On Friday, March 18, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades paid a visit to Saint Joseph High School in South Bend to celebrate Mass and visit students and faculty in their classrooms. The Mass was concelebrated with Father Terry Coonan, chaplain of Saint Joseph High School and pastor at St. John the Baptist, Father Tom Shoemaker, pastor at St. Thérése, Little Flower and Father David Ruppert, pastor at St. Anthony de Padua in South Bend.

Bishop Rhoades greeted the students by saying, “It’s great to be back here at St. Joe — I try to plan my annual visit on the Feast of Saint Joseph, but since that’s tomorrow, it didn’t seem right to make you come to school on Saturday.”

During the homily, Bishop Rhoades spoke to the students about the prevalent theme of the day’s readings — distress — which he also said is prevalent during Holy Week.

“There may be times in our lives when we experience distress — a dimension of fear — but God is our champion in the midst of distress, especially when you’re doing good,” he said.

He spoke of feeling the distress of the prophet Jeremiah in the first reading when he cries out ‘Lord, why did you call me to do this? People hate me, my friends have left me.’ He spoke of the deep distress of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane and again on the cross.

“But Jesus never succumbed to the temptation

An angel points to the empty tomb of Christ in a panel from a 14th-century Italian altar piece. Easter, the chief feast in the liturgical calendars of all Christian churches, commemorates Christ’s resurrection from the dead. Easter is March 27 this year.
The celebration of Easter within the Jubilee Year of Mercy

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHoades

What is the connection between Easter, the celebration of Christ’s resurrection, and mercy? The revelation of God’s mercy and love is found on every page of Sacred Scripture. That revelation reaches its climax in the Paschal Mystery of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. We recognize the suffering and death of Jesus as truly the deepest sign of how much God loves us. We see the merciful heart of God in the pierced heart of His Son. But what about the Resurrection?

The Resurrection of Jesus reveals to us the triumph of divine mercy. Saint John Paul II wrote the following: “The fact that Christ was raised the third day constitutes the final sign of the messianic mission, a sign that perfects the entire revelation of merciful love in a world that is subject to evil. At the same time it constitutes the sign that foretells ‘a new heaven and a new earth’, when God ‘will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there will be no more death, or mourning, nor crying, nor pain, for the former things have passed away’ (Revelation 21:4).”

The Father shows mercy to us in the Resurrection of His Son since we are given the promise of a share in His Resurrection. The Resurrection can be considered an act of mercy because it is an act of love. It shows us that the love of God is more powerful than death, just as the crucifixion shows that the love of God is more powerful than sin. The death and resurrection of Jesus gives us access to eternal life in heaven.

It is significant that in the Risen Lord’s first appearance to the apostles on the first Easter night, He gave them the authority to forgive sins in His name. He breathed the Holy Spirit on them and said: “Whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven. Whose sins you hold bound, they are held bound.” Jesus gave the apostles and their successors the power to forgive sins—the greatest mercy! We will hear this Gospel on the Second Sunday of Easter, appropriately called Divine Mercy Sunday. Through His death and resurrection, God’s love and mercy triumphed over sin and death. Thankful that love and mercy are communicated to us in the sacraments, including the great sacrament of mercy instituted that first Easter night.

Easter is a feast of hope. It reminds us that our sins and failings and regrets do not have the last word. There is always the possibility of a new beginning, thanks to God’s mercy. Sin does not have the last word. Love and mercy have the last word. What is broken can be repaired. Christ always can restore our hope, if we only let Him. If we believe in God’s love, we must believe in His mercy. As Saint John Paul II once said: “mercy is love’s second name.”

It is good to remember that the Risen Body of Jesus still bears the five wounds of His crucifixion. Why did God not just take them away? I think it is because God wants us to remember the depths of His mercy. The wounds remain as healing mercy for us.

The whole Paschal Mystery is a mystery of mercy, including the Resurrection. Just as we solemnly celebrate Christmas for eight days (the Octave of Christmas) so we also solemnly celebrate Easter for eight days (the Octave of Easter). I will be celebrating many Confirmation Masses during the Easter Octave. It is a special time to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon so many of our young people.

I pray you all have a very happy and blessed Easter Sunday and Octave of Easter in this Jubilee Year of Mercy. In the Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 118) on Easter Sunday, we will sing of God’s mercy as we pray:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for His mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say, His mercy endures forever.
Palm Sunday demonstrates Mercy

BY STEPHANIE A. PATKA

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presided over Palm Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on March 20. The entire Cathedral was packed with the Catholic faithful including nearly 200 high school students who attended the Ignited Retreat. Mass began outside with a reading of the Gospel by Deacon Bob Garrow, who will be professing his vows as a priest this May. The faithful held their palm branches high as Bishop Rhoades walked through the crowd to bless them. The procession walked the city block around the south end of the Cathedral and into the church. The line was so long that by the time those in the front made it through the Holy Doors, others were just beginning their journey.

