Diocesan men become battle ready to fight their Goliaths

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Over 1,200 men from across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend were armed for spiritual warfare to battle their Goliaths at the Rekindle the Fire Annual Diocesan Men’s Conference held at the Fort Wayne Coliseum Expo Center on Feb. 20.

Speakers Matt Fradd, Dr. Marcellino D’Ambrosio and Jesse Romero were the featured speakers who provided the tools for men to take home and use in their faith daily.

Father Jacob Meyer, parochial vicar of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, served as the masters of ceremonies for the event. Priests from across the diocese journeyed to the coliseum to make the sacrament of Reconciliation available for nearly five hours throughout the day.

Throughout the conference, the Abba Prayer for Men, which offers a Catholic vision of masculinity, was introduced and encouraged to become a part of daily prayer. For resources, the men could visit AbbaChallenge.com.

Speaker Matt Fradd’s message to the men spoke of his commitment to expose the reality behind the Rekindle, page 3

‘No more death, no more exploitation,’ pope says at U.S.-Mexico border

BY DAVID AGREN

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (CNS) — Speaking from the symbolic platform of the U.S.-Mexico border, Pope Francis pleaded for the plight of immigrants while warning those refusing to offer safe shelter and passage that their actions and inhospitable attitudes were bringing about dishonor and self-destruction as their hearts hardened and they “lost their sensitivity to pain.”

Recalling the story of Jonah and his instructions from God to save the sinful city of Ninevah by telling the residents that “injustice has infected their way of seeing the world,” Pope Francis’ homily called for compassion, change and conversion on migration issues.

He alluded to Mexico and the United States as Ninevah, the city he said was showing symptoms of “self-destruction as a result of oppression, dishonor, violence and injustice.” He also said mercy was a way to win over opponents.

“Let us not deny the humanitarian crisis, which in recent years has meant the migration of thousands of people, whether by train or highway or on foot, crossing hundreds of kilometers through mountains, deserts and inhospitable areas,” Pope Francis said Feb. 17 to hundreds of thousands of people from both sides of the border.

“The human tragedy that is forced migration is a global phenomenon today. This crisis, which can be measured in numbers and statistics, we want to stop.”

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www.myyearofmercy.org
Pope calls for jubilee moratorium on death penalty

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis called for a moratorium on executions during the Year of Mercy and said the fifth commandment, “Thou shalt not kill,” applies not only to the innocent but to the guilty as well.

“Even a criminal has the inviolable right to life, a gift of God,” he said Feb. 21 after reciting the Angelus with visitors gathered in St. Peter’s Square.

Marking the beginning of an international conference “For a world without the death penalty,” sponsored by the Community of Sant’Egidio, the pope expressed hope that it will strengthen efforts to abolish the death penalty.

Increasing opposition worldwide to the death penalty as “an instrument of legitimate social defense” is “a sign of hope,” he said.

“This issue has to be considered within the perspective of a penal justice, which is more and more in compliance with human dignity and God’s plan for humanity and society,” the pope said.

The pope appealed to world leaders to reach an international consensus on the abolition of the death penalty. He also proposed Catholic criminal leaders “make a courageous and exemplary gesture by seeking a moratorium on executions during this Holy Year of Mercy.”

“All Christians and people of goodwill are called today to work not only for the abolition of the death penalty, but also to improve the conditions of life in prison, in the respect of human dignity of people deprived of freedom,” he said.

In his remarks before reciting the Angelus prayer, the pope recalled his Dec. 17-19 visit to Mexico, calling it an “experience of transfiguration.”

“The Lord has shown us the light of His glory through the body of the Church, of His holy people that live in this land — a body so often wounded, a people so often oppressed, despised, violated in its dignity. The various encounters we experienced in Mexico were truly full of light: the light of a faith that transfigures faces and enlightens our path,” he said.

The main goal of his trip, he added, was his visit to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe to pray before the miraculous image of Mary.

“Receive this gift as a spiritual help to spread love, forgiveness and brotherhood, especially during this Year of Mercy,” the pope said.

Before concluding his address, the pope prescribed some “spiritual medicine” to the faithful for the Lenten season: the rosary.

Volunteers, including some poor, homeless and refugees along with religious, distributed small white boxes with an anatomical drawing of the human heart that contained a rosary along with the Divine Mercy image of Jesus.

“Receive this gift as a spiritual help to spread love, forgiveness and brotherhood, especially during this Year of Mercy,” the pope said.

The deeper his faith, the better public servant Scalia was, says son

BY MARK ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Just as many pilgrims are passing through the Holy Door at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in this Year of Mercy, the casket bearing the body of the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia entered through the door Feb. 20.

Father Paul Scalia, the justice’s son and the main celebrant and homilist at his father’s funeral Mass, said the fact that Scalia’s casket was carried through that door of mercy was a great blessing. In his homily, he emphasized that his father was a man of faith, dedicated to his family and service to his country, a man who relied on God’s mercy and was sustained through the sacraments.

“We give thanks that Jesus brought him to new life in baptism, nourished him with the Eucharist and healed him in the confession,” Father Scalia said.

In his homily, “God blessed Dad with a deep Catholic faith, the conviction that Christ’s presence and power continue in the world today through His body, the Church.”

Speaking of his father’s devotion to his Catholic faith, Father Scalia said, “He loved the clarity and coherence of the Church’s teachings. He treasured the Church’s ceremonies, especially the beauty of her ancient worship. He trusted the power of her sacraments as the means of salvation, as Christ working within him for his salvation.”

Father Scalia, a priest of the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia, is the episcopal vicar for clergy for the diocese, where the late justice lived with his family.

The elder Scalia died Feb. 13 of natural causes while in Texas for a hunting trip. He was 79. He is survived by his wife, Maureen, and by the couple’s nine children and 30 grandchildren.

As bells tolled, family members accompanied his flag-draped casket up the steps into the national shrine and down its main aisle as the congregation sang the hymn “O God Our Help in Ages Past.” The family then sat in a front section as the casket was placed at the base of the steps leading to the main altar.

At the Mass were the eight remaining members of the U.S. Supreme Court: Chief Justice of the United States John G. Roberts Jr. and Associate Justices Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen G. Breyer, Samuel Alito, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan. Retired Justices John Paul Stevens and David H. Souter also were present.

Other dignitaries in attendance included: Vice President Joe Biden; U.S. Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch; former Vice President Dick Cheney; former Speaker of the House Newt
Continued from Page 1

the fantasy of pornography and offered tips to protect families from the dangers of Internet pornography. His goal is to set men and women free from the harms of pornography and to fight it every day.

Struggling in the past with pornography himself, Fradd, spoke of how he received both good and bad advice — even in the confessional. "Pornography addiction is a relatively new phenomenon," he said, and "we are all trying to understand this thing."

He said it is not just a spiritual problem, so it is not helpful to say, "Just pray about it." He added, it would be good to counsel, "Are you seeing someone about this (addiction)?"

Images of pornography are burned into the brain. Fradd's advice was "when those images come back to your memory, don't just pray against the temptation, pray for the temptation. Pray for this victim of pornography. Pornography separates body from soul."

He offered an example of the prayer when the image resurfaces: "Jesus I give you this woman, this victim of the porn industry," Fradd suggests humanizing her. What are her dreams; what about her family, her siblings?

In overcoming pornography addiction, Fradd suggested prayer and fasting. Pray the rosary, go to the Blessed Mother and ask her to help you love her Son more. He also recommended a free app called "Victory," which offers a daily calendar to assess temptation, pray for the temptation. Pray for this victim of pornography. Pornography separates body from soul.

"We need to bring spiritual truth and accountability software. We need to stand firm and rush to the battle lines with Jesus in one's heart."

"Don't buy it (the technology and electronics) unless you are willing to monitor it," he emphasized. "I believe we will be held accountable if we give our children unfettered access to pornography. Don't say, 'I trust my children.' The problem is not our trust in our children. The problem is our misguided trust in the Internet."

Marcelino D'Ambrosio, who holds a doctorate in theology and biblical interpretation, spoke to the men about spiritual exercise. He emphasized a father's role to be a spiritual leader in his family. Traditionally that role has been to bring food to the table to feed the family, but "spiritual food is also important," D'Ambrosio said.

"This cannot be done by just priests and bishops. We are pastors of our families," he said. "We need to bring spiritual truth to the family."

A father who just brings home the bacon is doing an inadequate job. "Kids get a firm foundation about a father's love," D'Ambrosio said.

"Without a father's love, without the affirmation of a father, a lot of times kids' foundations are really shaky," he added. He said it is important to have fun with our children. It is a way of accepting them. Rejoicing and laughing together is important. And be humble — and laugh at yourself — recommended D'Ambrosio.

His website, www.crossroad-initiative.com offers encourage ment in pursuit of holiness. The Crossroads Initiative is a band of wayfarers who've been gripped by Christ and are trying to become His disciples.

After lunch and "Interactive Battle Sessions" with the individual speakers, including one session for young adult men with Fradd, the men were energized by Jesse Romero. Romero is a former Los Angeles Deputy Sheriff and now turned Catholic lay evangelist.

He offered several examples of sheep, who comprise most people of society and live in denial. He spoke of wolves who feed on the sheep without mercy — evil men capable of doing evil deeds. Wolves also include the men who have "checked out," are Luke warm and indifferent and useless to the Good Shepherd.

He counseled those men to be sheepdogs. They live to protect the flock from the wolves. Sheepdogs, though aggressive, work to protect others. The Good Shepherd.

He encouraged the men to be men of prayer. We must not be too lazy to climb that mountain: to seek to encounter God by entering a space of silence to converse with Him. That's what the Father told Peter, James and John: to listen to His Son. Prayer is precisely that: listening to Jesus. We need the grace to listen, to nourish our faith with the Word of God. He desires to speak to us. At times, He may give us glimpses of His glory, consolations and inspirations in prayer. Other times, not. But that's up to Him.

