

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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## Diocese celebrates two new deacons



Joe Romie

Deacon Dennis Di Benedetto, left, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Deacon Eric Burgener process down the main aisle of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne at the close of the diaconate ordination Mass on May 21.

BY STEPHANIE A. PATKA

FORT WAYNE — Diocesan seminarians, Eric Burgener of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Fort Wayne and Dennis Di Benedetto of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, were ordained to the diaconate Saturday, May 21, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

A nearly full cathedral included the celebrant Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, concelebrating diocesan priests and visiting priests, diocesan deacons and seminarians, Knights and Ladies of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre and area Knights of Columbus. Also attending the joyful celebration were members of several religious congregations as well as parents, families and friends of the two candidates.

The Rite of Ordination during the Mass begins after the Gospel, whereby each man is formally chosen for ordination. Father Andrew Budzinski, vocations director, publicly attested to the worthiness of each of the "elect" and presented both men to Bishop Rhoades.

After the homily, Burgener and Di Benedetto declared their promises to assume the responsibility

of the office of deacon. These promises included celibacy and respect and obedience to Bishop Rhoades and his successors. Cantors from the Cathedral Choir sang the litany of saints while the elect lay prostrate on the sanctuary floor of the cathedral in front of the altar.

More photos are available in the photo gallery at [www.diocesefwsb.org](http://www.diocesefwsb.org)



After the litany and in silence, Bishop Rhoades laid his hands on the head of each of the elect in accordance with the apostolic tradition and then solemnly recited the Prayer of Ordination. Afterwards, each newly ordained deacon was vested with the diaconal stole and dalmatic. Bishop Rhoades

then handed now Deacon Burgener and Deacon Di Benedetto the Book of the Gospels. The handing on of the Book of the Gospels symbolizes their task to proclaim the Gospel in liturgical celebrations and to preach the faith of the Church in word and deed.

Bishop Rhoades then bestowed the traditional liturgical gesture known as the fraternal kiss of

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## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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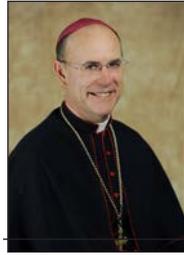
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## The Church's most precious treasure

IN TRUTH  
AND  
CHARITY

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

This coming Sunday, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of the Lord, the feast of Corpus Christi. It is the feast of the Eucharist which Christ instituted at the Last Supper and which is the Church's most precious treasure.

It is an amazing truth of our faith that our Creator and Lord made Himself bread to be broken, shared and eaten. He made Himself our food to give us life, His divine life. As Jesus said: *Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day* (John 6:54). The same flesh and blood offered by Christ to the Father on the cross and resurrected to glory is given to us in the Eucharist. It is the food of eternal life. The Eucharist is truly "holy communion." As Saint Paul teaches: *The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a communion in the body of Christ?* (1 Corinthians 10:16).

Every Holy Thursday, we remember and we celebrate the institution of the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. It is good that every year we also celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi. On both of these days, we focus on this wonderful gift of Christ, the sacrament of His Body and Blood. It is a gift that we can too easily take for granted or neglect to appreciate. This precious heritage that the Lord has given to the Church is the Lord Himself who comes to meet us and to bring us the life of God.

Each of us needs to be nourished with the love that the Lord offers us in the sacrament of the Eucharist. It is our soul's greatest need. It is sad how many neglect the Sunday Eucharist, most likely due to a lack of appreciation of the greatness of this gift Jesus left us on the night before He died. I think of our persecuted brothers and sisters in some areas of the world who go to Mass even at risk to their lives. Their faith in the Eucharist is so strong that they will not neglect Mass even if it may result in imprisonment or death.

It is good to remember the example of the 4<sup>th</sup> century martyrs of Abitinae in North Africa. During the persecution by the emperor Diocletian, the Sunday Eucharist was banned with the greatest severity. Yet, many Christians courageously defied the imperial decree. They accepted death rather than miss the Sunday Eucharist. When arrested and asked why they defied the prohibition, they declared that it was not possible for them to live without the Eucharist, the food of the Lord. One of the women, when asked if she had disobeyed the emperor's decree, replied: "Yes, I went to the assembly and I celebrated the Lord's Supper with my brothers and sisters, because I am a Christian."

These martyrs felt the strong inner need to celebrate and receive the Holy Eucharist. It was only later that the Church made explicit the duty to attend Sunday Mass. In our secularized society, it is easy not only to ignore the Sunday Mass obligation, but to forget how vital the Eucharist is for our Christian lives. We need to hear the word of God, to gather in prayer as brothers and sisters in Christ, and to commemorate the death and resurrection of the Lord. We need to be



CNS/Paul Haring

Pope Francis leads Benediction outside the Basilica of St. Mary Major on the feast of Corpus Christi in Rome June 4 of 2015.

fed by the bread of life. Do we really feel the need? Our Lord said: *Amen, amen, I say to you: unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within you* (John 6:53).

One of my greatest joys as bishop is celebrating the Eucharist in parishes throughout our diocese. Whether celebrating in one of our cathedrals or in one of our small rural parishes, it is a joy to gather with you to celebrate Christ's gift of Himself in the Paschal Mystery. It is often so edifying to witness your faith in the Eucharist, your active participation in the Mass and your reverence for the Holy Body and Blood of the Lord.

