch vendors will be available. Registration for the event is available at rekindlefire.net.
Erlandson departs from Our Sunday Visitor after nearly 27 years

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Saying he has “learned ... seen so much,” Greg Erlandson is stepping down from his position as publisher at Our Sunday Visitor Inc., after nearly 27 years with the company.

His last day on the job was Jan. 31.

Erlandson told Catholic News Service that he was proud of efforts to raise the profile of the weekly newspaper and its associated publications and services in parishes around the country.

“It turned out to be a great gift,” he said of his years with the Huntington-based company.

“I’m resigning to pursue other opportunities. I still have a daughter who is going to start college in the fall so I have got to find work,” he said.

The longtime Catholic press journalist said he will most miss his colleagues.

“We built up a great staff. It’s a profound sadness that I won’t be working so closely with them,” he told CNS Jan. 29 from a train platform on New York’s Long Island, while on his way to a presentation on the Year of Mercy in the Diocese of Brooklyn.

Msgr. Owen Campion, associate publisher of Our Sunday Visitor, said his colleague’s work in the Catholic press and dedication to the work of the Church was shaped by the tumult during the civil rights and Vietnam War eras.

“We’re both affected by the same generation, the turbulent time and the national discord,” Msgr. Campion said. “Although he was in Tennessee, it served to put us on the same track with regard to human dignity and with regard to obligations to the dis-advantaged and the persecuted abroad.”

The two worked across the hall from each other at OSV headquarters and shared ideas to improve the firm’s product lines while boosting Catholic communications, he said.

“He’s very inspiring. ... He knows also the value of the Church in an inspirational way and working with people to bring them together, to give them something to hope for and to live for,” Msgr. Campion told CNS.

OSV editor Gretchen Crowe, writing on the newspaper’s website Jan. 26, said her colleague’s love of the Church and desire to “bring the Church to the people and people to the Church” drives his career.

Crowe credited Erlandson for utilizing the newspaper to unify the Church by inspiring dialogue among people with conflicting points of view. “He has brought common sense and a measured voice to debates on both religious and secular issues,” she wrote. “He has been unafraid to challenge and to stand up for the truth when necessary but always was done so with respect,” giving “Catholics a model for moving forward in a divided landscape.”

Working with Erlandson as chairman of OSV’s board of directors, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend credited the longtime publisher for expanding the line of offerings for parishes.

In addition, Erlandson is a lay leader in the diocese, assisting with evangelization and catechetical efforts, the bishop said.

“He’s very committed to the importance of the Latino presence in the Church now and in the future,” Bishop Rhoades added. “He’s done a lot in the publishing area to promote that.”

Hired originally as editor of Our Sunday Visitor newspaper in 1989, Erlandson became editor-in-chief overseeing the book and periodical editorial depart-ments and the design department. In 2000 he was named president and publisher.

“What attracted me (in 1989), Bob Lockwood was the publisher,” Erlandson said. “I really liked him and I really liked the idea of working for a company that had multifaceted operations. It was all about journalism, but I liked the idea of learning about books and magazines and I was coming to a place that was a lot bigger.”

Over the years, Erlandson also assumed an active role as an advocate for the Catholic press. He served as president of Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada from 2011 to 2013 and continued on the organization’s board after his term.

Matthew Schiller, advertising/business manager at Catholic New York, newspaper of the New York Archdiocese and CPA president, told CNS Erlandson has been a valuable adviser during his time heading the association.

“One of the assets the CPA president has is relying on the knowledge and wisdom of the past presidents. He has always shared his insight and tremendous amount of wisdom,” Schiller said of his colleague.

“Greg brings a patience and balance,” Schiller said. “He’s a man of deep faith. He has excellent knowledge of the Church.”

Schiller noted that Erlandson received the CPA’s St. Francis de Sales Award at the 2015 Catholic Media Conference in June, calling it a “great thing.”

“He embodies what that award means,” Schiller explained. “It’s not longevity. It’s not surviving. It’s do you have the spirit of St. Francis de Sales? It’s communicating the faith to the people. It’s how you write about the faith. It’s you living the faith.”

In addition to his work at OSV, Erlandson is an adviser for the Committee on Communications for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He has been a consultant for the Pontifical Council for Social Communications and completed a stint in 2015 on a committee working to reform the Vatican’s communications arm.

Schiller said Erlandson has left a positive mark on the Church and the Catholic communications profession.

“When I heard the news (of Erlandson’s departure), I said, ‘This is a real loss for the Catholic Church. We have to find a way to keep him involved in the Catholic press,’” he said.

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School choice proposal advances during School Choice Week at the Statehouse

INDIANAPOLIS — Hoosiers who celebrated School Choice Week at the Statehouse during the last week of January have a reason to cheer. A proposal to increase access to Indiana’s Choice Scholarship program has advanced in the State Senate. Senate Bill 334, authored by Sen. Carlin Yoder, R-Middlebury, would add a second opportunity to access a Choice Scholarship during the school year. The bill also reduces the endorsement signature requirement from multiple times per year, to a once per year endorsement on the scholarship checks.

The bill passed the Senate Appropriations panel, 9-1, and moves to the Senate floor for further consideration.

“Simply put, the bill provides the ability for children to receive a voucher for the spring semester of school,” said Yoder. “Under current law, students have to receive the voucher in the fall and if anyone wants to attend school or were expelled. Yoder said that given the troubles experienced by this population, waiting six to eight months to return to school could result in incarceration or death for some. The legislation would assist not only children wanting to attend the Crossing, but would open the door to all students that need a change mid-year to access a scholarship.

John Elcesser, executive director for the Indiana Non-Public Education Association (INPEA), who supports the bill said, “Almost every year I get calls from principals who have been approached by families wanting to enroll at the semester point, and they need a scholarship for that to be possible.”