The theme of the Jubilee Year of Mercy was visible throughout the Mass and in Bishop Rhoades' homily. He began, “I don’t think we see that mercy any more clearly than in the face of Jesus covered in blood, with the crown of thorns on His head, and eyes filled with pain, the pain of His love, His love for His friends who had abandoned Him, His love for Peter who denied even knowing Him, His love for his mother who was there in unspeakable sorrow, His love even for His enemies, those who scourged Him and jeered at Him and insulted Him. The face of mercy. The face of God.”

The celebration of Palm Sunday begins the celebration of our Lord’s Paschal Mystery, the mystery of His passion, death, and resurrection which is the high point of the whole liturgical year. Bishop stated, “The Paschal Mystery is the culmination of Jesus’ mission, the culmination of His revelation of God’s mercy.”

Bishop Rhoades reflected in his homily, “I don’t think there are any more powerful words of mercy and forgiveness in history than the words Jesus said in prayer while hanging on the cross in excruciating pain: ‘Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.’ We should remember those words when we are hurt and offended by others and try to practice the spiritual works of mercy of forgiving offenses and bearing wrongs patiently. Maybe it will be a little easier to forgive others if we think about Jesus’ words of forgiveness of his enemies while suffering their insults and tortures.”

Bishop Rhoades extended an invitation to the faithful, “My brothers and sisters, as we begin Holy Week, let us enter deeply into the drama of the Paschal Mystery, the most radical revelation of God’s mercy, the revelation that God’s love is more powerful than sin and death. Let us imitate the humility of the good thief by recognizing our sins and ask Jesus to lead us also into His kingdom. May our hearts be moved as we meditate on the Lord’s Passion. I encourage everyone to attend Mass on Holy Thursday, the service on Good Friday, and the Masses of the Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday. Let us make this week truly holy by our more fervent prayers and Penance.”

Public Schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Monday, March 28, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, March 30, Noon — Light of Christ Award and Luncheon, Saint Mary Mother of God Parish, Fort Wayne
- Wednesday, March 30, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint John the Baptist Church, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, March 31, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Saint Joseph Church, Mishawaka
- Friday, April 1, 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Queen of Peace Church, Mishawaka
- Saturday, April 2, 2 p.m. — Priesthood Ordination Mass, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame
Join Us!
NOVENA
Divine Mercy Chaplet
Good Friday, March 25
to Saturday, April 2
3 PM
in St. Jude Church
FORT WAYNE
Starts Good Friday, March 25

16th Worldwide Mercy Sunday
April 3, 2016
Divine Mercy Sunday Devotion
3:00 PM
Exposition & Benediction
of the Blessed Sacrament 1:00 - 3:00 PM
• Presider: Father Jake Runyon
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Divine Mercy Sunday
St. Mary of the Assumption Parish
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All are invited!
3-4 pm HOLY HOUR
Eucharistic Exposition
• Confessions
• Divine Mercy Chaplet
• Rosary - Benediction
4:00 p.m. Sunday Mass
Come join us!

Caleb Kruse, a seminarian from St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne, leads prayer during a small group discussion on the Ignited retreat weekend.

Students from various parishes pose for a photo with Catholic musician A-LOB and his band. Nearly 200 students throughout the diocese came for the annual diocesan youth rally and retreat.

With the Eucharist being the center of the retreat, adoration was celebrated throughout the entire weekend.

Ignited with the fire of God’s love

Photos by Derby Photography

Students from various parishes pose for a photo with Catholic musician A-LOB and his band. Nearly 200 students throughout the diocese came for the annual diocesan youth rally and retreat.
**Year of Mercy day 110**

“Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us.”

— Pope Francis

**More photos showing works of mercy can be found at**

MyYearofMercy.org

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**Children learn prayer through grief**

Bishop Dwenger Key Club volunteers act as “house-parents” serving pizza, birthday cake, and milk to kids and families of Erin’s House for Grieving Children as part of their service to others. Erin’s House provides grief counseling specifically to children who have suffered a loss.

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**Now and at the hour of our death**


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**Pray perpetually**

The faithful pray before the Eucharist for the living and the dead at the Perpetual Adoration Chapel at St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne.