In many parishes, the liturgy is well-prepared. The readings are proclaimed clearly. The music is beautiful. In some parishes, more work needs to be done so that the sacred liturgy is celebrated with the proper dignity and beauty. Every parish must make the celebration of the sacred liturgy, the source and summit of the Church's life, a priority by ensuring well-prepared readers, good liturgical music, the reverent distribution of Holy Communion, and the active participation of the faithful, both interiorly and exteriorly. At some parishes, there are vibrant liturgies where people recite the prayers and responses and sing the praises of the Lord robustly. In some parishes, this is not the case. I encourage all to enter into the celebration of the Eucharist with their hearts, their minds and their voices.

The beauty of the Catholic liturgy should be evident to all those who visit our churches. We must avoid getting into a rut, neglecting the great care that should be taken in the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist. The Eucharist is too great to be treated casually or its celebration to be without the necessary attentiveness and careful preparation.

Finally, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi also reminds us that the Eucharist is a mystery to be lived. We are reminded of this at the dismissal of every Mass. The priest or deacon says: *Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord or Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life* (or simply, *Go forth, the Mass is ended or Go in peace*). These words help us to grasp the relationship between the Mass just celebrated and our mission in the world. The Eucharist strengthens us to live the Christian life. It commits us to do the Lord's will in our daily lives, to live our vocation to holiness within the world, beginning in our own families. After sharing in the Eucharist, the sacrifice of the cross, and partaking in Christ's self-giving love, we are equipped to live His love in our lives. Our worship becomes our life, a Eucharistic life, as we go forth to bear witness to Christ's love.

On this feast of Corpus Christi, may we be renewed in our Eucharistic faith and devotion! May we always treasure this gift of Our Lord's Body and Blood, the sacrament of His love!



## Priest assignments

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following assignments of transitional deacons for the summer of 2016:

**Deacon Eric Burgener** to diaconal ministry at Saint Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart.

**Deacon Dennis Di Benedetto** to diaconal ministry at Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen.

Due to an error in the May 22 issue of *Today's Catholic*, the following assignments were omitted:

**Reverend Monsignor Bernard Galic** from Pastor, Saint Aloysius Parish, Yoder, to retirement, effective June 14, 2016.

**Reverend Julius Okojie** from residence at Holy Family Parish, South Bend, to residence at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Lakeville, effective June 14, 2016.

The name of **Reverend Royce Gregerson** was incorrectly spelled. *Today's Catholic* regrets these errors.



## DEACONS

Continued from Page 1

peace, and thereby welcomed the new deacons into their ministry. The other deacons present also welcomed the newly ordained in this fashion.

In Bishop Rhoades' homily, he recalled last Sunday's celebration of the feast of Pentecost and likened the cathedral to the upper room in Jerusalem where the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles. "Today at this ordination, a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit will take place as Dennis and Eric are strengthened by the sevenfold grace of the Holy Spirit for the faithful carrying out of the diaconal ministry."

Bishop Rhoades also spoke to the free will of Dennis and Eric as they promised celibacy, respect and obedience, which is "radically countercultural in society today." He used the words of Saint Paul to the Corinthians, "We are fools for the sake of Christ." Paul wrote: "Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool

that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is folly with God."

Bishop Rhoades commended the motivation of love behind Eric and Dennis to follow this life. "True love can make one do things that seem crazy in the eyes of the world, like hang in agony on a cross. That's

More coverage is available on pages 8-9.

Christianity! Only love — love for Christ and His Church — can explain the free choice of celibacy and obedience. And only this love can explain why Dennis and Eric give their lives today to the service of Christ and His Church." The Bishop went on to say that the call to the diaconate was ambitious, but not in a sinful way. But rather in an authentically Christian way: ambitious to serve and be signs and instruments of Christ, who Himself came to serve.

As deacons, Dennis and Eric are called to a threefold diakonia or service: that of the Word, of the altar, and of charity. Bishop

Rhoades encouraged them to be "true evangelizers who speak of the God whom they themselves have come to know and are familiar with." Deacons also serve as ministers of the altar by preparing the Eucharistic sacrifice and distributing the Lord's Body and Blood to the faithful. They preside over public prayer, administer Baptism, assist at and bless Marriages, bring Viaticum to the dying and conduct funeral rites.

Finally, deacons are entrusted in a special way with the ministry of charity: the ministry that is at the origin of the institution of the diaconate. Bishop Rhoades emphasized the critical call that deacons have to "bind up the wounds of the broken-hearted, like the Good Samaritan, pouring the wine and oil of God's merciful compassion into the wounds of those who lie beaten along the road of life today." He continued, "Eric and Dennis, may your hearts, like the Sacred Heart of Jesus, have a special place for the poor and suffering! Your diaconal ministry of charity is not optional. It is an essential part of ordained ministry in the Church because it was an essential part of the ministry of Christ the deacon and priest."



## Public Schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Sunday, June 5, 11 a.m. — Mass with Confirmation of Adults, Saint Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Monday, June 6, 11 a.m. — Mass with Blessing of new Women's Care Center, Fort Wayne
- Monday, June 6, 5:30 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Cemeteries, Catholic Cemeteries Office, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, June 7, 11 a.m. — Mass for Saint Anne Communities at Victory Noll, Huntington
- Wednesday, June 8, 7 p.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for Bishop Shanahan High School, Saint Elizabeth Church, Upper Uwchlan, Pennsylvania
- Friday, June 10 — Commencement Exercises at Bishop Shanahan High School, Downingtown, Pennsylvania



## A Jubilee Year of Mercy event Holy Hour for Priests

Friday, June 3rd  
6-7 p.m.