The bishop added, "Our Christian lives also involve ascending and descending." Bishop Rhoades noted, "The Lord invites you and me to ascend the mountain with Him, to be men of prayer. We must not be too lazy to climb that mountain: to seek to encounter God by entering a space of silence to converse with Him. That's what the Father told Peter, James and John: to listen to His Son. Prayer is precisely that: listening to Jesus. We need the grace to listen, to nourish our faith with the Word of God. He desires to speak to us. At times, He may give us glimpses of His glory, consolations and inspirations in prayer. Other times, not. But that's up to Him.

"Your physical desires and your spirit are engaged in battle at every moment," Romero said. "Which one will win? The one you feed. His 12 steps for fighting temptation included attending Mass every Sunday and on holy days of obligation, going to Confession at least once a year, receiving Communion at least once per year and financially supporting one's parish."

Romero also suggested the men attend the conference with the celebration of the Mass. In his homily, which celebrated the Transfiguration, Bishop Rhoades said, “The event of the Transfiguration involves an ascent and a descent. Jesus took Peter, James and John and ascended a high mountain to pray."

On Mount Tabor, Peter, James and John see Jesus transfigured while He was praying. His face shone like the sun and His clothing became dazzling white. "The apostles briefly glimpsed the divine glory of Jesus," Bishop Rhoades said. "What a remarkable experience it must have been: to see the light of Christ's divinity! And not only did they see this with their eyes, but they also heard with their ears this great revelation. They heard God the Father proclaim: 'This is My beloved Son. Listen to Him.'"

Peter, James and John glimpsed the divine glory of Jesus, the glory that illumines the whole history of salvation represented by Moses and Elijah, figures of the Law and the Prophets.

"That moment of glory on Mount Tabor was not meant to last even though Peter wanted it to," Bishop Rhoades said. "He wanted to make three tents for Jesus, Moses and Elijah. But Jesus had a mission to accomplish. His intimate dialogue with the Father in prayer led Him to adhere with all His being to the Father's will. That meant that He had to descend Mount Tabor, go to Jerusalem, and ascend another mountain. Golgotha. Jesus was determined, decisively oriented, to fulfill His mission, to embark on the new Exodus with the new Passover, to pass through the passion and death on the cross in order to liberate the human race from sin and to lead us to glory."

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At the Rekindle the Fire Conference on Feb. 20, Jesse Romero offers "on fire evangelization" and challenges men to be "sheepdogs" — to be willing to protect their families. Encouraging men to pray daily, he spoke of his book for men, "Lord, Prepare My Hands for Battle," with prayers written for men to stand firm and rush to the battle lines with Jesus in one's heart.

"Keep fighting the lure of sloth, pornography and other persistent sins to fight the Good Shepherd."

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"Keep fighting the lure of sloth, pornography and other persistent sins to fight the Good Shepherd."

Men attending the Rekindle the Fire conference gathered in groups for discussion and fellowship throughout the day.
Servus Omnium: The importance of servant leadership discussed as USF’s annual breakfast

BY MADELINE RICHEY

FORT WAYNE — Greg Erlandson, who recently retired after nearly 27 years with Our Sunday Visitor Publishing, serving 16 years as president and publisher, spoke at the fourth annual Servus Omnium lecture on Feb. 9. Erlandson, who won the Francis de Sales Award for “Outstanding Contributions to Catholic Journalism” last year, and was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Association of Catholic Publishers this month, examined servant leadership in his lecture “The Servant of All: Reflections on the Paradox of Leadership.”

Approximately 250 people from Fort Wayne and the surrounding area gathered to hear Erlandson speak, meet with other community members and enjoy a Mardi Gras celebration. USF president Sister of St. Francis Sister M. Elise Kriss opened the event with a warm welcome, followed by a blessing from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne and the surrounding area.

“Do something you love,” Erlandson advised. “Don’t waste your time — it makes you hateful and sad.” The moral of the story, he explained, is not that a job makes a man, but rather that a man makes the job. Erlandson learned this lesson early in life and later applied it to his roles in leadership positions.

“I began to see leadership as a form of service and I began to reflect on my faith, and how it affected the way I did my job,” Erlandson said. He admitted that incorporating faith and service into a leadership role is not always easy. “I believe servant leadership is about conversion. The paradox that we are called to serve and be a leader.”

In today’s world, where leaders are often seen simply as managers whose sole task is to oversee work being done, this is not always an easy task. This paradox is not a new development, but something Erlandson believes dates back to Jesus’ vision of leadership that involved “the leader as the servant.”

“In our Church,” said Erlandson, “this message of service is enacted every Holy Thursday.” It is a message that Pope Francis has made great strides to act out in his daily interactions. Erlandson personally witnessed the Holy Father celebrating his birthday with the staff at the hotel where he lives, taking time to converse with and counsel one staff member’s mother who was fighting cancer. Pope Francis takes his cue for servant leadership from St. Francis of Assisi, who said, “Because I am the servant of all, (in Latin, ‘servus omnium’) I am obliged to serve all and to administer the fragrant words of my Lord to them.” This message is even more important now when those Erlandson calls “Professional Christians” fall into the easy trap of thinking that work is enough. “We think we’ve done our part at the office 40 hours a week,” he warned, but in reality that is only a part of being a Christian leader, constantly being watched as an example to others.

“As a leader you are always being watched,” said Erlandson. Accordingly, a leader must lead not by words alone but also by action, being especially mindful of the way they treat others. “Because we sign someone’s paycheck does not mean we are better than them or more beloved in the eyes of God,” he said. Rather a leader has more responsibility to help that person reach their full potential, listening to their input, prompting those who are shy to contribute and giving clear instruction. At the same time, Erlandson said, “You can’t do everything by consensus.” The fruits of this labor are found in watching those under leadership develop their God-given talents, often becoming leaders in their own right.

The importance of being a servant leader has recently been thrust into the public eye by Pope Francis. In turn, his message has been taken up by Christian leaders each in their own way to further the message of leading by example and through service to others. Erlandson believes that we must function best in the opposite way of traditional leadership: rather than a triangle with the leader at the top, it should be upside-down with the leader at the bottom, supporting his or her direct reports, and through them the staff they oversee, until it reaches the widest spread portion of the organization.

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Gingrich, and Sens. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and Ted Cruz, R-Texas, Cruz, currently a candidate for president, once served as a Supreme Court clerk.

Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl, welcomed Scalia’s family members and friends and the dignitaries to the Mass and acknowledged the presence of Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, apostolic nuncio to the United States, and Washington Bishop Paul S. Loverde.

Other Catholic leaders at the Mass included Auxiliary Bishop Richard B. Higgins of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services; Msgr. Walter R. Rossi, rector of the national shrine; and John Garvey, president of The Catholic University of America. Nearly 100 priests con-celebrated the Mass and were joined by about 36 deacons. The congregation of 3,300 people included Catholic laypeople and women and men religious, as well as guests of many different faiths.

The cardinal expressed “our heartfelt sympathy at the loss of your husband, your father, your grandfather and friend, and we once again pledge our prayers that God will grant him eternal rest and grant you comfort and consolation.”

Leonard Leo, a friend of Justice Scalia who is executive vice president of the Federalist Society, read the first reading from the Book of Wisdom, which opened with, “The souls of the just are in the hands of God.”
Exposure of fetal remains disposal practices prompts legislative action

INDIANAPOLIS — A state investigation exposing fetal remains disposal practices prompts a heightened need to take legislative action in the final weeks of February. The Indiana Catholic Conference agrees proper handling of fetal remains should be addressed this year.

A bill requiring fetal remains to be buried or cremated gained momentum in the Senate, Feb. 17, as the Senate Health and Provider Services Committee heard testimony. A day earlier, the Indianapolis Star reported the findings of an investigation that a local company violated its permit and was fined over $11,000 for improperly disposing of fetal tissue.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management’s investigation found that MedAssure, a waste disposal company on the west side of Indianapolis, accepted three to six 31-gallon containers a week over the past four years including remains from a Missouri lab that services Planned Parenthood. Indiana’s investigation was prompted by a video sting operation conducted by the Center for Medical Progress, which has gained national attention and revealed unethical fetal tissue handling practices by Planned Parenthood.

The fetal remains proposal, House Bill 1337, authored by Rep. Casey Cox, R-Fort Wayne, seeks to address this concern. Senate sponsor of the bill, Sen. Mike Young, R-Indianapolis, presented the bill before the Senate panel, saying, “I have a company in my district that was just fined by IDEM for disposing of fetal remains without the proper permit.” He said that the question is not whether the company had the proper permit or not, but the question is whether lawmakers think it is okay to dispose of human bodies in this way.

“Tissue remains from a Missouri that dispose of fetal remains basically by putting them into a grinder, much the way that sausage is made, grinding the body up into parts and then putting them into a landfill,” said Young. “We just don’t think that’s the proper way to dispose of a human body.” Young said House Bill 1337 prohibits any company from either bringing in or shipping out “the bodies of little babies” from a miscarriage or abortion and designates the remains are to be cremated or buried. Under the bill, fetal remains would not be considered medical waste. Another aspect of the bill requires informed consent to be conducted in private. Young said the reason for private informed consent is quite clear. “If the mother has a question, she might be uncomfortable or embarrassed to ask if it is done in a group setting.”