He said, “They found that out months into the school year that the choice they made was not the right fit for their son or daughter and they want to explore other options.”

He explained that the Choice Scholarship deadline has passed by then.

Elcesser said that there are a variety of reasons a child needs a scholarship mid-year. “Sometimes it’s an academic need. Sometimes it’s a bullying situation. It could be for number of other reasons why a student needs to change schools,” said Elcesser. “This bill would make the scholarship available to them.”

Also supporting the bill includes Carol Olander representing the Indiana Chamber of Commerce who said that in addition to being in favor of school choice in general, the bill ensures that the money follows the child.

Some of the opponents of the bill including Gail Zeheralis, representing Indiana State Teacher’s Association and Joel Hand of the Indiana Coalition for Public Education Association and Joel Hand of the Indiana Coalition for Public Schools raised concerns about the equity between nonpublic and public schools since public schools have more regulations that they have to adhere to than nonpublic schools.

For fiscal year 2016 about 32,954 students are receiving an average Choice Scholarship grant of about $4,152 per student.

According to Legislative Services Agency, a nonpartisan research arm for lawmakers. For the school year 2015-16, there are 316 participating schools in the Choice Scholarship Program.

The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, a national school choice nonprofit based in Indianapolis, reports on the scope of school choice around the country. Currently, there are 59 school choice programs on the books in 28 states and the District of Columbia. Indiana’s Choice Scholarship Program is the nation’s largest voucher program in terms of participation. Nationwide, there are 166,500 students receiving a school choice voucher.

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

BRIGID CURTIS AYER

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**CHEESY POTATOES**

16 oz. sour cream  
1 can cream of chicken soup  
1 c. chopped onion  
2 lb. bag frozen hash browns, thawed  
2 c. shredded cheddar cheese  
1 c. crushed potato chips or cornflakes  

Spray a 9x13 pan with nonstick spray.  
In a large bowl, mix together sour cream, cream of chicken and chopped onion. Stir in thawed hash browns. Spread mixture into prepared pan and top with shredded cheddar cheese. Sprinkle with crushed potato chips or cornflakes. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour.

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**Year of Mercy day 61**

"Be merciful just as your Father is merciful."

— Lk 6:36

Send us your photos showing works of mercy. Visit MyYearofMercy.org or email editor@diocesesfwsb.org.

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**Provided by Carrie Binegar**

At St. Joseph Cemetery, Decatur, St. Mary parishioners, Carrie Binegar and sons Benjamin, Jacob and Isaac pray at their grandmother's grave. The boys brushed the snow from her grave and the surrounding ones.

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**Sarah Speer**

Pat Dendinger and a dedicated group of women minister to the grieving through their work on the Funeral Luncheon Committee at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Auburn. Dendinger said, "Our cheesy potatoes are always a favorite — even people from out of town talk about how good they are! It's a blessing to us to be able to comfort our friends and neighbors when they need it most."

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**Debbie Stockwell**

Holy Cross Father Vincent Coppola incenses a casket at Holy Cross Church in South Bend.

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**Michelle Castleman**

Sarah Speer

Pat Dendinger and a dedicated group of women minister to the grieving through their work on the Funeral Luncheon Committee at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Auburn. Dendinger said, "Our cheesy potatoes are always a favorite — even people from out of town talk about how good they are! It's a blessing to us to be able to comfort our friends and neighbors when they need it most."

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**Michelle Castleman**

Holy Cross Father Vincent Coppola incenses a casket at Holy Cross Church in South Bend.

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St. John, New Haven, to host parish mission

NEW HAVEN — St. John the Baptist, New Haven, will host a parish mission with speaker Father Andy O’Reily, a member of the Precious Blood Community.

On the evenings of Feb. 15, 16 and 17, he will speak on the theme of “Mercy.” Each talk begins at 7 p.m.

Mission participants will rediscover how faith enables the faithful to face everyday life with the strength that comes from the unconditional love of God.

Ignited weekend retreat for teens to be offered

FORT WAYNE — High school students from all across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are invited to the University of Saint Francis for Ignited, a weekend conference style retreat full of prayer, games and great music from March 18-20.

This year’s theme is “Burning With the Fire of Mercy” with Catholic artist A-LOB and his band from California leading the music. Ignited is an opportunity to come and experience the love and mercy of Jesus Christ.

On Sunday, March 20, the final day of the retreat, participants will join Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades for Palm Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Register now at ignitedretreat.com and check out A-LOB’s music at a-lob.com. For more information email Andrew Ouellette, director of Youth Ministry at aouellette@dioceseoffw.org.

Life Defenders Boot Camp to be held

NOTRE DAME — Life Defenders Boot Camp will be held for high school and college students at the University of Notre Dame, Geddes Hall, on Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Presenters from the Life Training Institute as well as Right to Life staff will offer 101 and now 301 level courses for those attending for the first time, those who return for more, and those who want to go deeper with the arguments and activism.

Cost is $15, which includes lunch and T-shirt. Register at www.prolifeemichiana/bootcamp or call 574-232-5433. The camp is sponsored by St. Joseph County Right to Life, and underwritten by the Kloska Family.

Bishop Luers 21st Annual Henry-Keefee Scholarships awarded

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School offers a scholarship/placement exam for fall and eighth graders who place in the top 10 of the exam are awarded scholarship money towards Bishop Luers tuition.

Students of the Saint Joseph High School h.o.p.e. club (helping other people endure) held a special dress down day where students, faculty and staff could either bring a case of water or donate $2 to be out of uniform. Proceeds go to residents of Flint, Michigan, through the Gospel Connection and the Catholic Relief group. The Saint Joseph family raised $2,000 and collected over 100 cases of water. Pictured, from left, are Maria Anthony, Tanya Mead, Brianna Hart and Katelyn Grzegorek with over 100 cases of water collected for residents of Flint, Michigan.