**St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel,  
adjacent to the Cathedral of the  
Immaculate Conception**

On the 160th anniversary of the Solemnity of the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization has called for every Cathedral to offer extended periods of Adoration, by priests and laypersons together, for the intention of the Church's ordained ministers. Eucharistic Adoration will begin following the 12:05 p.m. Mass in the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel and continue through the Holy Hour.

Confessions will be available from 4:30-6 p.m. Starting at 6 p.m., the Holy Hour will include special prayers for priests, along with the rosary, the Litany of the Sacred Heart and will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Priests and the laity are cordially invited to join together in these prayers offered in love and support of all our dedicated priests.

## Holy Cross College grows by leasing old Saint Joseph High School property

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College will enter into a long-term lease with the University of Notre Dame to use and manage the building formerly occupied by Saint Joseph High School at the corner of S.R. 933 N. and Angela Boulevard, college President and Holy Cross Brother John Paige announced today.

Holy Cross College already owns the athletic fields surrounding the old high school building between S.R. 933 and the St. Joseph River, and a majority of the land north of Angela Boulevard up to Holy Cross Village, but has increasingly needed additional space to accommodate its growing academic programs and student body.

"The addition of this property to our campus brings us closer to our vision of providing expanded access and opportunity for education in the tri-campus community at Notre Dame, Indiana," Brother Paige said. "Since we became a four-year college in 2003, Holy Cross has grown by developing win-win partnerships with our tri-campus neighbors of Saint Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame. This long-term lease with Notre Dame is a great example of that."

In particular, thanks to a thriving art program and new science programs in chemistry, biology, and pre-engineering, Holy Cross College has an immediate need for art studios and science labs. "It really makes

sense that we would expand the size of our campus footprint to include the old Saint Joseph property," Brother Paige said. "The smaller building on the south edge of the property already has labs, offices, and classrooms. With some remodeling and updates, it will be ready for our students by August."

"We look forward to working with Holy Cross College on this initiative," said John Affleck-Graves, Notre Dame's executive vice president. "Holy Cross is an important member of the community, and we're pleased that this property — which served Saint Joseph High School so well for more than 50 years — will continue to be a place for outstanding educational opportunities."

Due to the age and disrepair of the building, and asbestos in parts of it, most of the old high school will be razed for student and faculty safety. Over the summer, Notre Dame will be in charge of demolition and reconstruction on the property prior to formally turning it over to Holy Cross College in August. R&R Excavating is responsible for the coordination of the abatement work, and ultimately, the demolition of the building. Pepper Environmental Technologies and Valor Technologies are handling the removal of asbestos and other hazardous material. Demolition work is scheduled to begin June 1 and should be completed by mid-August.

## Bishop to celebrate feast day at Corpus Christi Parish

BY MOLLY GETTINGER

Imagine this: sitting in your living room on a Sunday afternoon, perhaps sifting through the weekly ads or weaving toy cars across the carpet with your little ones, when, through the window, you begin to softly hear "*Tantum ergo Sacramentum, Veneremur cernui...*" The chant is distant at first, but slowly grows louder. Looking out the window, you see a gold-trimmed canopy followed by a procession making its way down the street. Beneath the canopy, a golden monstrance radiates like the sun. At the center of this monstrosity is a small white circle — the Blessed Sacrament.

This is exactly what one can see in South Bend's Council Oak neighborhood on the Feast of Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi Church annually celebrates this millennia-old feast with their annual Eucharistic procession. After 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, the congregation, led by Father Daryl Rybicki, altar servers, and the choir, process through the church doors and onto the streets, taking our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament, into the community. As the procession makes its way through the neighborhood, it pauses at altars set up in driveways for adoration and prayer.

Cathy Osowski, parishioner, shares that "One of my favorite parts of our celebration of the



Molly Gettinger

**Corpus Christi Parish will have a Eucharistic procession following the Sunday, May 29, 10:30 a.m. Mass in honor of the parishes namesake. A parish cook-out will follow the procession and benediction.**

Feast of Corpus Christi is the procession through the neighborhoods around our parish." She continues, "It is a very humbling experience to walk side by side with family and friends as a witness to our shared belief in the body and blood of Jesus and His real presence in the Eucharist."

Of course, a celebration of the Eucharistic Body of Christ wouldn't be complete without sharing in community with the ecclesial Body of Christ. Following the annual procession, parishioners head to the Peterson Room, where freshly grilled brats, hamburgers and hotdogs are waiting to be eaten.

This year, the Feast of Corpus Christi takes place on Sunday, May 29, and all are invited to attend the celebration. Father Rybicki shares that "The Feast of Corpus Christi this year will be scaled back just a bit." Because

of the Memorial Day weekend, many of the usual volunteers are not available. But, nonetheless, there will still be a Eucharistic procession followed by the annual parish cookout. Father Rybicki shares, "we will have a shorter procession, around our parish property, before closing with Benediction back in the church." All are welcome to attend 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass and the procession to follow, or to join simply for the Eucharistic procession around 11:30 a.m. followed by Benediction.

The Corpus Christi feast day celebration is just one of the many ways the Eucharist is central to this parish's mission. The parish also is home to an adoration chapel, open from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. All are welcome to drop by anytime or sign up for an ongoing adoration hour.