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Divine Mercy Novena offers nine days of prayer, starts Good Friday

The Divine Mercy novena is prayed between Good Friday and the Sunday of Divine Mercy, which is the Sunday following Easter. Those praying the novena are to pray for the special intentions of each day followed by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

St. Faustina wrote that Jesus told her, “On each day of the novena you will bring to My heart a different group of souls and you will immerse them in this ocean of My mercy... On each day you will beg My Father, on the strength of My passion, for the graces for these souls.” (Diary of Faustina, 1209)

Special Intentions for souls during the Divine Mercy Novena:
- Day 1 (Good Friday) — All mankind, especially sinners
- Day 2 (Holy Saturday) — The souls of priests and religious
- Day 5 (Easter Sunday) — All devout and faithful souls
- Day 4 (Easter Monday) — Those who do not believe in Jesus and those who do not yet know Him
- Day 3 (Easter Tuesday) — The souls of separated brethren
- Day 6 (Easter Wednesday) — The meek and humble souls and the souls of children
- Day 7 (Easter Thursday) — The souls who especially venerate and glorify Jesus’ mercy
- Day 8 (Easter Friday) — The souls who are detained in purgatory
- Day 9 (Easter Saturday) — The souls who have become lukewarm

For a list of these prayers in its entirety, please visit www.evtn.com/devotionals/mercy/ novena.htm or visit the nearest Catholic bookstore to purchase the Divine Mercy Novena prayers.

The Sunday of Divine Mercy is a new feast that was instituted on May 5, 2000 by Pope John Paul II. A Polish nun, Sister Faustina Kowalska, now a saint, heard Jesus telling her, “Say always the Chaplet I have taught you. He (she) who says it, shall experience My Mercy, during his (her) life, and mostly at the hour of his (her) death.”

How to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet:
You may begin with the optional opening prayers:
You expired, Jesus, but the Ocean of Mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unapproachable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.
(Repeat three times) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!
Using rosary beads, begin with the Sign of the Cross. Pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary and The Apostles Creed.
On each of the five decades (Our Father bead of the rosary) pray:
Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
On each of the 10 Hail Mary beads, pray:
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
For the concluding prayer, repeat 3 times:
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
You may also add this optional closing prayer:
Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.
## Around the Diocese

### Joyful Noise’ show choir competes at Luers invitational

The middle school show choir “Joyful Noise” competed at the Bishop Luers Midwest Show Choir Invitational held at Bishop Luers High School on March 11. The “Joyful Noise” show choir is made up of 19 girls from eight different Catholic middle schools, including St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, Most Precious Blood, St. Joseph Hessen Cassel, St. Therese, St. Charles Borromeo, St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla, and St. Jude. “Joyful Noise” also competed at show choir competitions at DeKalb and Homestead High Schools this winter and is directed by Sonia Salas and choreographed by Mackenzie Bowen.

### Traditional blessings rich in symbolism

**By Stephanie A. Patka**

This summer, youth and young adults from across the diocese will be immersed in Polish culture as they travel to World Youth Day with Pope Francis. Some of Poland’s culture and tradition is celebrated here in the United States. One of the best examples is Swieconka (pronounced sh-vee-en-soon-kah).

**Poswiecenie Poswietlonego Pokarmow – The Blessing of Food**

The prayer of the blessing contains three parts that address the themes of each basket: the meats, eggs, cakes, and breads. The items included in the basket are very significant. Each has a particular meaning or symbolism to the celebration of Easter and act of thanksgiving to God.

After the blessing, the priest will sprinkle each basket with Holy Water, with some using the traditional straw brush. There are variations in the way that the baskets are blessed — in some parishes, baskets are lined up on long tables, others will have a procession to the altar.

**Prayer for the Blessing of the Meats and Sausages:**

The blessing calls Jesus the Bread of Life who died and rose for the life of the world. The prayer asks Him to bless the bread and holyday baked goods in memory of the bread offered at the Priest’s hands which becomes His body.

**Prayer for the Blessing of the Easter Eggs (Pisanki):**

This blessing addresses Christ, our Life and Resurrection and asks Him to bless the eggs, which are a sign of new life. The prayer also asks Jesus to remember our family, those close to us, as well as guests, especially those who wait in the hope of being with Him.

### Annual prayer dinner planned

**SOUTH BEND — St. Joseph County Right to Life will host a prayer dinner on Tuesday, April 12, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Kroc Center, 900 W. Western Ave. Doors open at 6 p.m. Clergy and religious are admitted free; a $20 donation is asked of other guests.**

Mike Spencer of Life Training Institute will address the emotional issue of abortion with a compassionate heart that is sensitive to women and men who have experienced abortion. He will speak to the Church’s role in facilitating healing and forgiveness. Call 574-252-LIFE or go to www.prolifemichiana.org/prayer dinner for reservations by April 1.