Scholarships have been awarded to John Andersen, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne; Gavin Earley, St. Aloysius, Yoder; Matthew Coffee, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne; Mary Braun, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne; Cecilia Simerman, St. Aloysius; Nolan Cook, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Lauren Davis, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; Jessica Hartmus, Huntington Catholic; Evan York, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne; and Mary Cicchiello, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Knights to offer daily Lenten text messages

Several Knights of Columbus councils are sponsoring a daily text message during the Lenten season. Those interested in signing up should text the word “lent” to 30 500. Father Daniel Voors, Msgr. Bernard Gallagher, Father Tom Shoemaker, Father Andrew Budzinski, Father Ben Muhlenkamp, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Bill Kummer and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades have provided text messages to support one’s spiritual journey.

Knights of Columbus Councils 13142, 12579, 9460 and 84 are the sponsors. A fee may apply to those who do not have text messaging service.

Dante’s Divine Comedy subject of lectures

NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame will host a lecture series entitled, “Dante, Mercy and the Beauty of the Human Person,” during Lent and Easter. The series is comprised of 10 lectures featuring Dante scholars from a range of disciplines including theology and romance languages. Each of the five scheduled evenings will feature two lectures with the first beginning at 6 p.m. and a second lecture beginning at 7:15 p.m. All lectures will be held in the Eck Auditorium and are open to the public free of charge.

Lectures are as follows:

• Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. — “Encountering Mercy: Dante, Mary, and Us,” with Vittorio Montemaggi, Departments of Romance Languages and Literatures and Theology, University of Notre Dame

• March 29 at 6 p.m. — “UNITING THE EYES: FROM FIXATION TOWARD FASCINATION IN THE EASTER TUESDAY CANTOS,” with Holy Cross Father Chase Pepper, Campus Ministry and Department of Theology, King’s College, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Ignited is sponsored by St. Joseph County for Palm Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.


St. Mary Mother of God Parish to offer Ash Wednesday Luncheon

FORT WAYNE — St. Mary Mother of God Parish, at the corner of Lafayette Street and Jefferson Boulevard, will offer an Ash Wednesday Luncheon on Feb. 10, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., following the 11 a.m. prayer service and distribution of ashes. Free offerings for the simple soup luncheon will support the work of the soup kitchen, staffed by 80 volunteers. The soup kitchen, founded in 1975, has served more than 7,000,000 bowls of soup. Monetary and food donations are always welcome as well as volunteers. For more information call 260-424-8231.

Bishop Dwenger High School competes in Northridge Science Olympiad Invitational

FORT WAYNE — Twenty-seven students from Bishop Dwenger High School traveled to the Northridge Science Olympiad Invitational on Jan. 16 to compete in events, which focused on science, engineering and technology.

Awards were earned by seniors: Megan Brelage, Jacob Gloudemans, Zach Hensler, Adam Morr, Gabe Nicholson and Claire Roberts, juniors: Abby Brelage, Max DiFilippo, Sam Fair, Kevin LaMaster, Patrick Morr, Kyle Weingartner, and sophomores: Nicole Gloudemans, Ryan McArdle.

Around the Diocese

Saint Joe family reaches out to Flint, Michigan

Provided by Saint Joseph High School

of Stars, Metaphysics of Light: Theological Aesthetics and the Form of Human Life in Dante’s ‘Paradise.’” Jennifer Noseworthy, Martin, Program of Liberal Studies and Theology, University of Notre Dame

April 7 at 6 p.m. — “Love’s Recollection: ‘Paradiso’ and Healed Memory,” Jessica Keating, Director, Office of Human Dignity and Life Initiatives, Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame

7:15 p.m. — Heaven as the Sacrifice of Praise: The ‘Paradiso’ and the Overcoming of Rivalry,” Cyril O’Regan, Huisking Professor of Theology, University of Notre Dame

The lecture series is sponsored by the University of Notre Dame’s Institute for Church Life and the Office of Human Dignity and Life Initiatives with support from the Henkels Lecture Fund.

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**February 7, 2016**

**TODAY’S CATHOLIC**

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**February 7, 2016**
Live your faith during Lent,

Year of Mercy pilgrimages:
The three Holy Doors in the diocese

Throughout the Year of Mercy, a plenary indulgence can be gained by visiting the Doors of Mercy that have been designated at the two cathedrals and at the basilica at Notre Dame. These doors will remain open until Nov. 13, 2016.

Listed below are the hours when the three churches are open during the week, as well as their Mass and Confession times. Contact information is also provided for parishes that may wish to schedule group pilgrimages to a Door of Mercy during the jubilee year. Pilgrim groups are welcome to bring their own confessor if they wish to have Confessions available at special times during their visits.

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne

Mass times
Sunday (in church): Saturday Vigil 5 p.m.; Sunday 8:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
Weekdays (in chapel): Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.; Friday 7 a.m., 8 a.m., 12:05 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.
Confession times (in chapel)
Monday through Thursday: 7 a.m. and 12:05 p.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday: 7 a.m.
Saturday: 8:30-9 a.m.; 3:45-4:30 p.m.
Hours church is open
Weekdays: 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturdays: 12-6 p.m.
Sundays: 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Pilgrimage contact
Tom Smith — 260-424-1485, ext. 302

St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend

Mass times
Sunday: Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.
Weekdays: Monday through Friday 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Saturday 7 a.m.
Confession times
Monday through Saturday after 7 a.m. Mass
Saturday: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Hours church is open
The south doors of the cathedral are open every day from 6 a.m. until 6:30 p.m.
Pilgrimage contact
Cassandra Horner — chorner@stmatthewcathedral.org

Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame

Mass times
Sunday: Saturday Vigil 5 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday through Friday 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.
Confession times
Monday through Thursday: 11-11:30 a.m.; 1-1:30 p.m.; 4:45-4:5:15 p.m.; 5:15 p.m.
Friday: 11-11:30 a.m. and 4:45-5:15 p.m.
Saturday (in Sacred Heart Crypt): 10-11 a.m.
Hours church is open
Open every day from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.
(Please consult http://campusministry.nd.edu/basilica-of-the-sacred-heart for schedules changes during academic breaks, Triduum, etc.)
Pilgrimage contact
Amy Huber — 574-631-4288 and Holy Cross Father Peter Rocca, basilica rector — 574-651-5525.