Cathy Humarger, representing Indiana Right to Life, told the Senate panel, “There is nothing in this bill that limits the legal right for a woman to have an abortion; in fact, it gives her more information to make her choice.” She added, “Nullifying the method of disposal for aborted babies does not limit access to a woman seeking an abortion because the baby is already dead.” She said the legislation directs how and where the babies’ bodies will be handled. Humarger said that there have been numerous accounts of aborted babies being found in dumpsters, on loading docks and being ground up in garbage disposals in abortion facilities. Also that aborted babies are being ground up in waste treatment plants or microwaved to remove toxicity and being dumped in landfills. “Several states have outlawed dumping aborted babies in landfills, yet that is still legal in Indiana. Landfills are for garbage, not the bodies of aborted babies.” Humarger said, “What we do know is aborted babies from Missouri are being sent to Indiana and dumped in landfills.”

Also testifying in support of the bill, Glenn Tebbe, executive director for the Indiana Catholic Conference said, “It is well established that the Catholic Church is opposed to abortion. Although because abortion is legal, we believe regulation of it is in the common good. We see this issue as important because it ensures proper care and disposal of a fetus given the sacred nature of the human person. Treating the dead with respect is a duty, and we believe by doing this we are reminded of our own mortality and it provides for the common good.”

Testifying in opposition to the bill, Peggy Stover representing Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky said her group is one of the state’s “leading and most trusted” providers of “non-judgmental” healthcare. Stover said House Bill 1337 is a “bill about judging women, and limiting access to abortion.” Sue Ellen Braunlin, M.D. of Indiana Religious Freedom Choice echoed Stover saying that bill’s purpose is to “shame women.” In his closing remarks, Rep. Cox said that there are far more respectful ways than incinerating the fetal remains or dumping them in a landfill. “We are here for one reason only, to give dignity to the lives that were lost either in abortion or miscarriage.”

House Bill 1337 passed the House, 74-23, on Feb 2. Tebbe said the proposal has a good chance of passing the Senate by the end of month.
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+ Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
+ Sisters of the Resurrection
+ Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary
+ Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart

presencehealth.org
NationalCatholicSistersWeek.org
St. Aloysius Lenten Retreat set for March

YODER — St. Aloysius Parish will offer a Lenten retreat for all ages based on the book “St. John Paul the Great and His Five Loves,” on March 6 from 6-7:30 p.m. and March 7 from 7:15-8:30 p.m. Father Ben Muhlenkamp will speak on topics close to the heart of this great saint: young people, human love/marriage and family, the Blessed Sacrament, Virgin Mary and the cross. Young people are especially encouraged to attend Sunday’s talk as Father Muhlenkamp will include special topics of interest to them with a Mario Kart competition in the youth center following.

Bishop Luers receives grant for laptops

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has received a grant from the Magee O’Connor Foundation, which has been used to purchase laptops for the library. Students will be able to use these laptops for research, homework, e-learning and much more.

Family Reading Night at St. Vincent School

St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Angola hosted a Catholic School Fair in January. The school board of St. Joseph Catholic School in Garrett arranged the event. Two Catholic grade schools, two Catholic high schools and 10 Catholic colleges or universities displayed their schools and had representatives on hand to answer questions for several hundred visitors. St. Joseph Parish in Garrett, Immaculate Conception in Auburn, St. Michael Parish in Waterloo, St. Paul’s Chapel in Clear Lake and St. Anthony Parish in Angola support St. Joseph Catholic School.

Brett Eastburn welcomed at Daddy-Daughter Dance

PLYMOUTH — The St. Michael Angels Club of Plymouth held their a Daddy-Daughter Dance on Feb. 14 in the school cafeteria. The event included a chicken dinner, photos of each Angel Club member with their father, dancing and a presentation by Brett Eastburn of Tyner.

Eastburn was born with a congenital birth defect known as quadriplegic limb deficiencies, which means he was born with no arms and no legs. Eastburn believes he was born with no handicaps. He has played every sport imaginable — even finishing fourth in the nation in wrestling while he was in high school.

Eastburn believes that God has made him the way he is so he can share his message to never give up and never say, “I can’t.” Saying you “can’t” just means that you’re not even going to try, he said.

St. Michael Angels Club members join Brett Eastburn for a photo.

Saint Mary’s College announces Jan Cervelli as president-elect

NOTRE DAME — South Bend native Jan Cervelli, a dean at the University of Arizona, will serve as the 12th president of Saint Mary’s College. Mary L. Burke ’85, chair of the Board of Trustees, introduced Cervelli as the president-elect recently at a celebratory event on campus. Cervelli will succeed President Carol Ann Mooney who will retire on May 31 after 12 years. Cervelli will begin her term on June 1 and will be formally installed as president at her inauguration in the late fall. Saint Mary’s College currently has 1,527 undergraduate students and 35 graduate students.

There is nothing that the Board of Trustees does that is more important than the hiring of the president. The person selected has a tremendous impact on both the day-to-day workings of the college and its future success,“ Burke said at the event.

“The board chose Jan, out of a strong pool of candidates, because of her sophisticated sense of building consensus, her strong commitment to shared governance, her experience in fund-raising, her expertise in undergraduate and graduate programs, and her emphasis on sustainability. Her term will begin at a time when her keen aesthetic sensibility will influence potential outcomes from the college’s recently completed campus master plan.”

Cervelli is an academic and an administrator. She is dean of the College of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape Architecture and professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Arizona. She became the first woman dean at Clemson University when she was selected as their dean of the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities. She also served as associate dean for undergraduate studies and director of the Teaching and Learning Center at the University of Kentucky. While a faculty member at the University of Kentucky, Cervelli was recognized with the University Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award and as a Master Teacher by the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society.

Cervelli’s passion for landscape architecture took her to Purdue University for her undergraduate studies and the University of Guelph, Canada, for her terminal degree. She grew up in South Bend directly across the St. Joseph River from the Saint Mary’s campus and is the product of two local Catholic schools with strong Holy Cross influences — Holy Cross School and Saint Joseph High School.
Reflections from area clergy

BY KAY COZAD

Holy Cross Father Joseph Corpora, Missionary of Mercy for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend reflects, “One of the spiritual works of mercy is to admonish the sinner. What might this mean? To admonish the sinner means to help another person see where they are falling short of the person that God has made him/her to be, where healing and redemption yet need to happen in his/her life. The catch is, however, that this can only be done in a context of real love and mercy, with a real desire to serve the other person.”

Father Tom Shoemaker of St. Therese, Little Flower offers this: “To admonish the sinner is to point out another person’s sin and encourage change. This is surely the most treacherous of the spiritual works of mercy. First, we cannot even think about pointing out other people’s sin unless we are acutely aware of our own. We can’t forget the Gospel warnings against the Pharisees and their self-righteousness. I have to humbly stand as a sinner speaking to another sinner. Second, the admonishing must always, always, be done in love and in charity. I cannot lash out at someone in anger; I cannot humiliate someone; and I cannot point out someone’s sin in public. Quietly, humbly, compassionately, and as one sinner to another, we are called to admonish the sinner and in love to encourage a person to a better way of life.”

As a confessor Father Shoemaker said, “Most people come to a confessor aware of their sins and repenting of them. The role of the confessor is to share the wonderful mercy of God with a fellow sinner. Sometimes, though, a confessor has to point out an area of sin, which the person doesn’t recognize. Again, this must always be done in gentleness and in love. The person who has come for the sacrament comes in humility and with an intent to grow closer to God. A confessor must be gentle in pointing out sin that might not be recognized.”

Others, Father Shoemaker said, can admonish the sinner. “Parents are surely the most active admonishers of sinners in the Church. Parents of young children are admonishing little sinners all day long. As children, all of us are taught right and wrong by our parents, as well as teachers, siblings and other adults around us. Most difficult, though, is the call that we all have to speak out in a public way about the sin of the world. When the society around us endorses sin, all of us need to speak out. Always humbly, always in charity, and always recognizing that we have our own sins, we have to point out the sin that has become acceptable in society and yet damages us all.”

Father Charles Herman of St. Francis Xavier in Pierceton said of the spiritual work, “I think first of all we have to look to the sacrament of Reconciliation, recognizing that it’s ultimately Jesus and God who forgive us and through our good example going to the sacrament of Reconciliation we can assist those who aren’t going. One thing I stress — we meet Jesus in every one of the sacraments so why wouldn’t you want to go to the sacrament of Reconciliation?”

He offers this work by “having the additional times for the sacraments, telling the people the importance of the sacraments and letting them know how crucial it is to our faith, to the Catholic faith. We have something no other religion has… that’s true of all our sacraments. And it’s really spiritually beneficial. And we need to take that very seriously and unfortunately many people today do not. They don’t avail themselves to that beautiful opportunity to meet Christ in the sacrament.”

Year of Mercy day 82

“The Son of God who, though rejecting sin, never rejected the sinner.”  — Pope Francis

Send us your photos showing works of mercy. Visit MyYearofMercy.org

Pope Francis hears Confession during a penitential liturgy in early March 2015 in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican. During his Aug. 2, 2015 Angelus, Pope Francis told people not to be afraid or ashamed to go to Confession.
Welcoming God in their midst

Chaplain Father Grabner honors the dignity of each person

BY JENNIFER MILLER

NOTRE DAME — At Dujarie House at Holy Cross Villages, the dignity of each person and love of God is known and felt. From the first step through the wheelchair accessible door, each person is greeted with a smile and welcome. The air smells fresh and décor appears beautiful and festive for each appropriate holiday. Small touches of historical pictures of Holy Cross brothers, sisters and priests offer a reminder of the legacy and love practiced there. Most of all, a sense of peace, respect and care permeate the chapel.

Holy Cross Father Kenneth Grabner chaplain there, sets this wonderful example, in harmony with the prayerful community members of the Dujarie House, by just walking into the chapel. Without anyone saying a word, God’s presence is felt there.