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## Court remands two HHS challenges to lower courts 'in light of Zubik'

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Supreme Court in orders issued May 23 remanded two Catholic entities' legal challenges to the federal contraceptive mandate back to the lower courts. The high court granted a petition for a writ of certiorari for two plaintiffs — the Catholic Health Care System, an umbrella for four Catholic institutions affiliated with the Archdiocese of New York, and the Michigan Catholic Conference. With its order, the court vacated the early rulings against the two Catholic plaintiffs by, respectively, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and 6th U.S. Court of Appeals. The orders follow the court's unanimous decision May 16 to send the *Zubik v. Burwell* case back to the lower courts. *Zubik* is actually a collection of Catholic and other faith-based entities' challenge of the Affordable Care Act's contraceptive requirement for employers. The consolidated group of cases is named for Bishop David A. Zubik of Pittsburgh, one of the plaintiffs. "Burwell" in the case name is for Sylvia Mathews Burwell, secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

## South Carolina Catholic makes sacred art from office supplies

ST. MATTHEWS, S.C. (CNS) — For years, Matthew Quay picked up paper clips from desks and absent-mindedly straightened them while listening to discussions or presentations at work. He also carried some in his pockets to straighten during Mass at Holy Trinity Church in Orangeburg. It was simply something to do with his hands to help him stay focused, he said. He never figured that simple action would eventually turn into works of art that help persecuted Christians overseas. Last fall, Quay started to experiment with twisting the straightened clips into various shapes. He made a cross. With a few more twists, he formed the corpus of Christ. Within days, he was making beautiful crucifixes out of paper clips, sacred art formed from the simplest of office supplies. Since then, Quay's creations have been displayed at the Orangeburg County Fine Arts Center. Sales of the artwork have raised thousands of dollars to help persecuted and displaced Christians in the Middle East.

## At world summit, aid groups welcome global fund for refugee children

ISTANBUL (CNS) — Aid groups, including Catholic organizations, welcomed the establishment of the first global fund for education

## Commencements wrap-up across nation



CNS/Dana Rene Bowler, CUA

John Garvey, president of The Catholic University of America, speaks during the university's 127th annual commencement May 14 outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

for refugee children, announced at the World Humanitarian Summit in Turkey's financial capital. "Thirty million children have lost their homes — they must not lose their education," Kevin Watkins, executive director of the London-based Overseas Development Institute, said earlier. The United Nations estimates that one in four of the world's school-age children now live in countries affected by a crisis. The "Education Cannot Wait" initiative initially seeks to raise \$3.85 billion to help 20,000 refugee youth over the next five years. Ultimately, it aims to address \$11.6 billion needed to support 75 million children worldwide, the institute said. Until now, education has taken the back seat to other humanitarian assistance, receiving only 2 percent of funding from international donors. "I am excited by the 'Education Cannot Wait' fund because it really focuses on education," said Jesuit Father Tom Smolich, international director of Jesuit Refugee Service. "JRS feels education is always part of any emergency situation and that has not always been part of the status quo."

## Havana's new archbishop says post brings fear and trust

HAVANA (CNS) — God's ways can be mysterious and sometimes frightening, but faith means trusting God, said the new archbishop of Havana. After receiving a pastoral staff from retired Cardinal Jaime Ortega Alamino of Havana, the city's new archbishop told a huge congregation — including officials of the communist government — "You will understand that I'm scared. I do not understand the mystery of why I'm here or why the Holy Spirit chose me." Archbishop Juan Garcia Rodriguez, who was installed as archbishop May 22, the feast of the Trinity, told the congregation, "Maybe God took very seriously the motto of my priestly ordination," which was an adaptation of a line from the prophet Jeremiah: "To whomever You send me, I shall go; whatever You command me, I shall speak." Still, the new archbishop said, "The Lord chose me and will not let me down, I trust." He said he also trusted in

the support and prayers of his brother bishops in Cuba as well as those who traveled to Cuba for his installation, including Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski of Miami. He said he trusts in the priests and deacons — "all of them passionate, zealous for the kingdom" — and in the women religious, "who are moms, teachers, women who pray, counselors."

## Pope Benedict denies latest rumors about Fatima 'secret'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Sixteen years after the Vatican released the text of the so-called Third Secret of Fatima, rumors cyclically arise claiming that the Vatican still is keeping part of Mary's message to three children in Fatima, Portugal, secret. The Vatican press office May 21 took the unusual step of publishing a communique with reaction from retired Pope Benedict XVI, who — as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith — oversaw the secret's publication in 2000 and personally wrote a

commentary on it. He insisted at the time that the complete text had been published. In mid-May, a blog published a story claiming a German priest, Father Ingo Dollinger, said that then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger had told him soon after the publication in 2000 that part of the message was still secret.

## Two appointed to USCCB's National Review Board; chairman reappointed

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A Catholic school educator and a retired U.S. Navy officer have been named to serve on the U.S. bishops' National Review Board, the all-lay group that monitors dioceses' performance in dealing with sexually abusive priests and creating a safe environment for children throughout the church. Educator Ernest Stark and retired Rear Adm. Garry E. Hall, CEO and president of the Association of the United States Navy were appointed by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Beginning in June, they will serve a four-year term. The archbishop also reappointed Francesco C. Cesareo, president of Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts, as chairman of the board for a four-year term, beginning in June. Stark is chairman of the review boards for several religious communities, including the Augustinians, Benedictines, Carmelites and Passionists and serves on the review board of De La Salle Christian Brothers. Stark was a teacher and administrator in Catholic secondary schools and colleges for 50 years. Hall chairs the review board of the U.S. Archdiocese for the Military Services. He was a naval aviator and in active duty for 35 years.