Details regarding the conditions for obtaining the indulgence can be found at www.myyearofmercy.org and also at the churches themselves.
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Lent is a time of conversion and a time to deepen one’s faith, demonstrating and sharing it through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, Pope Francis said.

“Faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbors in body and spirit,” the pope said in his message for Lent, which begins Feb. 10 for Latin-rite Catholics.

Feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, welcoming strangers, offering instruction, giving comfort — “on such things will we be judged,” the pope wrote in the message, which was released at the Vatican Jan. 26.

Particularly during the Year of Mercy, he said, Catholics are called to recognize their own need for God’s mercy, the goodness of God’s love, and the obligation to assist others by communicating God’s love and mercy through words and deeds.

“The root of all sin” is thinking that one is god, something often expressed in a total preoccupation for accumulating money and power, the pope wrote. And just as individuals can be tempted to think they have no need of God, social and political systems can run the same risk, ignoring both God and the real needs of human beings.

“Love alone is the answer to that yearning for infinite happiness,” Pope Francis wrote. It is the only response to the longings “that we think we can satisfy with the idols of knowledge, power and riches.”

“The danger always remains that by a constant refusal to open the doors of their hearts to Christ who knocks on them in the poor,” he said, “the proud, rich and powerful will end up condemning themselves, and plunging into the eternal abyss of solitude which is hell.”

But through acts of mercy and charity, “by touching the flesh of the crucified Jesus in the suffering,” he wrote, “sinners can receive the gift of realizing that they too are poor and in need.”

“In the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered, visited,” he wrote. “In the spiritual works of mercy — counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer — we touch more directly our own sinfulness.”

In the Christian life, Pope Francis said, “the corporal and spiritual works of mercy must never be separated.”

Cardinal Francesco Montenegro, president of Caritas Italy and head of the archdiocese that includes the Italian island of Lampedusa, told reporters at a Vatican news conference that the pope’s message, like the Bible, “does not stop simply at reaffirming that God is merciful, but clearly indicates that His children must be merciful, too, by living a greater piety at reaffirming that God is merciful, but clearly indicates in the poor,” he said, “the proud, rich and powerful will end up closing the doors of their hearts to Christ who knocks on them in the poor.”

For Catholic families, the “Catholic Rice Bowl Effect” begins conversations about Lent and their faith, about the role of charity, and about the many different people who make up the world family.

For Catholic parishes and schools, it unites communities for Lenten faith reflection around the spirit of serving those in need and the good work of the Church around the globe. And for those who benefit from its charity, the “Rice Bowl Effect” is a key to a better life.

“There is something truly wonderful about the impact CRS Rice Bowl has on our Catholic community and on the people we serve,” said Joan Rosenhauer, executive vice president of U.S. Operations for Catholic Relief Services (CRS). “What we are calling the ‘Rice Bowl Effect’ unites us as a faith community in the service of helping others. It links us to our brothers and sisters around the world through stories, recipes, reflections and prayer. And best of all, this effect can be an experience that starts with the very young and extends throughout our lifetimes.”

Rosenhauer noted that in this Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis, CRS Rice Bowl opens a special door for Catholics to learn more about — and participate in — the works of mercy done in their name by CRS, the international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States.

“For CRS, the preferential love for those oppressed by poverty is at the heart of our work,” said Rosenhauer. “This year, we have helped improve the lives of millions of people in over 100 countries, work that began when we helped refugees during World War II. CRS Rice Bowl plays a significant role in making sure we are ready and able to do such work, the good news, the merciful story of our Church.”

Twenty-five percent of all contributions stay in local dioceses to support hunger and poverty prevention programs such as community gardens, food pantries, soup kitchens, support groups and job centers. The remaining 75 percent goes to support CRS’ humanitarian programs overseas, providing life-saving assistance and hope to impoverished and vulnerable communities.

Since its start in a parish in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as a response to the famine in the African Sahel region in 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has evolved into a national response to hunger around the world, used by over 13,000 Catholic schools and parishes during the season of Lent.

In its 41 years, CRS Rice Bowl has lifted generations of people out of poverty through the programs it supports. An orphaned child in a small village in the West African country of Ghana, Thomas Awiapo was lured to school by the smell of food. By satisfying his hunger, he found a love for learning and went on to college and graduate school in the United States.

The feeding program in the school Thomas Awiapo attended was supported by CRS Rice Bowl. In an amazing twist of fate, Awiapo, with a master’s degree in public administration, became an employee for CRS.

To donate and learn more about CRS Rice Bowl, visit crsricebowl.org or download the app from the iTunes or Google Play stores.
Technology helps Holy Family student stay connected

BY JENNIFER MILLER

SOUTH BEND — When he was only a kindergartener, Nolan Dobrucki’s mom, Amy, noticed some usual bruises that tend to appear on five-year-old boys. However, when the bruises reappeared weeks later, along with some new rashes and skin irritations, it was time for a trip to the doctor. After years of tests, trials and errors in assessment and treatment, Nolan was finally diagnosed this year with Severe Aplastic Anemia. The loss of red and white blood cells, as well as platelets, has led young Nolan through numerous medical treatments, including his current prolonged stay to Riley Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis. This last October, five and a half years after those first warning signs, Nolan began chemotherapy and received a bone marrow transplant.