### Abortion facility closes its doors

**SOUTH BEND — The Women’s Pavilion, according to Pro-Choice South Bend, closed its doors permanently at 7 p.m. March 18. This closure comes in wake of the loss of clinic license by the Indiana Department of Health in June of 2015 and a cessation of its abortion practice in November of 2015 due to numerous code violations.**
Celebrating well:

Lamb cake bakers take tradition to new level

BY JENNIFER MILLER

For the past hundred years, the St. Adalbert’s Sisters’ Auxiliary has baked beautiful, handmade lamb cakes for Easter. For the past fifteen years, they hosted a bake sale to financially support their beloved Felician Sisters. From butter molds and tiny bunny cakes to chili and a full Polish lunch, every dish and dessert is homemade by a loving volunteer. Saturday, March 19, they had a line out the door starting at 7:30 a.m.

What is traditionally an Easter treat in Polish communities, the lamb cake is actually one of a few Easter symbols. Butter molds, of baby lambs or bunnies in modern times, also are popular. Connecting their family’s table of the domestic church with that of the parish’s altar of the Church, these lamb symbols were meant to subtly remind the faithful of what they just celebrated that Easter morning at Mass, the resurrection of Jesus, the Lamb of God.

“We were more of ham people, or sausage, rather than lamb, for the main meat of Easter dinner,” Sister Anthony explained, “so many of our traditions centered around the lamb décor, remembering Jesus.”

Keeping and carrying on the Polish traditions is truly an act of love. President of the Sisters’ Auxiliary, Elaine Sizemore personally bakes all of the cakes in her double ovens at her home, eight at a time, four in each oven. Her family, mother Theresa Zakowski and sisters, Diane and Linda, as well as long time volunteer Judy Ploński, organizes and energetically volunteers time and experience to this incredible undertaking. In fact it is Zakowski’s cake recipe that is used for the base of the lamb cake. It is an old fashioned pound cake, made from scratch, baked in a two-piece mold. Sizemore and her young niece mix and pour the batter into the face side of the lamb mold and it rises while baking into the rump of the ‘animal.’ Each is then wrapped in plastic, numbered, and packed in plastic bins, until they are carried to the cafeteria and parish hall of St. Adalbert’s for frosting and decorating.

Once there, groups of the Sisters’ Auxiliary come together for multiple evenings to complete the lamb cakes, box them and prepare for the sold out bake sale. Using Elaine’s personal frosting recipe that she developed from pastry school when she was fourteen, they cover the lamb cakes with beautiful pure white ‘furry’ coats. With a frosting tip and bag, they expertly and quickly frost each cake, attach to a base and decorate them. Raisins become the eyes and nose, a red hot candy is the mouth, green colored shredded coconut is the grass on which the lamb sits and colored jellybeans dot the grass like colored Easter eggs. Finally a red ribbon is tied around the neck and a flag, of the Risen Christ, is attached in the rump. Traditionally Polish or Vatican flags were associated with the lamb cakes, but the sisters have always chosen the American flag to proudly wave on their lamb cakes. For a mere fifteen dollars, these homemade gems are a steal. Smaller bunny cakes are $4.50. This year they are only selling pre-orders. One year they made over 120 lamb cakes, with pre- and day of orders. This year they are creating seventy cakes for the bake sale.

Butter molds are the other “lamb” specialty that the Sisters’ Auxiliary offers. Both small and large sizes, in lamb or bunny shapes, are another unique tradition that can serve functionally and practically for the Easter dinner, as well as religiously as a reminder of the sacrifice of the mass just celebrated. They are decorated with cloves for the eyes, a red ribbon around the neck and green coconut ‘grass’ and jellybeans. Handmade in molds and frozen, they are a delightful and beautiful addition to one’s table.

One group of frosting volunteers, Sizemore, Joanne Eby and Christine, have gathered for years. They also enjoy the many social activities that the Sisters’ Auxiliary offers, especially the creative and popular bus trips. They all joined, following their mothers’ example, as active members of St. Adalbert’s Parish and graduates of St. Adalbert’s School.

The Sisters’ Auxiliary is looking forward to the Easter season and welcomes any new, interested members. Contact President, Elaine Sizemore for more information.
BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

March 27, 2016

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

IN HIS ROYAL SEASON as head girls’ track coach, Thomas Crum is excited to build on a 2015 group that may be fairly young, but qualified several relays with young legs at the regional competition last season. “Based on their performance in practices, I am expecting good things when it comes to meet settings,” predicted Crum, who also coaches cross-country for the Knights. Along with senior sprinter Rachel Gibson and a solid distance core of Alex Ebets, Abby Brezgala and Megan Brelage, they recently wrapped up their indoor season and will kick off the outdoor meets April 15.

Boys’ Track

A very familiar face on the track, Herb Widner is back for his 40th season as head coach at Bishop Dwenger. The Saints return two 2015 state finalists in Jake Hursh (800) and Vince Schipper (pole vault) along with Mike Hake, Nolan Till, David Widner and Arik Campbell. Alex Bogan and Ryan Klinger are several of whom were regional qualifiers. Widner and his unit hope to stay healthy this season, have fun and be competitive.