## Joy is the true mark of a Christian, pope says at morning Mass

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — True Christians are defined by the joy they carry in their hearts and the assurance that God accompanies them even in the most difficult circumstances, Pope Francis said at his morning Mass. A Christian cannot exist without joy and a person who identifies himself or herself as Christian yet lives a sad life "is missing something," the pope said May 23 during the Mass in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae. "The identification card of a Christian is joy: the joy of the Gospel, the joy of having been elected by Jesus, saved by Jesus, regenerated by Jesus. (It is) the joy of the hope that Jesus is waiting for us, the joy that — even in the crosses and in the sufferings of this life — is expressed in a different way, which is having peace in the certainty that Jesus accompanies us; that He is with us," he said.



# Living the Year of Mercy

## Instruct the Ignorant

### Shining a light on juvenile diabetes by walking



Provided by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School

Some of the National Junior Honor Society students, teachers, friends and principal at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School walked for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The school collected money as well as individual donations. The team name was "Aly Cat" to support the 8th grade student Alyssa Barnum. In this Year of Mercy, the school has focused on supporting and raising awareness for various organizations such as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

### Save the date!

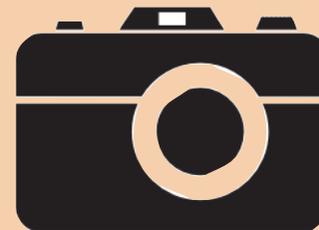


Zeal, a diocesan celebration for the Year of Mercy, will be August 27, 2016, at Lakeview Middle School in Warsaw. Breakout sessions for DREs, catechists, pastoral ministers, youth ministers, RCIA directors, young adults, priests, religious and teachers are planned. Keynote sessions following Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will be in English and Spanish. See you there!

### Year of Mercy day 173

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."  
— Mt 5:7

More photos showing works of mercy can be found at [www.MyYearofMercy.org](http://www.MyYearofMercy.org)



Send your photos of Works of Mercy to [editor@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:editor@diocesefwsb.org)

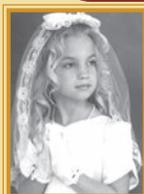
### Are you Made for Greatness?

The 2016 Made for Greatness Confirmation Rally will be hosted by Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, on Saturday, October 8. Check-in will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the program beginning at 10 a.m. Dismissal will be at 3 p.m.

Visit [www.diocesefwsb.org/Confirmation-Rally](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/Confirmation-Rally)



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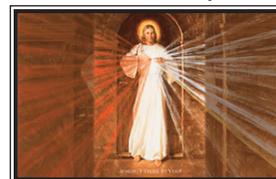


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## Suzanne Wiwi to retire after 32 years of service and 27 at the helm of St. Joseph School

SOUTH BEND — After 32 years of devoting herself as both teacher and principal at St. Joseph Grade School, Suzanne Wiwi is set to retire on June 30.



SUZANNE WIWI

Wiwi, a life-long member of St. Joseph Parish and an alumna of the school, began teaching in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in 1984, and has 45 years in the field of education. St. Joseph School witnessed significant growth during her tenure. When she became principal in 1989, 190 students were enrolled. Today, the school serves over 450 students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Under Wiwi's direction, St. Joseph School was named a 2011 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education, and has received numerous academic, athletic, and community service accolades. Last year, St. Joseph School was the only elementary school in South Bend to be named a Four Star School by the Indiana Department of Education.

Founded in 1854 by Holy Cross priest Father Edward Sorin, St. Joseph School is an educational ministry of St. Joseph Church of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. In its 162-year history, the school has educated the hearts and minds of generations of children from South Bend and the surrounding area.

Under Wiwi's leadership, students have consistently achieved high performance as measured by annual Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP).

Wiwi is responsible for implementing numerous educational and faith-enrichment programs and initiatives, both within the school and beyond. She started the Young Authors' Conference for area Catholic schools, resurrected the local intra-Catholic school spelling bee, and formed the school's Family Groups program as a mechanism to promote a spirit of community across grade levels while furthering the school's mission through shared activities that center around making God known, loved and served.

"I never anticipated that I would become a principal of a Catholic elementary school. What I did know is that I wanted to make a difference in the lives of the children I teach. It has been a blessing to be a part of a community of people who have worked so hard to help St. Joseph School become what it

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School holds first May Crowning



PROVIDED BY ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON SCHOOL

On May 20, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School held its first all-school May Crowning — a Catholic tradition of honoring Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, in the month of May. Leading the prayer service was Deacon Jim Kitchens. The entire school processed to the grotto of Mary. A court of second graders Felicity Smuts and Julia Spoltman who recently celebrated their first Communion, and eighth graders Alyssa Barnum and Veronica Wroblewski, who recently celebrated their confirmation, led the procession, offered flowers and placed a festive crown on the statue of Mary.

is today. I have faculty, staff, and parents who have worked diligently and given so much of themselves for our children in order to provide what they need to be successful, while always reinforcing the importance of our faith," said Wiwi.

The parish hosted a celebration beginning with Mass at noon on May 22, at St. Joseph Church, to honor Wiwi's dedication, faith and service to this community. After Mass, there was a short presentation in the church, followed by an open house in Fanelli Hall attended by friends, family and well-wishers.

St. Joseph School recently completed a search for a replacement. George Azar, current principal at LaSalle Intermediate Academy in South Bend, has been selected as the new principal of St. Joseph School beginning July 1, 2016.