The Dobruckis are parishioners at Holy Family Parish in South Bend and their children, Nolan and Mya, also attend the school. As life-long Catholics, their faith “has helped the whole process,” Shannon Dobrucki explained. “It puts everything in perspective … and has given us a community of support. From the school and parish, the support is the best thing.”

From wonderful parent groups to the loyal student body, Holy Family has reached out and cared for the Dobruckis in various ways. Shannon said, “Letting people help you was hard for me at first … but then I saw how let them help us also helped them.”

From meals and gas cards, toys and clothes to generous tuition assistance, the larger “family” is caring for the smallest domestic one.

Currently a fourth grader, Nolan piloted a new technology at Holy Family School. When Nolan’s parents met with Holy Family administrators last summer, they were strongly contemplating removing him from school so to prepare him for upcoming surgery. But Principal Joseph Miller and Jennifer Veldman, the assistant principal, asked, “What can we do?” Why not use technology to keep Nolan with his classmates? They and the Dobrucki family wanted to help Nolan continue the path of his education.

Using the Internet and Facetime on iPads, he was able to “be present” with his class and stay connected to his academic studies. Veldman organized it so each day a different student would be Nolan’s virtual buddy. The buddy would then be responsible for placing the iPad on their desk, learning and working with him in small groups and switching subjects with him. Through the iPad, Nolan went from class to class with his friends.

“The ownership of it by the students in the classroom was the most beautiful part!” Veldman said with a smile. “I was uncertain at first how it would work, but the children loved it.” Judy King, his fourth-grade teacher explained. “They felt so special when it was their turn. They haven’t seen him in class this year, but knew him. It was not disruptive at all. … He was a part of our learning. … I could even call on him! And students loved it when they could interact together during the day.”

As a result, Nolan was connected to his school community during what could have been a very isolating, lonely time. “One day I popped into the fourth grade and saw they were doing group work. It was just awesome to see two kids and an iPad with Nolan sitting at one table working together,” said Principal Miller.

And it was not just Nolan who benefitted. Miller continued, “I think the experience has helped all of our students to develop a sense of compassion and solidarity. Nolan’s friends love him, and they miss him, and they pray for him everyday.”

Teachers at Riley Hospital now work with him, still using modern technology of scanners and computers to connect him with Holy Family School. “We really miss him,” King said. “Our goal is to keep him on grade level, for when he can return to the building.”

During this tough recovery period, his classmates “take it in stride, pray for him and each holiday make something to send with his sister, for when they visit. Everyone is praying and extremely hopeful,” Veldman said.

“The spiritual support for Nolan has been very special for the school community,” said Miller. “When Nolan was going to Riley for the surgery, the whole school gathered to pray the rosary for him. From preschool to eighth graders, we prayed together for healing and recovery of our friend and classmate. It was very powerful.”

Caring for the Dobrucki family in material, physical ways, Holy Family hosted some fundraisers, such as dress down days. Also, last March, they sponsored an official “Be the Match,” bone marrow registration fundraiser. This connected the school family with the larger global family as Nolan and other recipients looked for a “10/10 match” for bone marrow donation. Selling neon green T-shirts, which read “Team Nolan,” the school raised money for the Dobrucki family, all of which they chose to give to the “Be the Match” foundation, a not-for-profit organization.

These are now the recovery days. His father, Shannon, has taken a leave of absence from work to stay with him at the Ronald McDonald House, while his mother Amy works in South Bend and stays with Mya at the family home commuting to Indianapolis on the weekends. The Dobruckis are dedicated and “optimistic about Nolan’s kidneys and his recovery.”

As Nolan continues to fight, this has been a journey of the unknown. “We take it one day at a time,” says Dobrucki. One day at a time, with a whole school community behind them.

For readers who would like to follow Nolan and the Dobrucki family, their updates in photos are located at “Team Nolan: The Journey” on Facebook.
Anger and citizenship

The Iowa caucuses are in the rear-view mirror, the New Hampshire primary looms on the horizon, and by most media accounts, the leitmotif of Campaign 2016 is “anger.” As in: a lot-of-Americans-are-angry-and-that-explains-the-attraction-of-certain-candidates, whether that be the anti-political-cor-rectness anger of Donald Trump voters, the anti-government anger of Ted Cruz voters, or the Obama hasn’t-been-radical-enough anger of Bernie Sanders voters. For those of us with long cinematic memories, it’s rather reminiscent of the Howard Beale character in “Network,” urging people to stick their heads out the window and holler, “I’m mad as hell and I’m not going to take this anymore!”

I get it. My own reactions to the papers I read daily, the magazines I read weekly, and the news programs I watch occa-sionally are not often conducive to a happy blood pressure reading. Yet whatever my sympathies may be with the word du jour, as hope that, as the 2016 campaign unfolds, the electorate will begin to understand that anger is not a particularly healthy metric of public life.

The First Marquis of Halifax, George Saville, a 17th-century English statesman and a notable phrase-maker, ranks second only to the immortal Dr. Johnson in the number of entries in “The Dictionary of Quotations.” There, I find this small gem: “Anger is never without an argument, but seldom with a good one.” Does that ring a bell or two, my fellow Americans? It should, given the character of the presidential “debate” thus far. And that warning bell suggests that we’ve got a problem. For serious debate, conducted with civility, is the lifeblood of democracy.

Civility does not preclude passion. Given the gravity of the issues before us in 2016 — which involve the future of freedom around the world and the dignity of the human per-son here at home — passion is entirely welcome. But passion is, indeed, anger is a glan-derul thing. An angry politics, a politics of the gut. A passionate politics, informed and disciplined by reason, can be a politics of the intelligence, a politics of great ideas: a politics, if you will, of sound moral judgment. And sound moral judgment is, if ever, the child of anger.

In 1818, John Adams, par-sing the great events in which he had played a central role, wrote this: “What do we owe by the American Revolution? Do we mean the American war? The Revolution was effected before the revolutionary war. The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people; a change in their religious sentiments of that day and of the next.”