BISHOP LUERS

Tennis

The Knights return two all-conference players in Katie Klinger and Kayla Knapske. Joining six more players who saw varsity action in 2015 and a promising new group of freshmen, Bishop Luers is predicted to have a very competitive squad in the running for the upper part of the SAC conference. The Knights will have a similar schedule from a year ago with a mix of dual matches and invitational and tournaments and as always, have a goal to win the SAC. In his seventh outing with the tennis program, Jerry Rahrig details, “I’m looking forward to starting challenge matches to see who will establish themselves.” Following his only season with a daughter on the roster, Rahrig is excited at the resurgence of the sport in the Fort Wayne area and to coach his youngest, Caroline, this year.

Softball

Athletic director Rick Brown reports that the Bishop Luers roster lists six seniors for the 2016 spring season. The Knights will begin play at Central Noble on March 23 on their home field located at St. Joseph Hessen Cassel. They have a full schedule, which will culminate with the post-season IHSAA tournament beginning May 23-25.

SCHEDULE

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

March 27, 2016

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

Sports

BISHOP DWENGER

Softball

Upper classmen Kristina Burkhardt, Stephanie Hanic, Karsyn Kitchen and Taya Andrews will serve as the 2016 captains for the Bishop Dwenger softball team. Senior standout and University of North Carolina recruit, Burkhardt leads the Saints’ attack for this year’s campaign and is a possible candidate for the 2016 Miss Softball title. Coach Beth Peters previews, “Our major strength would be our work ethic and attitude. Every player in our program worked diligently in the off-season to bring her game to a new level. They have also set the standard for what Bishop Dwenger softball stands for—playing as a team, not for individual stats, as well as complete positivity and support of each other. These intangible strengths will carry this amazing young team.” The Saints were the 2015 SAC champs and logged an impressive 20-7 finish a year ago with losses coming only to state ranked foes.

Girls’ Track

In his rookie season as head girls’ track coach, Thomas Crum is excited to build on a 2015 group that may be fairly young, but qualified several relays with young legs at the regional competition last season. “Based on their performance in practices, I am expecting good things when it comes to meet settings,” predicted Crum, who also coaches cross-country for the Knights. Along with senior sprinter Rachel Gibson and a solid distance core of Alex Ebets, Abby Brezgala and Megan Brelage, they recently wrapped up their indoor season and will kick off the outdoor meets April 15.

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SCHEDULE

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN
Saint Joseph High School plans big for spring sports season

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

SOUTH BEND — The sun is shining, birds are singing, and the spring sports season has arrived for the Saint Joseph High School Indians.

Boys’ golf

“We have a strong group of returning players this season and hope to be in the mix to compete for a conference and sectional championship and hopefully win a few of our tournaments along the way,” boys’ golf coach Bret Bajdek predicted for the season. The team’s strength is the experience leading the tribe.

“We have three seniors: Tate Heintzelman-Dee (2015 regional qualifier), Will DeFremp and Kyle Killilea who have been competing since they were freshmen. We have a very strong core. It is a good group of golfers and they get along well which makes the season enjoyable,” noted Bajdek.

Finishing the season strong has always been a challenge for the team so Bajdek hopes the team can complete the season with a strong finish in tournaments. Improvement is the goal for the golf season. “If we can have a strong start at the Kaepler, roll through a grinding NIC schedule and be ready come playoff time, then this team has a good chance to compete in both the NIC and sectional,” said Bajdek.

Girls’ tennis

“Our expectations are high this season. Last year we lost in the Semi state round to the team that went to State (Carmel). We ended the season ranked No. 4. We graduated one senior from our line up, and we have some freshmen and reserves from last year that can very capably fill that vacated spot,” noted Bill Mountford, girls tennis coach.

Mountford said one of the team’s strengths is having one of the best players in the state in sophomore Maddie Yergler. “We are truly blessed with great depth. The starting line up in high school tennis is seven players, and we really have ten very solid tennis players. Our junior varsity team has to be one of the very best in the state, and would defeat a large number of varsity teams out there,” noted Mountford.

He feels the team needs to be adaptive to the varying conditions of outdoor play in northern Indiana in springtime. “We will be doing all that we can to improve every day. Our goal is to work hard, improve every day and have some fun out there,” said Mountford.

Softball

“This season is hard to predict due to the fact that we are so young — 19 out of 26 players in the program are freshmen or sophomores. However, we do have some good talent in every class,” said coach Earl Keith about his predictions for the season.

Keith feels the team’s strength is the leadership of senior captain Alyssa Gutierrez, a three-time all conference and two-time all state player. She leads by example with her awesome work ethic and class.