— Sean Kennedy

## USF Jesters Awarded \$15,000 Grant from NEA

FORT WAYNE — National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Jane Chu has approved more than \$82 million to fund local arts projects and partner-

ships in the NEA's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2016. The NEA chairman has approved the University of Saint Francis (USF) for a grant in the amount of \$15,000 for its Jesters program.

The Art Works category supports the creation of work and presentation of both new and existing work, lifelong learning in the arts and public engagement with the arts through 13 arts disciplines or fields.

"The arts are all around us, enhancing our lives in ways both subtle and obvious, expected and unexpected," said Chu. "Supporting projects like the one from the University of Saint Francis offers more opportunities to engage in the arts every day."

The University of Saint Francis Jesters group has provided meaningful multidisciplinary performing-arts opportunities to children, youth and adults with mild to severe intellectual/ developmental disabilities (ID/DD) since 1978. During the funding period the existing program will be enhanced, and new components will be developed including: expanded opportunities for people with ID/DD to participate in Jesters; development opportunities for those who want to learn more about effectively engaging people with ID/DD in

arts activities; paid student art internships, to include four to six people with ID/DD; support/training to organizations interested in replicating the program.

## Catholic Charities to host Steps to Immigration workshop

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Charities will be hosting a workshop titled "Learning the Proper Steps of Immigration and Citizenship" from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 2, in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, 915 S. Clinton St.

The class will feature presentations from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, The Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. and immigration specialists from Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

This event will be hosted by Catholic Charities' Immigration Department and will include a welcome address from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

Registration can be completed online at Eventbrite.com. Cost is \$35 per attendee, lunch will be provided. Registration is open to any interested individuals. Substantial information will be presented for agencies and organizations who work on the immigration and naturalization process for applicants.

For more information contact Luz Ostrognai, Immigration Supervisor at 260-422-5625 ext. 225 or lostrognai@ccfwsb.org.

## Commencement exercises



Provided by the Pontifical College Josephinum

The Pontifical College Josephinum held its 117th Commencement Exercises on Saturday, May 14. The students from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend who received Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy degrees are from left, Daniel Koehl, Justin Meenagh and Cody Martin.

# TWO ORDAINED TO DIACONATE AT FORT WAYNE C



Photos by Joe Romie

Dennis Di Benedetto, left, and Eric Burgener share a light moment on the steps of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception before their diaconate ordination.



Cantors from the cathedral and diocesan choir lead the singing of the responsorial psalm.



Dennis Di Benedetto, standing left, and Eric Burgener respond to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during the Promise of the Elect.

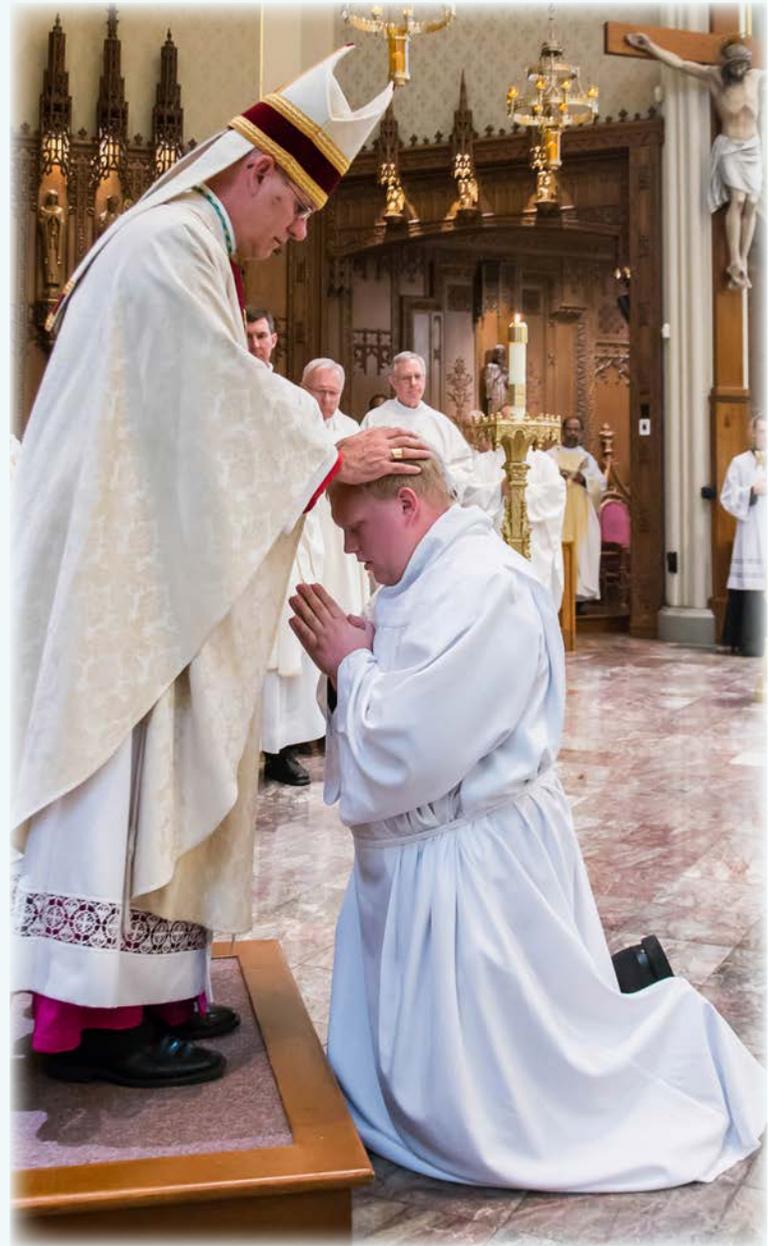


Gift-bearers Curtis Burgener, left, and Michael Di Benedetto, fathers of the new deacons, present the offertory gifts to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

# CATHEDRAL



The seminarian candidates for the diaconate are joined by family and friends in the first pews of the cathedral.