Looking around the simple and beautiful stained-glass filled, modern chapel, there are typically 30 or more people at daily Mass. Everyone sits throughout the liturgy, in solidarity with those who cannot move on their own. Some are in wheelchairs, some are with great physical limitations with their loving spouse at their side caring for them throughout Mass; some are religious brothers and priests, sisters and lay; there are the faithful who can walk from the independent living, the villas, and some who have
to allow others to help them to move. Together they offer a beautiful liturgy. The invisible God is daily made visible in the midst of their gathering.

In his homilies, Father Grabner speaks clearly to each person where they are, whatever their physical or mental capabilities and offers them a mission of prayer and living the Christian life that is often not spoken of for seniors. American culture often equates one’s work or output with worth, but in Catholicism one’s being is of greater importance.

Father Grabner highlights that and offers the senior community at Dujarie House that jewel, their ripening and deepening of the spiritual life at this critical time of their life. He speaks of God, the gifts he actually knows and talks to God. Father Grabner has a gift for sharing complex theological truths in simple and readily accessible ways, all stated with beautiful truth and love. And the fruits are clearly felt. From the kitchen staff to the environmental services, members, it is noticeable how everyone is friendly and respectful.

Father Grabner explains, “We all work together. Everybody here is responsible. Everybody contributes for the health of our clients.”

The Catholic understanding of embodiment is practiced. “We offer that spiritual healing, a part of the human well being,” he says. “The spiritual life is a part of the recovery of health.”

As chaplain, he works across the buildings serving his fellow seniors “wherever they are, giving them whatever they are able to receive. We respond to where they are.” This acceptance and presence is important at Holy Cross Village.

Father Grabner notes, “Nothing is forced. We offer the sacraments to those who wish. I say, ‘God, this is your work and allow myself to be the conduit.’

The priests offer and celebrate Mass twice a day, everyday as well as broadcasting it on the house television. There are spiritual discussion groups, Lenten series, Anointing of the Sick and the sacraments offered.

Father Grabner also recommends a lengthy period of silence daily to listen to God, as well as the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. “We have built this into us, the need for silence. It is human.”

“I am first for the sacraments; also, here to listen, offer spiritual healing and as a companion, to remind them of their importance. For they, we have evolved towards this part of life,” Father Grabner says. He speaks so beautifully of acceptance of this senior stage of life, learning to let go, and to love that one listening to this wise, peace-filled chaplain realizes that he clearly practices it himself.

“God works (here).” Father Grabner says, clearly using the present tense. “I am so grateful.”

Jennifer Miller and her children attend daily Mass at Dujarie House at Holy Cross Village.

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**A guide to Reconciliation**

**What is Reconciliation?**

Reconciliation (also known as Confession or Penance) is a sacrament instituted by Jesus Christ in His love and mercy to offer sinners forgiveness for offenses committed against God. At the same time, sinners reconcile with the Church, because it is also wounded by our sins.

Every time we sin, we hurt ourselves, other people and God. In Reconciliation, we acknowledge our sins before God and His Church. We express our sorrow in a meaningful way, receive the forgiveness of Christ and for His Church. We express our sorrow in a meaningful way, receive the forgiveness of Christ

The forgiveness of sins involves four parts:

- **Confession**: a sincere sorrow for having offended God, and the most important act of the penitent. There can be no forgiveness of sin if we do not have sorrow and a firm resolve not to repeat our sin.
- **Penance**: an important part of our healing is the “penance” the priest imposes in reparation for our sins.
- **Absolution**: the priest speaks the words by which “God, the Father of Mercies” reconciles a sinner to Himself through the merits of the Cross.

The Light Is On For You materials provide the following examination of conscience.

**Examination of conscience**

Recall your sins. Prayerfully ask yourself what you have done with full knowledge and full consent against God’s and the Church’s commandments.

Do I pray to God every day? Have I thanked God for His gifts to me?

Did I put my faith in danger through readings contrary to Catholic teachings or involve-ment in non-Catholic sects? Did I engage in superstitions practices: palm reading or fortune-telling?

Did I take the name of God in vain? Did I curse or take a false oath?

Did I miss Mass on Sundays or holy days of obligation through my own fault? Am I attentive at Mass? Did I keep fast and abstinence on the prescribed days?

Did I disobey my parents and lawful superiors in important matters?

Did I hate or quarrel with anyone, or desire revenge? Did I refuse to forgive? Was I disrespectful?

Did I get drunk? Did I take illicit drugs?

Did I consent to, recommend, advise or actively take part in an abortion?

Did I willfully look at pornography, entertain impure thoughts, or engage in impure conversations or actions? Did I use artificial means to prevent conception?

Was I unfaithful to my spouse? Did I engage in sexual activity outside of marriage?

Did I steal or damage another’s property? Have I been honest and just in my business relations?

Have I been responsive to the needs of the poor and respected the dignity of others?

Did I tell lies? Did I sin by calumny, or detraction, of others? Did I judge others rashly in serious matters?

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**Holy Family, South Bend**

**Friday, March 4**

 Noon: Opening Prayer Service of Mercy, Blessed Sacrament exposed

12:15-1 p.m.: Confessions

2 p.m.: Rosary, Joyful mysteries

3 p.m.: Rosary, Sorrowful mysteries

4-15:15 p.m.: Confessions

4:30 p.m.: Sung Evening Prayer

5:15 p.m.: Blessed Sacrament reposed

6-30 p.m.: Stations of the Cross (followed by optional soup supper in Parish Center)

7-8 p.m.: Lenient talks on works of mercy

7:30 p.m.: Blessed Sacrament exposed

7-30 p.m.: Confessions

9 p.m.: Rosary, Glorious mysteries

10 p.m.: Sung Night Prayer

10-10:45 p.m.: Confessions

Adoration continues through the night until 7:30 a.m.

**Saturday, March 5**

7:30 a.m.: Blessed Sacrament exposed

8 a.m.: Mass

8:30 a.m.: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

8:30-9:30 a.m.: Confessions

9-9:30 a.m.: Eighth graders lead Rosary, Luminous mysteries

10-14:45 a.m.: Blessed Sacrament exposed

Stations of the Cross with art and music

11-11:30 a.m.: Confessions

11:45 a.m.: Closing Service

**St. Mary of the Annunciation, Bristol**

**Friday, March 4**

 Noon: Opening Prayer and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Adoration continues throughout the 24 Hours)

Noon-2 p.m.: Confessions

3 p.m.: Divine Mercy Chaplet

6 p.m.: Evening Prayer

6-6:30 p.m.: Confessions

8 p.m.: Stations of the Cross

10 p.m.: Rosary

11 p.m. to midnight: Confessions (Adoration continues through the night)

**Saturday, March 5**

4 a.m.: Rosary

7 a.m.: Morning prayer

7:30-8:30 a.m.: Confessions

9 a.m.: Mass

11 a.m. to Noon: Confessions

**St. Thomas, Elkhart**

**Friday, March 4**

 Noon: Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:45 a.m.: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

8 a.m.: Mass

8:30 a.m.: Adoration (confessionals) begins

9-10 a.m.: Confessions

11 a.m.: Taize music

11:45 a.m.: Adoration and Reposalion of the Blessed Sacrament

**St. Therese, Little Flower, South Bend**

**Friday, March 4**

 Noon: Opening Prayer Service of Mercy, Blessed Sacrament exposed

12:15-1 p.m.: Confessions

2 p.m.: Rosary, Joyful mysteries

3 p.m.: Rosary, Sorrowful mysteries

4-15:15 p.m.: Confessions

4:30 p.m.: Sung Evening Prayer

5:15 p.m.: Blessed Sacrament reposed

6-30 p.m.: Stations of the Cross (followed by optional soup supper in Parish Center)

7-8 p.m.: Lenient talks on works of mercy

7:30 p.m.: Blessed Sacrament exposed

7-30 p.m.: Confessions

9 p.m.: Rosary, Glorious mysteries

10 p.m.: Sung Night Prayer

10-10:45 p.m.: Confessions

Adoration continues through the night until 7:30 a.m.

**Saturday, March 5**

7:30 a.m.: Blessed Sacrament exposed

8 a.m.: Mass

8:30 a.m.: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

8:30-9:30 a.m.: Confessions

9-9:30 a.m.: Eighth graders lead Rosary, Luminous mysteries

10-14:45 a.m.: Blessed Sacrament exposed

Stations of the Cross with art and music

11-11:30 a.m.: Confessions

11:45 a.m.: Closing Service

**St. Joseph, South Bend**

**Friday, March 4**

*12-2:30 p.m.: Adoration begins for the school. (“Due to dissmissal and the construction around our property, Adoration will open to the public at 3:30 p.m.”)*

3:30 p.m.: Adoration open to the public and continues until 11 a.m. Saturday

4-6 p.m.: Confessions

7 p.m.: Stations of the Cross

8-11 p.m.: Confessions

**Saturday, March 5**

9-11 a.m.: Confessions

11 a.m.: Benediction

11 a.m.: Mass

**Christ the King, South Bend**

**Friday, March 4**

9 a.m.: Adoration in church

3 p.m.: Adoration moved to Holy Cross Chapel (Adoration continues throughout)

Noon: Stations of the Cross (church)

5:30 p.m.: Mass

6 p.m.: Evening Prayer

6-9 p.m.: Confessions (in confessionals)

9 p.m.: Night Prayer (Holy Cross Chapel)

Adoration overnight in Holy Cross Chapel

**Saturday, March 5**

8 a.m.: Mass

9 a.m. to Noon: Confessions

(in confessionals)

Noon: Benediction

**St. John the Evangelist, Goshen**

**Friday, March 4**

8 a.m.: Mass in English

9 a.m.: Silent Adoration

(Adoration continues throughout 24 Hours)

9-10 a.m.: Confessions

6-6:30 p.m.: Mass in Spanish

6:30-7:30 p.m.: Confessions

6:30-9:30 p.m.: Silent Adoration

9:30 p.m. Midnight: Adoration continues with the Nocturnal Adoration Society

**Saturday, March 5**

Midnight-7:30 a.m.: Adoration continues with the Nocturnal Adoration Society

8-8:30 a.m.: Mass in English (First Saturday)

9 a.m. to Noon: Silent Adoration

9-12 noon: Confessions to Noon: Solemn Blessing and Closing of the 24 Hours For the Lord

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A **Adoration is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is a creature before his Creator. It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil. Adoration is homage of the spirit to the ‘King of Glory,’ respectful silence in the presence of the ‘ever greater’ God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives assurance to our supplications.**

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2628
Visit www.MyYearofMercy.org for an interactive map and more...