According to Keith, gaining experience by playing together and learning to trust and respect one another is the main focus to improve and mesh into a successful season.

“Goals for the season are to improve into a strong ‘team’ by mid season. Our lofty goals for success are to finish strong in our conference (top 5), and to win our sectional tournament to validate our improvement,” said Keith.

Girls’ lacrosse

“This is our first season not combined with Marian High School. We had a great turn out and will have a full bench to allow fresh legs for the starting line up. I believe we will have a great season, with a challenging schedule of seventeen games in a two-month span. We have several student athletes that have the potential to collect individual and state level awards.

The season promises to offer great opportunities for learning and growth. We will grow mentally and physically together and unite to create a strong foundation for the future of Saint Joseph Girls’ Lacrosse,” said girls lacrosse coach Katie Neese.

The team has worked hard the last several months and will need to continue to work on offense and taking initiative with the ball.
Girls' Track

Dave Walsh returns for his fifth season as head coach of girls' track. "The team is off to a good start," said Walsh. "We have a talented group of athletes who have begun to train on outside practices. Coaches Walsh and Costello are getting a jump on their field. Coach Walsh and Costello have several returning players combined with Saint Joseph as the first year of girls' lacrosse. "The team is off to a strong nucleus of returning veterans and talented group of new athletes to compete well in the NIC conference and hopefully add to the team's success. "Our goal is to represent Marian with their heart and will be will- ing, the team has been able to get outdoors early, which coach Davidson believes is a big positive for the team. "The players are excited and ready to go," he concluded.

Boys' Track

Coach Santiago I. Bosque or coach Boz as he is known, returns for his third year leading the track team. "Our goal is to win some meets, and improve our speed and strength. We have had limited success, but we are looking to improve with experience and hard work," said coach Boz. The team is led by senior captains Alex Mroz, Jacob Imus and Christian Dennis. Seniors Nick Pingel, Dominic Bulli, Collin Martin, Paul Dieringer, Collin Linner and newcomer Paul Burmeister will also provide leadership and success. Other team members are juniors and a large contingency of sophomores. Freshman James Song will also join the varsity squad.

Boys' Golf

Coach Michael Davidson begins his first season as head coach of the boys' golf team. The team reached the regionals last season and coach Carter has high expectations for his team. "I want our players to compete every day and want to add new players to the team in the spring. Other players who will play with heart and will be willing to leave it all on the field," coach Bays concluded.

Boys' Rugby

Coach Larry Daher is looking forward to a strong season for the Rugby team. "We are returning 17 seniors and 12 starters this year with a great deal of experience and athleticism," said coach Daher. Last season the team had a positive record and they would like to improve on that with even more wins this year. Players Fj Erin, Dominic Matthys, Michael Nolan and Evan Ridencour are all expected to lead the team and contribute to their success. "Our goal is to play for the state championship and should be able to do so if the kids work hard and play as a team," said coach Daher.
Director of Music and Liturgy

St. John the Baptist Parish in New Haven, Indiana seeks a Director of Music and Liturgy. This person will be a part of a pastoral team and will be responsible for planning liturgies in addition to leading church choirs and cantors. The successful applicant will be a skilled musician (organist and pianist) with experience planning liturgies and leading choirs. A bachelor’s degree in a related field and music competency is required. A full job description is available upon request. If you are interested, please email your cover letter and resume to:

Father Bill Sullivan
frsullivan@live.com
or mail to:
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
943 Powers St., New Haven, IN 46774
(Deadline: April 18, 2016)
What’s in His name?

H ave you ever had a moment in time when something just fell apart? I had such a moment years ago in Atlanta airport, where something I had known in my head went deep into my heart. I witnessed a young Hasidic Jewish boy running gleefully around his father. Hasidic Jews are not hard to pick out in a crowd—the men dress in black attire, including a hat, and their sidelocks are long curls.

This young boy of four or five was circling his father, as happy as he could be, saying “Abba, Abba, Abba!” It clicked. This is the name Jesus revealed to us regarding his Father. Only twice did God reveal his name: once to Moses, “I am who I am,” and again through Jesus, “Abba.” I had known the word’s translation for years—Papa or Daddy—but it was only hearing it “live” in the airport when it stirred my heart and made me smile. I can still feel it reverberating through me in the with such ease, abandon, and delight. I thought, “That’s right! That’s how He wants us to talk to Him!”

Both in Jesus’ day and today, “Abba” has been a controversial name for God. When Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath, provoking the religious leaders to persecute him (Jn. 5:16), we notice in the next verses that they “tried all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath but also to be obeyed or, according to one of my clients, as a “drill sergeant.” St. John Paul II called this perspective a “servile fear” of God. If you want to show these men live in fear of punishment and judgment (1 Jn. 4). They are exhausted, believing that they are as good as their last performance.