In accordance with the apostolic tradition, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades silently lays his hands on the heads of Dennis Di Benedetto, left, and Eric Burgener, right, during the Rite of Ordination.

MAY 21,  
2016



During the Litany of Supplication during the Rite of Ordination, the candidates for the diaconate lie prostrate on the sanctuary floor in front of the altar.



Deacon Eric Burgener, left, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Deacon Dennis Di Benedetto pose for a photo on the plaza of the cathedral following the diaconate ordination Mass on May 21.

## Deacon Bob Garrow anticipates ordination in his home parish

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

Deacon Bob Garrow says of his upcoming ordination to the priesthood, "As a son of St. Matthew Cathedral I look forward to being able to have all of my sacraments in the same place. Baptism, First Confession, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and now Holy Orders (both the diaconate and now the priesthood) have been received at St. Matthew's."

Deacon Bob's early school years were spent at St. Matthew Cathedral School, then Marian High School, then Indiana University South Bend to round out his undergraduate studies.

His was a late vocation, as he spent 11 years teaching at the junior high and high school levels before answering the "tug from God," he had been experiencing since the eighth grade, he confides. "I did not feel worthy of this call, but I felt I needed to address this tug at my heart," he says.

With encouragement and guidance from his pastor, Msgr. Michael Heintz, and vocation director Msgr. Bernard Galic, he began the process. He entered seminary studies at Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, Maryland, receiving a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Church History.

"And here it is six years later, I am preparing to be ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend," he notes.



ROBERT GARROW

Garrow credits the strong and faithful priests at St. Matthew Cathedral for helping him grow in the faith. "Msgr. Mike is so knowledgeable of the faith and has a wonderful sense of spirituality."

And the late Bishop John M. D'Arcy influenced him as well by the way he lived his own priesthood. In addition, his summer assignments at area churches exposed him to many outstanding pastors, associates, staff and people of God.

"I have had the privilege to be assigned at, St. Jude, Fort Wayne, with Father Tom Shoemaker, St. Monica, Mishawaka, with Msgr. Bruce Piechocki, St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, with Father Dan Scheidt and St. Mary of the Annunciation, Bristol, with Father Bob Van Kempen. I gained valuable experiences

that will help me in the future. Additionally, it only reinforced my call to the priesthood as I grew more deeply in love with the diocese every day," he adds.

"At each stop it has... brought more peace and joy, and has affirmed my sense of God's call."

Deacon Bob's faith formation has been influenced by the writings of St. Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, St. Therese the Little Flower and St. Augustine. And closer to home, his grandparents, Clare and Georgina Fitzmaurice and John and Edna Bunch provided encouragement and support.

He is the son of Norma and the late Michael Fitzmaurice and has two step brothers, George and Brian Presnell. "My family and friends are excited and happy about this ordination," says Garrow. He looks forward to helping others see the beauty of the faith as he continues to conform his heart to the heart of Jesus by serving God and His people.

Msgr. Heintz calls him "wonderful, energetic and generous," assets that will surely stand Deacon Bob in good stead as he embarks on this new life journey.

## Deacon Craig Borchard calls this diocese home

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

Deacon Craig Borchard grew up and attended school in Michigan, first at Holy Family Regional School in Rochester Hills, then at Brother Rice High School in Bloomfield Hills. But after receiving degrees in civil engineering and theology from the University of Notre Dame, he stayed in the South Bend area. "Now six years later," he says, "I am so grateful to Msgr. Schooler and the whole St. Pius X community that I can truly call St. Pius X "home."

Msgr. Schooler says, "Our parish has adopted him as one of our sons, and we are very proud of him. I have enjoyed getting to know him and recognizing the gifts he brings to the priesthood. He is energetic, very committed, positive and has a good sense of humor."

Deacon Craig's discernment of a priestly vocation had its beginnings during a high school retreat when he experienced "the most profound, beautiful, and real encounter with Jesus Christ during a period of Eucharistic Adoration.... After that retreat, the only thing I wanted in life was to give back that experience of God's love that I had received," he says.

He delayed a final decision until after college, however, when he was working in Philadelphia at the Theology of the Body Institute, a Catholic non-profit organization whose mission is spreading John Paul II's Theology of the Body.

There he met several priests whose joy in their vocation energized him to "take the leap of faith" and enter seminary



CRAIG BORCHARD

studies at Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Others who influenced him in his discernment were Msgr. Schooler, whom Borchard calls "an incredible mentor in my life," as well as Fathers Jacob Meyer, Ben Muhlenkamp, Bob Lengerich, Drew Curry and Bill Meininger. Now, six years later, he marvels that he is "ready to be the Lord's minister."

Borchard confesses to being "a bit nervous" about praying his first Mass. He is practicing in order to be ready to celebrate worthily and well. He speaks Spanish and eagerly anticipates the opportunity to minister to Hispanic Catholics. He is also an accomplished musician and hopes to contribute by instrument and voice to the celebration of Holy Mass for all the people of his parish.