St. John the Evangelist, Goshen
24 Horas Para el Señor
Viernes, 04 de Marzo
8 a.m.: Misas en Ingles
9 a.m.: Adoración Silenciosa
9-10 a.m.: Confesiones
6-6:30 p.m.: Missa en Español
6:30-7:30 p.m.: Confesiones
6:30-9:30 p.m.: Adoración Silenciosa
9:30 p.m. - Medianoche
Adoración con la Sociedad de Adoración Nocturna
Sábado, 05 de Marzo
Medianoche - 7:30 a.m.
Adoración con la Sociedad de Adoración Nocturna
8 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.: Misas en Ingles (Primer Sábado)
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: Adoración en Silenciosa
9-11 a.m.: Confesiones
12 p.m.: Bendición Solemne

St. Francis Xavier, Pierceton
Friday, March 4
Noon: Mass, Lenten Weekday
12:45 p.m.: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Exposition continues throughout)
1-2 p.m.: Confessions
3 p.m.: Scriptural Rosary
- The Sorrows Mysteries
4:45 p.m.: Confessions
7 p.m.: Stations of the Cross
8 p.m.: Prayer Service for the Year of Mercy
8-9 p.m.: Confessions
10 p.m.: Scriptural Rosary
- The Glorious Mysteries
11 p.m.-Midnight: Confessions
Saturday, March 5
Midnight: Stations of the Cross
3 a.m.: Scriptural Rosary
- The Sorrowful Mysteries
5-6 a.m.: Confessions
8 a.m.: Prayer Service for Year of Mercy
9-10:30 a.m.: Confessions
10:30 a.m.: Holy Hour
11:30 a.m.: Mass, Lenten Weekday

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
Friday, March 4
12:05 p.m.: Mass in Cathedral
12:30 p.m.: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (continues throughout)
1 p.m.: Quiet Prayer
3-4 p.m.: Hour of Greatest Mercy Prayers (Father George Gabet of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter)
4:55 p.m.: I Am With You Always (Funeral Ministry Hour)
4:30-5 p.m.: Confession
6-6:30 p.m.: We Proclaim (Lector Ministry Hour)
6-7 p.m.: Come To Me Hour
For Teens (Youth Hour)
7 p.m.: Stations of the Cross
7:30 p.m.: Confession
8 p.m.: Quiet Prayer
9-10 p.m.: Eucharistic Secret
To Preserve Love (Couple Prayer)
10-11 p.m.: Burmese Adoration and Confession
11 p.m.: Quiet Prayer

Saturday, March 5
Midnight: 6 a.m.: Quiet Prayer
8 a.m.: Mass in Cathedral
8:30-9:30 a.m.: Confession
9 a.m.: Quiet Prayer
11:30 a.m.: Confession
11:30 a.m.: Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament

St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne
Friday, March 4
9 p.m.: Night prayer with Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament

St. Jude, Fort Wayne
Friday, March 4
Noon: Liturgy of the Hours to begin 24 hours for the Lord
1 p.m.: Stations of the Cross
4:30-6 p.m.: Confession
5 p.m.: Divine Mercy chapel
6 p.m.: Mass
6:30 p.m.: Stations of the Cross
7-9:30 p.m.: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Quiet prayer in the church overnight
Saturday, March 5
7:30-8:15 a.m.: Confession
8:15 a.m.: Mass
9-10:30 a.m.: Confessions
Noon: Liturgy of the Hours to conclude 24 hours for the Lord.

St. Vincent de Paul Church, Fort Wayne
Adoration will take place throughout the 24 hour period in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel unless otherwise noted.

Friday, March 4
Noon: “Pope Francis Year of Mercy” Stations of the Cross (main church)
1 p.m.: Sung version of Divine Mercy Chaplet with school children (main church)
5 p.m.: Divine Mercy Chaplet (main church)
5-5:30 p.m.: Confessions (main church)
5 p.m.: Scriptural Rosary
- Sorrowful Mysteries (main church)
11 a.m.-Noon: Religious Education Recognition Service (main church)

Rosary
Prayed upon a string of beads and crucifix, the rosary is a cherished prayer in our Catholic Church. Introduced by the Creed, the Our Father, three Hail Marys and the Doxology (“Glory Be”), and concluded with the Salve Regina, the rosary involves reciting five decades, each consisting of one Dooxology, one Our Father and 10 Hail Marys. During each decade, those praying the rosary meditate on the mysteries of our Lord’s life and the faithful witness of our Blessed Mother.

These mysteries are called the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous mysteries, and they bring to mind our Lord’s incarnation, His passion and death and His resurrection from the dead.

Scriptural Rosary
Scriptural rosaries contain all of the components of praying the rosary, and include the addition of passages of Scripture in between each of the Hail Mary prayers. Praying the Scriptural rosary enables one to draw closer to Jesus as we pray through the events of His life, based on the Scripture of the Bible.

Adoration and Holy Hours
Adoration is simply a time to spend in quiet and profound prayer.

Stations of the Cross
The Stations of the Cross are reflected upon during the season of Lent. The Stations of the Cross are comprised of a series of 14 representations of each of the successive incidents from the Passion of Christ. Each of these representations can be identified with a wooden cross, plaques with artistic imagery set up in a church or with statues of our Lord’s Passion. These mysteries are at the heart of the life of the Church and the world.

Vespers (also called Evening Prayer)
Vespers is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, which is known as the Divine Office. In the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church fulfills Jesus’ command to “pray always” (Luke 18:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:17). Through this prayer, the people of God saw the day by day continuation of praise and prayers of intercession for the needs of the world.

The Liturgy of the Hours includes several specified times of prayer. The most important times, called the “hinge hours,” are called the Morning Prayer (which takes place at rising) and Evening Prayer (which takes place as dusk begins to fall). The other hours are the Office of Readings (a service with a biblical reading and a reading from the Fathers or Church writers or a reading related to a saint which may take place at any time of day), a Daytime Prayer (which may take place at midmorning, midday, or midafternoon), and Night Prayer (said before going to sleep).

Divine Mercy Chaplet
The Divine Mercy chaplet is a prayer that was made known to St. Faustina in 1935 when she was pleading with God for mercy for the whole world.

 Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world, for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us. (Diary, 475)

The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary rosary beads of five decades. Each of the beads of the decade, one is to pray “For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.” On each of the decade rosary chaplets flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church. The rite concludes with the ordained minister blessing the faithful with the Blessed Sacrament.
**Forever Learning Institute: A family of lifelong learners**

**BY MOLLY GETTINGER**

SOUTH BEND — “You can’t teach an old dog new tricks!” This old saying has never been more discredited than by the work of the Forever Learning Institute. Located in the Parish Center at St. Therese, Little Flower Catholic Church in South Bend, the Forever Learning Institute has been offering low-cost courses to senior citizens since 1974.

The mission of Forever Learning Institute is to improve the quality and dignity of senior adult life through continuing intellectual challenge, spiritual reflection and social interaction. From “beginning Arabic” to “Microsoft Office” and “Euchre for Fun,” the Forever Learning Institute provides a variety of courses where people over the age of 50 can both enhance and share their knowledge.

The Forever Learning Institute began as a vision of Holy Cross Father Louis Putz. A retired theology faculty member from the University of Notre Dame, Father Putz believed that life has three stages: the age of learning, the age of earning and the age of returning. The last of these, the returning stage of this life, is where one’s talents are given back to the community in service to others.

Father Putz had a vision of a school where volunteer teachers would affirm the dignity and quality of life in its later stages, providing intellectual growth, social interaction and spiritual reflection.

With this vision in mind, Father Putz began to take action. He met with advisory groups, secured a location and recruited volunteer teachers.

Sister Madeline Adamczak of the Sisters of St. Joseph became the organization’s first executive director. In September of 1975, the Forever Learning Institute offered its first classes, serving 115 students through 22 different courses. Now in its 41st season and under the directive of Holy Cross Sister Linda Kors, the Forever Learning Institute has become the most successful senior educational program in the area.

The 2016 spring semester will offer 110 classes to an anticipated 1,300 students, including classes at six off-campus locations. Father Putz was known for saying that “service is a vehicle that adds years to your life and life to your years.” With over a plethora of community supporters, over 100 volunteer teachers and an entirely volunteer board, the organization truly embodies Father Putz’s vision of service.

Elise Nemetz, president of the board of directors and experienced teacher of 47 years, shares, “Father Putz understood the importance of teamwork, and therefore it was precisely why he emphatically stressed the importance of a volunteer faculty and helping freely of their time and talents to be of service to others."

Nemetz continues, “Our school creates a special environment where lives are enriched, lasting friendships are made, and desired learning by choice takes place.”

One member, Mary Catherine Beier, has enjoyed many classes at the Forever Learning Institute, experiencing the vision of Father Putz in action. Having known Father Putz personally, she shares how committed he was to his mission. Father Putz thoroughly believed that seniors should keep their minds alert and their bodies healthy.