Wounded through words, violence, or neglect, they don’t feel loved. The word “Abba” reveals something very different. The very name is life and love… fathers beget life through love! God gives Himself totally to His Son and totally to us: “Everything I have is yours,” as He tells the older brother in the prodigal son story. At Jesus’ baptism, He was the “beloved Son” and everyone man longs to hear from his father, “You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” And at our baptism, Abba gives us His very life, His love—in fact He defies us—makes us His beloved sons, who are baptized as babies, so we had no great accomplishments, no big bank accounts. We were nothing but these men live in fear of punishment and judgment (1 Jn. 4). They are exhausted, believing that they are as good as their last performance.

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Catholics and acceptable uses of contraceptives

Contraceptives include drugs and devices like condoms, the Pill, and spermicides. It might come as a surprise to some to learn that the Catholic Church does not always oppose the “use of contraceptives.” A couple of trivial examples can help explain this point. The Church would not oppose the use of a contraceptive medicinal gel to lubricate the axle of a bicycle tire to improve its rotation, nor would it specifically oppose the use of inflated condoms to pop balloons. The particular context is important. More serious examples of acceptable contexts and uses for contraceptives would include using the Pill medically to treat serious gynecological problems, or using the Pill to block the release of an egg from a woman’s ovary in a situation of rape to protect her from becoming pregnant from the attack. Contrary to popular confusion, as we can see, the Church does not always oppose the “use of contraceptives.”

What the Church does always oppose, however, are acts of contraception. An act of contraception is a very particular type of disorderly human action that involves the decision freely to engage in marital intercourse, while pursuing countermeasures in anticipation of, contemporaneously with, or after the completion of the sexual act, to try intentionally to block it from achieving its proper finality, namely, the engendering of new human life. These countermeasures can include, to borrow the words of Pope Paul VI, “any action which either before, at the moment of, or after sexual intercourse, is specifically intended to prevent procreation—whether as an end or as a means—and which by its nature involves the absolute, final, and deliberate opposition to procreation.”

Pope Francis, in a recent interview, pointed out that Pope Paul VI, in a difficult situation in Africa, “permitted nuns to use contraceptives in cases of rape.”

WOO

Continued from Page 13

Jesus did not seek to settle scores with the Romans, Pilate, Herod, the Pharisees, the fickle mob. He just walked and spent time with His friends, accompaniment them into life and love with the promise that He is always with them.

Jesus did not ask us to change the world, but to change our hearts so that we can forgive, serve, heal, bear the world’s insults, lift up those forsaken by others.

At the Easter Vigil, when our tapers receive the light from the paschal candle, be reminded that we are light from the source of all light, God’s chosen to recover the goodness of what He has made, to be hope for the people He entrusted to us, and to rise from the resignation that Pope Francis characterized as one of the devil’s most favorite weapons.

Before I finished this essay, another email stopped me. The subject line read “Deo Gratias” and it was about a Syrian woman captured a year ago by ISIS but now reunited with her husband and three children.

Let us rise with Christ this Easter.

Carolyn Y. Woo is the president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services in the United States.

McCLOW

Continued from Page 13

The Catechism illustrates this with some of the most beautiful and psychologically insightful words: “It is there … in the depths of the heart, that everything is bound and loosed. It is not in power not to feel or to forget an offense; but the heart that offers itself to the Holy Spirit turns injury into compassion and purifies the memory in transforming the hurt into intercession” (2043).

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

SCIENTIFIC SEARCH

Gospel for March 27, 2016

Luke 24:1-12

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Easter Vigil. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

ROLL AWAY

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

Based on these Scripture Readings: Lk 19:28-40; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:11-16 and Acts 10:34a, 37a; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9

57 Clock time
58 Very large book

DOWN
1 Cardinals’ color
2 French “yes”
3 “Blessed __ you”
4 Cowboy shows
5 Peter needed to hide beside
6 Smells
7 Benjamin
8 Reserve Officers Training Corps.
9 Come up against
10 Small licencetreats
12 “Your life is __ with Christ”
18 “Fallen away” (from church)
19 Hand tool
20 “Until the end of the __”
21 Roast
22 Underscore
24 Guinea-__
25 Morse code dash
26 Term code
date
28 Penitential season
29 Lucid
30 Malchus lost his
31 Metal fasteners
32 “Take this and __”
33 Mercedery component
34 Shout of praise
35 Unusual
36 Mesmer’s __
37 Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.
38 A feature
39 Dish black
40 Cafes
41 Baby’s “Daddy”
42 Baby’s “Daddy”
43 Intersectional line
44 “On the first day of the __”
45 Relative
48 Short-term memory
50 Ghost’s greeting
51 Heart rate
52 Bishop’s area

Answer Key can be found on page 15

March 20 and 27, 2016

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

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

WHAT’S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. View more Catholic events and submit yours at www.diocesefwsb.org/bulletin. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at 260-456-2824 to purchase space.