The American Republic, in other words, began with ideas: ideas passionately held, to be sure; ideas that were so filled with fish that Peter and his companions had difficul-ties to be a part of the great tangle of the world. The United States did not begin in a spasm of anger, although there were surely anger-driven incidents before and during the Revolution. It’s easy to get stuck in the moment, resisting and moral judgment. The American Republic, in other words, began with ideas: ideas passionately held, to be sure; ideas that were so filled with fish that Peter and his companions had difficul-ties to be a part of the great tangle of the world. The United States did not begin in a spasm of anger, although there were surely anger-driven incidents before and during the Revolution. Revolution and by its founding, it won’t get there through an angry-defined, anger-driven, and anger-dominated poli-tics. We will only get there through a rebirth of genuine political argu-ment, which is a rational, not a glan-derul thing.

The United States of the United States should be particularly sensitive to this dimension of our public life. Catholic political theory is an extension of Catholic moral theology; or to put it another way, Catholic political theory treats politics as an arena of moral rea-soning and moral judgment. The Catholic citizen, as the Church understands these things, is obliged to think, not just to feel, to judge, not just to react; to exer-cise prudence in weighing options among usually-imperfect alterna-tives, not to indulge in fantasies of simplistic quick-fixes to all that ails us and the world.

Were the Catholic citizens of the United States to act that way in 2016, both God and the Republic would be well served.

Every believer has a role to play in salvation

The Sunday Gospel

Lk 5:1-11

The Book of Isaiah is the source of the first read-ing this weekend. Written during the Babylonian conquest, this prophecy was composed before the Babylonian conquest, to God or at least about their infidelity to God or at least about their lukewarmness in responding to their role as God’s special protector. The story, told in this reading, conveys its drama and bluntness the totality required of their consciousness to answer the divine calling to be a prophet.

Here, in this reading, Isaiah displays the fervor and power that are typical of the writing in all three sections of this ancient book.

Paul’s First Epistle to the Corinthians provides the next reading. Paul recalls the death of Jesus and then the Lord’s Resurrection, giving the details that Peter, whom Paul calls “Cephas,” using the Greek term, saw Jesus after the Resurrection, that James saw Jesus, and that even Peter had his doubts. Peter, who had fished in the Sea of Galilee when Jesus commanded him to fish, the Lord told us about Jesus.

Oh what a tangled web: Rising above Instagram envy

Melina Birchen has uploaded 777 images to her Instagram account over the past two years: sushi, Starbucks, her new tattoo, rosary beads, cowboy boots. Sometimes the juxtaposition is jarring. A glowing monstrosity, a chilled margarita. A snapshot from wait-ressing, a prayer journal docu-menting her consecration to the Blessed Mother.

As a freshman at the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, problems had tried to moderate her use of social media, deleting the Facebook and Twitter apps from her iPhone and abandoning Snapchat altogether. Instagram has been harder to rein in, admits the psychology major, an amateur photographer and self-described “beauty seeker” who is among more than 400 million users drawn to the 5-year-old photo-sharing social network.

“I have one of those love-hate relationships with Instagram,” Melina said.

It captures her adventures, connects her with friends and kindles her faith. But sometimes it sends Melina down a destruc-tive path, like when it leads her to bikini photos that erode her self-esteem. Even follow-ing friends can induce pangs of compar-ison. “I constantly see rings and relationships popping up on my Instagram. It can make me feel very single.”

It’s easy to get stuck in the honeycomb of Instagram feeds, where six degrees of separation becomes two taps — from some-one you know to someone who you never knew, then a total stranger with an expen-sive wardrobe and a nice tan. The filters create a fun-house mirror of comparison, rendering you short and squatty. They’re the ones out making great mem-ories, eating apples, lounging poolside, kissing beneath a Ferris wheel. You’re the one in sweatpants stalking them from the couch.

Instagram has created a cul-ture of unabashed voyeurism. To comment on a picture with the popular hashtag “goals” is to openly covet. It’s often a one-word comment, an evolution from the “I like this” of a facile Facebook thumbs-up to “I want to be this.” Yet the word “goals” connotes a rigorous academic pursuit, making it perfectly acceptable even wittily.

“That hashtag is a pet peeve of mine,” Melina said. “It’s a code for comparison and envy. It’s like, ‘Why are you struggling to be someone else when God meant you to be you? You are precious in His eyes!’”

Melina is trying to reclaim the hashtag by occasionally tagging her posts with “catholicgoals,” a tongue-in-cheek reminder of what really matters — sacra-ments, prayer, friendship. She resists the temptation to curate.
Melina believes we’ve become too passive about toxic influences. “We’re scared of certain things. “We’re scared of certain things. “You’re never going to have...”

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and editor of SisterStory.org.

Based on these Scripture Readings: Is 6:1–2a, 3–8; 1Cor 15:1–11; Lk 5:1–11 and Dr 26: 4–10; Rom 10:8–13; Lk 9:20b–36

ACROSS
1 Suffer this, poor child
2 Fish lifting hook
3 Supply side economics
11 Compass point
12 Margarine
13 Pare
14 Tree
15 Brown
16 Writer Bombeck
17 Robber on foot
19 Trainer of God’s instrument
20 Possessive pronoun
21 Leap
22 Kashmiri country
25 Bartimaeus did
26 Owned
29 Forehead
30 Stitch together
31 Italian money
32 Beer
33 Accomplished
34 Short for James
35 St. Thomas was one
37 Representative
38 Peter’s first name
40 Civil court case
44 6th month (Jewish calendar)
45 Wise men
46 Foot extension
47 Crossing
48 Experts

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51 Fit together
52 Easter meat
53 Large truck
54 Short for James
55 Brim with life
56 Angel touched
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The CrossWord

February 7 and 14, 2016

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St. Pius X as O’Dell, Jackowiak and a bucket by Luke Leonard more than doubled their lead making it, 37-21, until the Cougars called a timeout to regroup.