Beier recalls him saying, “If all you do is sit in a rocking chair, don’t just sit there — rock!” Beier’s studies have included Hawaiian dance, poetry, calligraphy and sign language.

Nemetz adds, “This particular age group is quite unique because it desires to learn for the sheer joy of learning. Its energy and enthusiasm for life reminds me that every day is a blessing and a gift from above to be enjoyed and appreciated.”

She continues, “What I have come to witness and know firsthand is the remarkable relationships we seniors at Forever Learning Institute have with one another. We are a team that consists of faculty, students, board members and staff. The sharing of knowledge, expertise, skills and wisdom that takes place are primary factors for the success of our school.”

The Forever Learning Institute is a diversified community united in the joy of learning. Participants come from all around, with many attending from as far away as Michigan. While the majority of participants are retired, this is not a requirement of participation and all are welcome.

The Forever Learning Institute offers two sessions annually: September-November and March-May. The 2016 spring semester begins March 7, and all courses run for 10 weeks, concluding the week of May 9, for one or two hours each meeting. For the first time, special “snow bird” classes are being offered, beginning the week of April 4.

Courses are open to everyone ages 50-plus, and the registration fee is only $45. Need-based scholarships are available.

To register and join this family of lifelong learners, visit www.ForeverLearningInstitute.org and complete the online form, or print the registration form and drop it off at the Forever Learning Institute. Onsite registration is available March 1-3. For more information, visit www.ForeverLearningInstitute.org or call the office at 574-282-1901.

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**Henrietta Parrot:**

Building a culture of generosity at Saint Anne Communities

**BY AMBER SEWELL**

FORT WAYNE — Henrietta Parrot sits in an oversized leather recliner in the Rehab Suites at Saint Anne’s. At 97 years young, she shares some of her most notable memories spanning 50 years of involvement with Saint Anne Communities. Having been present for the groundbreaking ceremonies in 1966, she is truly part of Saint Anne’s foundation.

“I remember it was kind of a nice day, right out there in the yard,” Parrot recalled. “I felt so excited that it was going to be built here in Fort Wayne. There were a lot of people who wanted it built outside of town. This woman, Geneva Davidson, left a lot of money for a home for the aging and handicapped, and there was a great need for it here.”

As a member of the Marians, an organization of women from Catholic Charities, Parrot started serving as a regular volunteer at Saint Anne’s shortly after the doors opened. She served as the first activity director before such a position existed.

Her pale blue eyes sparkle as she gaze out the window into the snow-speckled courtyard and she recalls events she hasn’t thought of in decades.

That year at Christmas, we brought in the first Christmas tree, the lights, the trimmings, everything,” she said. “My husband brought it in and set it up to the right of the fireplace out there. There were seven people who were residents here at that time. They were so thrilled with the tree they all huddled around it. It was a real Christmas. You see, they didn’t know they would have one.”

She described Saint Anne’s as having been “still in the rough. This was a new experience for the whole city. There really wasn’t such a thing as a home for the aging at that time.” She deftly recalled establishing routines, “… crafts on Tuesdays, BINGO on Wednesdays, tea on Thursdays. It was a great thing … the place was really umming. On Tuesdays I always had a project for them. We would make things, like grade school kids do when they loved it. One...
We are privileged to serve you during the most significant moments of your life.

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For more information, call 855.88.SJMED (75633).
Henrietta Parrot has been a volunteer at Saint Anne Communities for 50 years.

Amber Sewell

February 28, 2016

Hena Parrot has a job that nurtures the soul.

day we made a picture of flowers in a flowerpot with paint and construction paper. I remember one lady was so proud of hers, that her family had it framed for her and she brought it back to show me. It was just darling. She told me, “I just love this. I was so busy raising children that I didn’t have time for anything like this.”

She chuckles at the story, remembering that the simplest pleasures often bring the most joy.

In January 2016, after nearly 50 years of giving her time and energy to countless residents of Saint Anne’s, Parrot found herself hospitalized after a fall in her home.

“I had to be taken care of. I couldn’t walk,” she said.

From the hospital, she came to The Rehab Suites at Saint Anne’s: an opportunity for her to be the recipient of a culture of care that she helped establish.

“Everyone here is exceptionally nice,” Parrot said. “They try to please you for everything. They treat you so kind, and like you belong to them. It’s remarkable.”

A long-time parishioner of Fort Wayne’s Queen of Angels Catholic Church, Parrot credits her longevity and good health to having a strong faith as well as to her upbringing. “I was raised to be kind to people and to never let anyone go hungry,” Parrot said. “If someone came into our yard my father would invite them in to eat, whether we had enough food or not.”

Her parents taught that everyone was owed kindness and gentleness, especially older people. Her mother had cared for her parents since Parrot was a young girl. At that time it was traditional for the youngest child to care for the aging parents.

“It seemed like it was born in us that we were to be taking care of somebody,” she said.

Her spirit of love and generosity continues to grow within the walls.

Amber Sewell
**The Abba Challenge**

In the strikingly beautiful Utah canyon country, a man chokes alone in the Blue John Canyon. He descends into a slot canyon, where a boulder breaks loose and falls, pinning his hand against the canyon wall. He is trapped there five days when he sees his future son and is inspired to free himself. He amputates his arm and hikes out of the canyon to find help. This is the true story of Aron Ralston, who inspired the movie “127 Hours.”

When he sees his future son and is inspired to free himself, he is trapped there five days. In the physical household some of us might have “double duty” as physical brothers, husbands and fathers, and we are always sons.

**The Ultimate Challenge**

DAVE MCLOW

![Image](Image 38x295 to 90x366)

In a situation like this, children are the most vulnerable. The first 1,000 days of life are vitally important to the development of a child. The situation in Rwanda is one where children have limited access to nutritious food. This results in 4 percent of children under the age of 5 being malnourished. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is working in Rwanda with pregnant mothers and new parents to improve health rates for babies and toddlers. CRS works with communities in Rwanda to support health and nutrition programs to help families grow nutritious crops to feed their families. As one can imagine, poverty is a major cause of malnutrition, so CRS also works with families to help them improve their farms. It is impossible to participate in the market and make more resources available. Microfinance programs help men and women create businesses through small investment loans.

This week, take time to focus on the sacred dignity of men.

**READINGS**

**Sunday:** Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15 Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12 Lk 13:1-9

Monday: 2 Kgs 9:17-18 Ps 42:3-4, 48:3-4 Lk 6:24-36

Tuesday: Dn 2:35, 34-43 Ps 25:4-5b, 6, 7b, 8-9 Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1-9, Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; 2 M 5:17-19

Thursday: Lk 7:22-29 Ps 95:1-2, 6 Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:1-2 Ps 65:1-14, 18-21b Lk 18:19-35
Confirmation and evangelization

Just a few days ago, I had the enormous privilege of performing my first Confirmation as a bishop. It took place at Holy Cross Parish in Moor Park, California, a large, bustling and bi-lingual parish in my pastoral region. I told the confirmandi — and I meant it — that I would keep them in my heart for the rest of my life, for we were connected by an unbreakable bond. In preparation for this moment, I was, of course, obliged to craft a homily, and that exercise compelled me to do some serious study and prayer among the meaning of this great sacrament.

It is sometimes said that Confirmation is a sacrament in search of a theology. It is indeed true that most Catholics could probably give at least a decent account of the significance of Baptism, Eucharist, Confession, Matrimony, Holy Orders and the Anointing of the Sick, but they might balk when asked to explain the meaning of Confirmation. Perhaps they would be tempted to say it is the Catholic version of a Bar Mitzvah, but this would not say it is the Catholic version of a Bar Mitzvah, but this would not explain, is therefore not really for them; it is for the Church and the wider world.

Now what makes this transformation possible is the third person of the Holy Trinity who comes bearing a variety of powers, which the Church calls the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These include wisdom, knowledge, understanding, fortitude, counsel, piety and fear of the Lord. In order to understand these more fully, we must keep in mind their relationship to evangelization and apologetics, to spreading and defending the faith. As I have argued often, a dumbed-down, simplified Catholicism is not evangelically compelling. If one is going to defend the Catholic faith, especially at a time when it is under assault by many in the secular culture, one had better possess (and cooperate with) the gifts of wisdom, knowledge and understanding.

In order to be an effective evangelist, one also needs the spiritual gift of fortitude of courage. Will the defense of the faith stir up opposition? Watch the news, read the papers, and above all surf the Internet, and the question answers itself. Would we be tempted indeed to withdraw from the arena and cultivate one’s faith privately, but confirmed people, endowed with fortitude, are meant to be soldiers of Christ, engaged in the fight. Some folks suggest that this phrase should not be used as it evokes the terrors of religious violence. However, the struggle of a soldier of Christ is to resist violence, not with the weapons of worldlyness but with the weapons of the Spirit — peace, patience, kindness and forgiveness. Does evangelization put the evangelizer in harm’s way? Just ask Peter, Paul, Thomas More, Maximilian Kolbe and Charles Lwanga. But also consult anyone who has been insulted, joked about, mocked or excluded because of his faith in Christ. The gift of fortitude empowers the Confirmandi to stay in the arena.

Confirmation and evangelization

McClow

Continued from Page 15

Meekness creates a place where women are not treated as sexual objects and children or women do not have to fear anger. At the first blow to his body, Jesus chose not to annihilate all. That meekness, not weakness. On the literal battlefield when you want valor or courage, not meekness. Valor directs aggression properly. So spiritual fathers oppose injustice perpetrated against the vulnerable. And in sports or business valor and competition can be aggressive productively. Sacrifice unites meekness and valor — both require it.