Catholic College Fair
Fort Wayne — A Catholic college fair will be Tuesday, April 12, from 6-8 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis North Campus Gymnasium, 2702 Spring St. Catholic College representatives from Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and beyond will be available for prospective college students and parents to learn more about the schools and their programs. Refreshments will be served. No registration required. For information, call 260-399-7700 or visit go.sf.edu/usf-cn.

Trivia night planned
Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will have a trivia night on Saturday, April 16, at 7 p.m. for adults 21 and over. Doors open at 6 p.m. A table of 10 is $100. Babysitting is available. Contact Denny Jamison at 260-418-1139.

Catholic Business Network Group
Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network Group will meet Friday, April 1, beginning with Mass at 7 a.m. in the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel. Theresa Schortgen, CPCC, FertilityCare™ Specialist of Northeast Indiana will be speaking on “The Business of Comprehensive Health Care — A Breakthrough Relief in a Busy World” in the Cathedral Center following Mass. Refreshments provided by Redeemer Radio.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter plans spring weekend
Fort Wayne — The Worldwide Marriage Encounter of Northern Indiana will offer a spring weekend in Fort Wayne April 22-24. The weekend gives married couples the opportunity to discover that their “Good” marriage can be “Great”. To apply or for information visit www.wmene-ni.org or call Jen and Dave Kruckekeberg at 260-728-9949.

Attention homeschoolers
Fort Wayne — The Northeastern Indiana Catholic Home Educators (NICHE) will have an evening of fun and information at the annual curriculum share planned for Friday, April 15, at 6-30 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 St. Joe Rd. It is an opportunity to view and discuss curriculum materials, ask questions, and meet other homeschooling families. Childcare will not be available. For information contact Jen MacDonald at 260-485-8828 or jennifer@highlanddove.org.

Building Inclusive Parishes to hold meet and greet
Fort Wayne — Building Inclusive Parishes ministry will have a meet and greet on Thursday, April 14, at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Hope, 7215 St. Joe Rd. Meet current members and speak to those who have knowledge in various areas of disabilities’ special needs. Snacks will be provided. Visit the website www.buildinginclusiveparishes.weebly.com.

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Principal Rhoades announced the month’s community service award winners — Brianna Hart and Maxwell O’Iato. Both students were honored for their service work and leadership skills. A member of the faculty is also given a monthly award, nominated by either or her peers. Laurel O’Shaughnessy was given the award for going above and beyond, for her genuine caring for each student to reach his or her full potential.

“When God calls, she indeed answers,” said Richter.

They also recognized the class of 2016 students who have 4.0 or higher grade point average all four years as St. Joe Scholars. Forty-two students were recognized for this achievement. The salutatorian for the class of 2016 is Clare Firth and the valedictorian is Meg O’Brien.

**Class Visits**

After passing out the pocket Gospels to the students, the Bishop began visiting classrooms and the first was Kathy Kerchner’s Catholic Social Teaching class.

Bishop Rhoades talked to the students about politics, especially since many of them will be able to vote for the first time in this upcoming presidential election. He said Catholics have a rich tradition and body of teaching about issues such as the dignity of all human life, common distribution of goods, care of the earth and the environment, that wealth is meant to be shared, care of the poor and immigrants and war and peace.

“We are not for unbridled Socialism or unbridled Capitalism,” Bishop Rhoades said.

He told the students it’s not the role of the Church or of the Bishop to endorse one political party over another or one candidate over another, but they can and do speak on the issues.

“It’s important to examine the candidates and their positions on the issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and read how they voted on the issues,” he advised.

He said the Church considers some things intrinsic evil — always wrong, everywhere — and among them is abortion, euthanasia and racism.

“For example, it’s forbidden for Catholics to vote for a pro-choice candidate if the reason they’re voting for them is because they are pro-choice. If you’re going to vote for them for other reasons they should be grave issues because human life is of such importance,” he explained.

Bishop Rhoades told the students generally speaking, the Democratic Party supports preferential treatment for the poor, fair wages and access to health care, which supports the Catholic principle of Solidarity, while the Republican Party, generally speaking supports the idea that states shouldn’t stifle freedoms and is against government intrusion in business which supports the Catholic principle of Subsidiarity. He said the Church doesn’t believe in trickle-down economics.

“As Catholics we uphold both principles. The Church tries to take a balanced approach. I’d love to see someone in the middle, where the Church is,” he said.

Bishop Rhoades answered some of the student’s questions before moving on to lunch and visiting other classes.