The remainder of the third was all Derda for the Cougars and all Baughman for the Lions going into the final stanza up, 45-29.

Most thought “game over,” but no one told the Cougars as Derda, Kaniewski and company clamped down on the defensive end and went on a 13-0 run that included a huge three pointer by Ayden Clark making it, 48-46, with just over a minute to play.

Even though up by two, the momentum was definitely on the side of the Cougars and after a missed Lion shot seemed to spell trouble, the rebound and short jumper by Jackowiak stopped the bleeding and turned the tide.

A couple missed attempts by the Lions down the stretch and an out-of-bounds layup by Lions, Michael Conery sealed the deal as St. Pius X outlasted Corpus Christi, 52-46, in the high-scoring nailbitter.

The final line had Lions; Baughman, O’Dell and Jackowiak scoring 18, 12 and 11 respectively and the one-two punch of Derda and Kaniewski dropping in 25 and 16.

“This is the kind of game that makes the ICCL special. Both teams played so hard and that’s exactly what we expected,” explained Lion Coach Mike Padron. “They did a good job of taking our big man out of the game, but Baughman is the glue that holds us together and came up big.”

“Our kids could have given up after St. Pius X went up big, but they didn’t. We came together, stood united and left it on the floor, and for that I’m really proud of this team,” remarked Cougar Skipper Shaun Derda.

In other scores around the league; Jaden Ivy and his 25 points helped the Holy Cross Crusaders upend the Trojans of Holy Family, 54-33.

Panther Philip Robles and Falcon Kaidyn Baker each scored 15, but Anthony was victorious over St. Jude, 46-24.


Puma Johnny Wang’s 12 points were countered by the 23 Matt White dropped in for the Eagles of St. Joseph as they were triumphant over Queen of Peace, 39-34.

Christ the King romped 45-19 over St. Michael, and St. Thomas won a pair against Our Lady of Hungary and St. Matthew, 30-21 and 34-18.

St. Pius X as O’Dell, Jackowiak and a bucket by Luke Leonard more than doubled their lead making it, 37-21, until the Cougars called a timeout to regroup.

The remainder of the third was all Derda for the Cougars and all Baughman for the Lions going into the final stanza up, 45-29.

Most thought “game over,” but no one told the Cougars as Derda, Kaniewski and company clamped down on the defensive end and went on a 13-0 run that included a huge three pointer by Ayden Clark making it, 48-46, with just over a minute to play.

Even though up by two, the momentum was definitely on the side of the Cougars and after a missed Lion shot seemed to spell trouble, the rebound and short jumper by Jackowiak stopped the bleeding and turned the tide.

A couple missed attempts by the Lions down the stretch and an out-of-bounds layup by Lions, Michael Conery sealed the deal as St. Pius X outlasted Corpus Christi, 52-46, in the high-scoring nailbitter.

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WHY?
Continued from Page 1

Father Runyon has also decided to utilize Why Catholic? teachings in a large group experience. “So, for Lent we are having our Thursday evening Lenten program, but we are using the content of Why Catholic?,” he said.

Members of several Why Catholic? small faith sharing groups are excited to begin again. Jeff Rose, chairperson of the Why Catholic? Committee at St. Jude, facilitated one of the 16 groups that participated in the program last fall. The groups met once each week in homes or the church to follow the readings and discussion reflections provided by the program. “I think it’s really important to have a strong understanding of the Catholic faith. It helps people make better decisions and appreciate the faith more,” said Rose, adding that being exposed to the variety of prayer forms within the Catholic Church has inspired him to attend daily Mass more often as well as participate in Eucharistic Adoration at St. Jude’s Adoration Chapel. One of the best parts of the program is “the sharing that goes on,” said Rose.

Jackie Hinsey couldn’t agree more as she recalls her participation in her established group that has met for years to discuss the upcoming week’s Scripture, when they welcomed Why Catholic? in their midst. “I feel as people understand the faith a little more they connect with each other. It changes you. You want to go to church more and be a part of things there,” she said.

She believes the group is especially supportive of members wherever they are on their faith journey. “The group accepts you wherever you’re at, and whatever you want to contribute,” she said. With the youngest member at 22 years old all the way to the 90s “there’s a great depth of people who bring their insights and perceptions. It’s very enriching,” Hinsey concludes.

Another group that is gearing up for Phase 2 of Why Catholic? is led by Sally Niedermeyer. She too is part of an established group that meets on a regular basis to discuss upcoming Scripture. The group is made up of nine to 12 members some of whom have come into the Church in recent years. Niedermeyer said of group, “it’s nice to get other people’s take on our faith and on our practices. And she appreciates “the cohesiveness and sense of community — the closeness you get when you meet on a regular basis.” Following the conclusion of the first phase of prayer as the topic of Why Catholic? in the fall, Niedermeyer’s group was inspired to visit Saint Anne Communities to sing Christmas carols to the residents there. This Lent they plan to meet the Monday before Ash Wednesday to prepare for the Lenten program and will meet during Holy Week to watch a movie about Christ’s passion that will inspire them to deeper faith and understanding.

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FOR QUESTIONS, please email Andrew Ouellette
Director of Youth Ministry
aouellette@diocesefw.org

High School Students from all around the diocese are invited to the University of Saint Francis for a weekend full of prayer, games and great music. On March 20, the final day of the retreat, we will join Bishop Rhoades for Palm Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

March 18-20, 2016
University of Saint Francis
Fort Wayne

“Ignited” is a weekend conference style retreat for high school students
SPONSORED BY THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

Speakers include
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Register Online at
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WHAT’S HAPPENING?