Our Abba calls us to be ordinary heroes — to be spiritual fathers, imitating His Son in chivalry as priest, prophet and king. Take the Abba Challenge. Text “Abba” to 99000, or sign up at www.AbbaChallenge.com.

Dave McClow, M.Div., is a counselor with the Pastoral Solutions Institute Tele-Counseling Services. Read more at CatholicExchange.com.
Three boys’ CYO basketball teams earn champion titles

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Celebrating 80 years of its annual grade school basketball tournament, the CYO crowned three new champions on Saturday, Feb. 20, at the St. Charles Hession Center. The 2016 winners were: St. Vincent, Most Precious Blood and St. Charles.

The 2016 season also marked the final game for longtime referee, Tom Barkimer, who will be heading south instead of running up and down the CYO courts.

The official record log on the final page of the CYO program lists the team from Auburn as the very first winner of the tournament in 1937. St. Patrick dominated in the early years winning five of the seven titles from 1941-1947. The tournament changed formats in 1984 when two teams, rather than an overall single champion, were crowned: St. Therese and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel. In later years three, four and sometimes five different league winners were named like in 1998 when St. Jude, St. Therese, St. Rose, St. Charles and St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel were all listed as champs.

Currently, there are three divisions for the CYO: the White League (seventh grade), the Blue League (small schools combined grades 7-8 teams) and the Gold League (eighth grade). Since 2006, St. Vincent had dominated the Gold League winning six titles and has claimed seven championships in the White League, while St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, under the direction of Coach Jim Knaphke, has created a legacy in the Blue League winning every single year since 2008.

For the seventh-grade league, the top seeded and undefeated St. Vincent Panthers added another to their long string of wins with an exciting 50-47 victory over a solid team from St. Charles. The Panthers capped off their amazing season as the No. 1 seed and undefeated (6-0) against all of their White conference foes.

Dylan Olson led all scorers with 18 points from the bench by Jeff Maxwell and Xavier Nolan contributed nine, while St. Charles’ Sam Pesa had 17 and Devon Tippmann added 10. St. Vincent’s overall record was an amazing 29-5. They were also champions of the Queen of Angels pre-season tournament over the Thanksgiving break.

After a good many years, a new school took over the Blue League championship honors as the No. 2 seed Most Precious Blood beat out the eight-year reigning champs, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel in the semifinals — despite three treys from eighth-grader Brett Dodine in the fourth quarter, and then got by the top-seeded and undefeated Crusaders from St. Therese, 57-55, for a thrilling championship.

The first half proved to be a very defensive game with St. Therese up, 16-15, going into the locker room. Most Precious Blood still trailed, 18-25, going into the fourth quarter, but Connor Christman lit up the scoreboard pumping in 16 of his 23 points to lead his team past St. Therese. Christman also had 11 rebounds and two assists in the matchup.

Christman’s outstanding effort and two big threes from Nathan Fernando were certainly championship highlights for the Reds. Coach Justin Allen detailed, “Ironically, the last time Most Precious Blood won a championship, it was 1997 by Christman’s father and assistant coach Eric Christman’s team.”

When reflecting on their dream season, Allen summarized, “It has been a pleasure to coach these fine young men. They have worked hard over the last several years to get better. Their toughness is within their will to never give up and play hard no matter the score.” In the loss, Jacob Creager and John Peterson had a dozen points each for St. Therese.

For the Gold League, it was St. Charles whose name will be listed in the 2016 record books with their 54-52 win over a fundamentally sound St. Vincent squad. Once again, the Cardinals, who also won the CYO tournament as sixth and seventh graders, were led by Patrick Finley’s 19 points. Hunter Burns finished with 10 for the Panthers.

In his 20th season at St. Charles, Coach Dan Sordelet summarized, “This was a great bunch of kids who worked hard all season long. They were team players and very unselfish.” Sordelet was joined on the bench by Jeff Maxwell and Krista Sordelet this season. The Cardinals finished their CYO careers with an impressive 20-4 overall record for their eighth-grade year.

The CYO will be represented by Most Precious Blood and St. Therese, along with St. Charles at the Diocesan Championship games on March 6 in South Bend when Fort Wayne meets the best of the best from the ICCL.

In junior varsity action, St. Vincent won the sixth-grade tournament topping St. Charles, 40-29, on Feb. 6. The up-and-coming Panthers capped off a perfect season finishing with an amazing 25-0 overall record.

ICCL teams advance to semifinals

BY JOE KOZINSKI

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY — The Inter-City Catholic League started their season ending tournament with some expected results as four of the five teams with the best regular-season records advanced to the semifinals to be played this weekend at Marian and Saint Joseph high schools.

Advancing were the Panthers of St. Anthony as they got past the Trojans of Holy Family.

The Panthers will meet the Cougars of Corpus Christi as they beat the Bulldogs of Our Lady of Hungary and then disposed of St. Thomas on their run to the title.

On the other side of the bracket, Christ the King was victorious over the Saints of Mishawaka Catholic to lay claim to their spot in the final four.

The Kings will match up with St. John Bosco Division foes, the Crusaders of Holy Cross as they doubled up with victories over St. Joseph and St. Pius X.

The semifinals will be played at Marian High School on Saturday beginning at 1 p.m. with the finals to be held at Saint Joseph on Sunday at 3:30 p.m. A list of games and results can be found at www.icclsports.org.
Saint Joseph High School announces new athletic director

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph High School announced that Debbie Landreth Brown is the new athletic director. She will replace Eric Goehlke, effective July 1.

“I am thankful to Susan Richter for giving me this opportunity and am honored to accept it,” said Brown. “I am excited to support the mission, vision and values of SJHS and to lead and assist other coaches and student-athletes. I’m passionate about the value of interscholastic athletics and believe that my past experiences have prepared me well to lead and assist others, and to support the mission, vision and values of SJHS. I’m looking forward to future growth and success as we continue to strive for excellence in all we do,” said Brown.

“This opportunity is especially exciting because of my familiarity with Saint Joe and specifically exciting because of my connection to South Bend. My sons attended the school and had wonderful academic and athletic experiences, and I have lived here for 25 years and found this to be a tremendous community in which to raise a family. Now, to serve Saint Joe and the community in a new capacity is a true blessing,” continued Brown.

Brown served as head women’s volleyball coach at the University of Notre Dame for 24 years. Her distinguished coaching career included 11-time Conference Coach of the Year (Pacific 10, Midwestern Collegiate, Big East), five-time Region/Division Coach of the Year, 15 conference titles (regular season), 13 conference tournament champion titles, 27 winning seasons, 22 NCAA championship appearances, including 15 straight, and a 636-350 career record (.658 winning percentage).

Equally impressive are her playing career and awards, including co-capitan of the 1980 Olympic team, a two-time winner of the Mikasa Award (best all-around player in the United States), captain of two USC National Championship teams, eight-time USA Volleyball All-Americans, and the USA Volleyball All-Time Great Player Award (1995).

“A faith-filled woman of impeccable integrity, Debbie Brown will be a valuable mentor for our coaches and a staunch advocate for our student-athletes. I am confident that she will be an extraordinary leader and role model for our athletic department. She is a woman of tremendous gifts and talents. Saint Joseph High School is honored to have her join our administrative team, sharing her knowledge and passion for education and athletics as our new athletic director,” said Saint Joseph High School Principal Susan Richter.

Eric Goehlke supervised the Saint Joseph athletic program from 2005-2016.


‘Risen’ offers effective treatment of origins of Christianity

BY JOHN MULDERIG

NEW YORK (CNS) — In days of yore, Hollywood knew how to make Christian themes pay off at the box office.

Though the result was not always decorous — risk content in 1932’s “The Sign of the Cross” helped spur the formation of the National Legion of Decency — they were sometimes spectacular.

And so there arose the biblical epic, a genre which gave us such iconic spectacles as the chariot race in 1959’s “Ben-Hur” and such memorable lines as Pharaoh’s imperious order in “The Ten Commandments” (1956): “So let it be written. So let it be done.”

The formula behind such films blended some of Western civilization’s most familiar narratives — scripture literacy then being a much more widespread asset than it is today — with action sequences and, preferably, a love story. High-caliber special effects, whether they involved anti-human environmentalism of the origins of Christianity. Clavius is especially impressive as the solitary, combat-haunted warrior whose relentlessly practical outlook offers nonbelievers a ready path into the story of the Resurrection. And Maria Botto brings transcendent joy to the character of Mary Magdalene.

Despite grim scenes of armed conflict and crucifixion, the faith-bolstering benefits of “Risen” will likely sway the parents of mature teens in its favor.

The film contains some harsh but mostly bloodless violence and a few disturbing images. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

John Mulderig is on the staff of Catholic News Service.

Shroud of Turin exhibit to be presented at Sacred Heart of Jesus

LAKEVILLE — Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, near Lakeville, 65568 US 31 S, is hosting The Shroud of Turin Exhibit.

The Shroud of Turin is a long-studied burial cloth believed by many to be the cloth in which Jesus Christ was laid to rest. The cloth bears the front and back image of what appears to be a man who was scourged and crucified.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish is hosting a Shroud of Turin Replica Exhibit on Thursday, March 10, from 4-8 p.m.; Friday, March 11, from 4-8 p.m.; and Saturday, March 12, from 2-6 p.m.; and Sunday, March 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Featured in the exhibit is an approximately 1.8x4 foot digitized photo of the shroud, encased and backlit for easier viewing of what many scientists have concluded to be the image of a Jewish male, scourged and crucified during the time of Christ. However, neither the scientific community nor the Catholic Church have officially declared the shroud to be the burial cloth of Christ.

Other items in the Shroud of Turin Replica Exhibit include informational displays, replicas of the nails and scourge used by Romans during Christ’s time, a running video about the shroud and other items. Books, videos and informational material will be available for purchase. All proceeds are applied to maintain and display the exhibit, which is owned by the Father Solanus Casey Knights of Columbus in Fort Wayne.

‘Lenten Journey’ is theme for Lenten Morning of Reflection

FORT WAYNE — The Confraternity of Penitents will sponsor a Lenten Morning of Reflection on Saturday, March 5, from 7-4:55 a.m. until noon. The reflection will be held at St. Andrew’s Church, 2610 New Haven Ave. in Fort Wayne. The day will begin with Mass at 7:45 a.m. followed by Confessions, Amen, and Benediction.

Breakfast foods and beverages will be available.

“The overall theme of the Lenten Journey is a Power Point presentation on the Stations of the Cross and the Works of Mercy. Presented by Iffat Lawrence with music by the Poor Sisters of St. Clare, those attending will walk with Jesus in a new way.

Due to limited seating in the nun’s parlor, this Morning of Reflection is limited to 20 participants.

To reserve a place, call 260-739-6882.

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Breakfast foods and beverages will be available.
Committee will have a “Day for Wabash — St. Bernard’s Liturgy
St. Bernard plans a ‘Day for the Lord’

children 5-10 $5 and children 4
ests are $10, seniors over 60 $9,
4-7 p.m. Peanut butter and jelly
12305 Arcola Rd., will have a
Arcola — St. Patrick Parish,
St. Patrick plans fish fry

4, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the
Fort Wayne — St. Charles Parish
272-9982 or at the door.
the parish office by calling 574-

children 6-12 and children 5 and
under free. Tickets benefit St.
and under. Carry-out available at

Jonah fish fry
South Bend — Corpus Christi Parish, 2860 Corpus Christi Dr., will have a Jonah fish fry Friday, March 4, from 4-7 p.m. in the school gym. Tickets are $9 for adults and carry-out, $4 for children 6-12 and children 5 and under free. Tickets available at the parish office by calling 574-272-9982 or at the door.

St. Charles plans fish fry
Fort Wayne — St. Charles Parish will have a fish fry Friday, March 4, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria — door No. 9. Tickets are $9 for adults, $5 for children age 6-12 and free for children 5 and under. Carry-out available at door No. 8. Proceeds benefit St. Charles Athletics.

St. Patrick plans fish fry
Arcola — St. Patrick Parish, 12305 Arcola Rd., will have a fish fry Friday, March 11, from 4-7 p.m. Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches available. Adult tickets are $10, seniors over 60 $9, children 5-10 $5 and children 4 and under free. Drive-through and carry-out available.

St. Bernard plans a ‘Day for the Lord’
Wabash — St. Bernard’s Liturgy Committee will have a “Day for the Lord” on Friday, March 4. Events are as follows: 9 a.m. — Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; 10 a.m. — school children pray the rosary; 10:30 a.m. to noon — silent Adoration; noon — Scripture readings, adult rosary, Angelus; 12:45-3 p.m. — silent Adoration; 3 p.m — Divine Mercy Chaplet and Litany of Divine Mercy; 3:30-5 p.m. — silent Adoration; 5 p.m — Stations of the Cross, Benediction and repose of the Blessed Sacrament. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available all day.

Father and son breakfast planned
Fort Wayne — Our Lady of Hope’s father and son breakfast entitled “Bestowing” will be Saturday, March 5, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at 7215 Saint Joe Rd. An 8:30 a.m. Mass is followed by breakfast, competitions, prizes and concludes with guest speaker Father Ben Muhlenkamp, pastor of St. Louis Besancon Parish. The event is open to boys ages 8 and up, and their fathers and/ or special man in their lives. Cost for parishioners is $8 per person; non-parishioners is $10 per person. Register to Jackie Oberhausen at youthministry@olghfw.com or 260-485-9615 ext. 104 with names of those attending, including the ages, and the parish where you are registered. Deadline is March 1.

ACIES planned
New Carlisle — The Legion of Mary ACIES will be held on Sunday, March 13, at 3 p.m. at St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, 55756 Tulip Rd. All active and auxiliary members are invited. For information call Elsie Billisitz at 574-259-6215.

Lenten Healthcare Retreat:
Works of mercy
Fort Wayne — The Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana will present a Lenten retreat for healthcare workers on March 5, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the St. Vincent de Paul Msgr. John Kuzmich Life Center. Make reservations at www.fortwaynecma.org or call 260-222-6978.

REST IN PEACE

South Bend — The Holy Family Ushers Club, 56405 Mayflower Rd., will have a Las Vegas night Saturday, March 5, from 6-11 p.m. in the parish center. Tickets are $8 in advance at the rectory and $10 at the door. Ticket includes sandwiches, beverages and a chance in a $1,000 drawing. License No. 139894.

Las Vegas night
South Bend — The Holy Family Catholic Church, 56405 Mayflower Rd., will have a Las Vegas night Saturday, March 5, from 6-11 p.m. in the parish center. Tickets are $8 in advance at the rectory and $10 at the door. Ticket includes sandwiches, beverages and a chance in a $1,000 drawing. License No. 139894.

School Secretary

St. Therese Catholic School in Fort Wayne with 200 students enrolled preK - 8, seeks a School Secretary to work Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the school year. Applicant should be a practicing Catholic proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel with knowledge of how to work in PowerSchool. Applicant should possess good organizational skills and be able to do reports. Applications for the position are available at the school office at 2222 Lower Huntington Road in Fort Wayne 46819. For more information, please contact the school Principal, Mr. Chuck Grimm at 260-747-2345 or by email at cgrimm@sttheresesfw.org

Deadline for applications: March 15, 2016
www.school.sttheresesfw.org

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MEXICO

Continued from Page 1

to measure instead with names, stories and families.”

The Mass capped a six-day trip to Mexico in which Pope Francis traveled to the northern and southern borders and denounced the indignities of discrimination, corruption and violence. During the trip he also asked oft-oppressed indigenous peoples for their forgiveness and chastised the privileged political and business classes — saying their exclusionary actions were creating “fertile ground” for children to fall into organized crime and drug cartels.

Pope Francis delivered his homily a stone’s throw from the Rio Grande, which has swallowed so many migrants over the years as they vainly tried to enter the United States in search of bettering their lot in life, and, more recently, escaping violence enveloping Central America.

The Mass was celebrated as a binational event with thousands watching across the Rio Grande in El Paso and in a college football stadium. Pope Francis saluted the crowds watching at the Sun Bowl stadium and Bishop Mark Seitz of El Paso for providing technological connections that allowed them to “pray, sing and celebrate together” and “make us feel like a single family and the same Christian community.”

The pope focused on migration, along with the dangers migrants encounter en route to their destinations and the difficulties of surviving on the margins of society without protection.

“Being faced with so many legal vacuums, they get caught up in a web that ensnares and always destroys the poorest,” Pope Francis said.

Migration has marked Mexico for generations, though the number of Mexican migrants, the country is now surpassed by those returning — involuntarily or otherwise — as poor job prospects, an increasingly fortified border and anti-immigration initiatives prompt most to stay put. Ironically, Mexico has assumed an unlikely role over the past several years: enforcer as it detains and deports record numbers of Central Americans trying to transit the country — and many more of those migrants are preyed upon by criminals and corrupt public officials and suffer crimes such as kidnap, robbery and rape.

The Mexican crackdown came after thousands of Central American children streamed through Mexico in 2014, seeking to escape forced enlistment in gangs and hoping to reunite with parents living in the shadows of American society, working minimum-wage jobs to support children left with relatives they hadn’t seen in years.

“Each step, a journey laden with grave injustices. … They are brothers and sisters of those excluded as a result of poverty and violence, drug trafficking and criminal organizations,” Pope Francis said, while lauding the priests, religious and lay Catholics who accompany and protect migrants as they move through Mexico — acts of compassion not always popular with the authorities.

“They are on the front lines, often risking their own lives,” he said. “By their very lives they are prophets of mercy. They are the beating heart and accompanying feet of the Church that opens its arms and sustains.”

“Injustice is radicalized in the young. They are ‘cannon fodder,’ persecuted and threatened when they try to flee the spiral of violence and hell of drugs. Then there are the women unjustly robbed of their lives,” Pope Francis said.

Pope Francis ended his homily by returning to the example of Jonah and his call for conversion in Nineveh. He called “mercy, which always rejects wickedness,” a way to win over opponents, saying it “always appeals to the latent and numb goodness in every person,” and urged people to follow Jonah’s example.

“Just as in Jonah’s time, so too today may we commit ourselves to conversion,” Pope Francis said. “May we commit ourselves to conversion. May we be signs lighting the way and announcing salvations.”

Ciudad Juarez once held the dubious distinction of “murder capital of the world.” More than 10,000 lives were lost between 2008 and 2012 as drug cartels battled over a coveted smuggling route and young people were seduced by easy money into illegal activities that led to their deaths.

The pope’s visit was promoted by civic officials as a rebirth for Ciudad Juarez, though priests say the city still suffers vices such as exclusion and violence — in lower numbers than before — and jobs with low salaries and long hours in the booming factory for export economy, all of which strain family life.

Clergy attend Pope Francis’ celebration of Mass with priests and religious at a stadium in Morelia, Mexico, Feb. 16. Pope Francis repeated his frequent call to priests, religious and seminarians to get out of their churches and convents and take God’s mercy and offer of salvation to the world. The pope was not talking just about traditional evangelization. His message was an encouragement to those priests and religious who literally risk their lives standing up to the drug lords and urging their faithful to do the same.

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With the recent wave of raids affecting families within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the diocesan Office of Social Justice invites anyone interested to learn more about forming leadership to provide recourse for families facing unjust circumstances. Contact Audrey Davis at the Office of Social Justice at 260-969-9146 for more information.