Theology on Tap: What does long term renewal look like?
Fort Wayne — Theology on Tap for young adults in their 20s and 30s; single or married, will be held at Soup, Salad and Spirits, 1915 S. Calhoun St., Thursday, Feb. 25, at 6:30 p.m. The temptation toward consumption-based Catholicism is real. Does a Catholic podcast fulfill your call to prayer for the day? Do you find yourself checking off your work in the evangelizing mission of the Church by “sharing” a religious themed meme? This Lent, make the journey count. Father Drew Curry will share how to follow your faith to last a lifetime. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/tot-fw for information.

Interpreter for the deaf and hard of hearing will be present at www.bachcollegium.org.

Baroque Festival finale concert
Fort Wayne — The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1122 S. Clinton St. For information on the deaf and hard of hearing ministry contact Allison at 260-399-1452 or asturm@diocesefwsb.org.

Feb. 25, at 6:30 p.m. The temptation to mordant Mardi Gras party South Bend — A Mardi Gras dinner and silent auction sponsored by the Tolton Society of St. Augustine Catholic Church, 1501 W. Washington St., will be Tuesday, Feb. 9, from 5-8 p.m. Tickets at door are $15, $7 for pre-teens, age five free. Silent auction will include ND/SMC items, fine dining, etc. Proceeds will benefit the Tolton Society. For information contact Annie Tardy at 574-707-1252.

Fort Wayne — The St. Hedwig Holy Name Society plans Polish buffet South Bend — The St. Hedwig Holy Name Society will have Polish buffet Sunday, Feb. 21, from noon to 2 p.m. in the Hedwig Memorial Center. Advance sale only tickets are $12, children 12 and under free and available at the rectory or by calling 574-287-4821 or 574-287-1298. Deadline Feb. 15.

Our Lady of Good Hope Lenten fish fry Fort Wayne — Our Lady of Good Hope Knights will have a Lenten fish fry Friday, Feb. 19, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the gym, 7215 St. Joe Rd. Alaskan Pollock by Dan’s of Huntington. Tickets are $8.50 for adults, $4.50 for children 6-10 and children 5 and under are free. Carry-out available.

Catholic Business Network Group Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, Feb. 5, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel. Dr. Thomas McGovern will be speaking on “The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre,” in the Cathedral Center following Mass. Refreshments provided by Joe Brown with the Rekindle the Fire men’s conference.

The crossWord
February 7 and 14, 2016
ROD GAIL GISE SUE OLLIE PIKE
ELM STUB SCHER TRAM
FOODPANTRAIN HER JUMP
NEPAL NEVIG MAD BROW S LEW THIA
CAKE JUPIN ING SIMON LAWS U IMAGK
FROZEN DOLL JUIN AUK MADE JUIN
ELK MESH TAM
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February 7, 2016

TODAY’S CATHOLIC
As God sees things

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — It was the feast day of St. Thomas Aquinas, the patron saint of Catholic schools, and a great day for Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to visit the students and staff of Bishop Luers High School on Fort Wayne’s south side.

It was also a great day for six students of Bishop Luers. Alley Broom came into full Communion with the Church. Bishop Rhoades confirmed Simon Derloshon and Hannah Snyder. And three students from St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne — Chris Carranza, Jorge Barron and Ivan Gomez — were confirmed and received their first Communion.

It was also a day in which the Bishop Luers students were gifted by Bishop Rhoades “The Pocket Gospels and Psalms,” published by Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington. The gift comes with the encouragement of Pope Francis that people carry a pocket-sized book of the Gospels — as they would a rosary — and to take it out for reading and meditation.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades spoke of St. Thomas Aquinas, a saint with a brilliant intellect, yet who was humble. As a student, St. Thomas was rather quiet and didn’t speak much. Some of his classmates called him “the dumb ox.”

Bishop Rhoades said, “Well, his teacher in Paris and later Cologne, St. Albert the Great, prophetically exclaimed: ‘You call Thomas the dumb ox, but in his teaching he will one day produce such a bellowing that it will be heard throughout the world.’

And so it happened. The works of St. Thomas Aquinas have been studied and taught through the centuries. His thoughts and ideas on the mystery of God and the truths of the faith are the most profound and insightful ever written, with the exception of perhaps of St. Augustine.”

St. Thomas Aquinas also had the gift of wisdom. Bishop Rhoades summarized wisdom as the “ability to see things as Good sees things.”

He spoke about his recent visit to Haiti to see the work of Catholic Relief Services of which Bishop Rhoades serves on their board. “I saw the poverty and was thinking of how God must see and look upon the suffering of so many people,” Bishop Rhoades noted.

He asked the students how they see a person who is suffering, migrants, the poor, violence, political choices, events in school, abortion.

After Mass, Bishop Rhoades ate lunch with a newly formed group at the school, the Student Leadership Board — six juniors and six seniors — who work with the student council, National Honor Society, the athletic department and other leaders to make the school better. Service is a priority and the team members are helping to spearhead Sodalitas, which will devote a day of service to the community in April. Their plans are to sponsor a car wash, assist with a community garden, help at the soup kitchen, help at a nature preserve, build picnic tables and campaign to prevent teen suicide.

Bishop Rhoades also encouraged participation in the CRS Rice Bowl during Lent and to examine the work of CRS in countries such as Haiti by visiting the website www.crs.org. Students then coaxed Bishop Luers Principal Tiffany Albertson for a dress-down day last Friday that would provide funds for CRS Rice Bowl.

After lunch and on the way to Meg Hanlon’s Catholic Social Teaching Class, the bishop made a quick stop in the freshman Spanish classroom and spoke to the students in Spanish.

While visiting the class of Meg Hanlon, a former college classmate of Bishop Rhoades, he learned about the seniors’ research projects — stewardship and the environment, embryonic and adult stem-cell research, pornography, in vitro fertilization.

He then met with all of the Bishop Luers’ seniors in the gymnasium for a question-answer session, before meeting with the theology staff and Principal Albertson.