Deacon Craig asks for prayers as he embarks on this life journey and wishes to thank the people of the diocese who have supported him and all of the seminarians over the years. "We cannot do this without your prayers and generosity," he adds.

### Saint Matthew Cathedral shares the joy of our parish son

### ROBERT A. GARROW

As he is ordained to the priesthood of Jesus Christ



*"The priestly vocation is essentially a call to sanctity, in the form that derives from the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Sanctity is intimacy with God; it is the imitation of Christ, poor, chaste and humble; it is unreserved love for souls and self-giving to their true good; it is love for the Church which is holy and wants us to be holy, because such is the mission that Christ has entrusted to it. Each one of you must be holy also in order to help your brothers and sisters pursue their vocation to sanctity."*

-St John Paul II

#### The Holy Spirit Called

*Congratulations to each of you celebrating the Rite of Ordination to the Priesthood and the Order of Deacons! God bless you! With sincere gratitude for your ministry, we will pray for you.*



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### David Violi - Robert Garrow and Craig Borchard

May God's blessings be upon your ministry as shepherds in our diocese.

### TODAY'S CATHOLIC

*offers sincere congratulations and pledge to you continued prayers and assistance.*

# Deacon David Violi awaits his ordination

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

Deacon David Violi says of the upcoming event, "I am spending time... in prayer. The week of the ordination, my classmates and I will spend a few days on retreat, focusing on prayer and spiritually preparing for the ordination day."



DAVID VIOLI

Deacon Violi spent his early years at St. Thomas the Apostle parish and school in Elkhart, then later at Marian High School and at St. Pius X parish in Granger.

He discerned a call to the priesthood over a number of years, as he had the opportunity to see his parish priests live out their vocations joyfully, he says. And their example led him to become "more intentional" in his spiritual life and make time for daily prayer while still in high school. Then, while at Purdue University, Violi became active at the Newman Center, St. Thomas Aquinas, and realized that God was calling him somewhere else. When he graduated from Purdue, he realized that he was ready to enter seminary studies.

Some of his mentors included Fathers Richard Hire, Tom Ryan, Bill Sullivan, Dan Scheidt, Brian Doerr, Patrick Baikauskas, OP, and Msgr. Bill Schooler.

Violi credits his parents and grandparents, who lived out their faith while raising a family, for instilling that devotion in him. "Seeing how important the Catholic faith was to them made me realize how important it was to me," he says.

His parents, Mike and Mary Violi, are pleased with their son's decision. "We are extremely happy that David is entering the priesthood.... We have seen the joy and love in his eyes in every step of his journey.... We believe

that God has led David down this path to do His will." His father recalls a time when his son was severely injured during high school football tryouts and only the prayerful intervention of Father Thomas Ryan was able to alleviate his pain. "We have always felt that the seed of David's vocation was planted that day," he relates.

Violi enjoys an attribute that he hopes will stand him in good stead as he undertakes this new path. "I've always been told that I am a good listener, so I believe that is something that will help me in this vocation. Listening is always the first step when someone comes to you for guidance," he notes.

Family members are sharing in Violi's joy and anticipation in the days leading up to the sacrament. He asks for spiritual assistance, however. "Pray for my classmates and me, both leading up to our ordination and beyond, that we might fully live out the vocation we are undertaking. It is something we have spent many years preparing for, but the past six years have been worth it as we now prepare to begin our lifelong ministry to our wonderful diocese."

*May the graces of  
Our Blessed Mother and her Divine Son  
follow these Marian graduates  
whom we honor as they enter  
the priesthood of Jesus Christ*



Mr. David Violi  
St. Pius X Parish  
Granger  
Class of 2006

"Thus shall the priesthood  
be theirs by perpetual law..."  
Ex 29:9



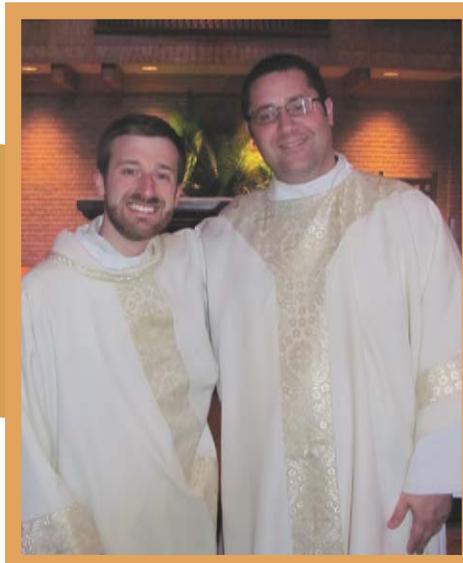
Mr. Robert Garrow  
St. Matthew Cathedral  
South Bend  
Class of 1994

**Marian High School**   
MISHAWAKA

**SAINT PIUS X  
CATHOLIC CHURCH** 

gives thanks to God for parishioners  
**Rev. Mr. Craig Borchard and  
Rev. Mr. David Violi**

**Blessings to you and  
Rev. Mr. Robert Garrow  
on your upcoming  
ordination!**



*Tend the flock of God that is in your charge . . . And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades. ~1 Peter 5:2,4*

**TO RENEW ALL THINGS IN CHRIST**

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**St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and School**  
*is pleased to offer congratulations and prayerful best wishes  
to our distinguished graduate*



**DAVID VIOLI**

*On the occasion of his ordination to the priesthood.*



**We also offer prayers and best wishes to  
ROBERT GARROW and CRAIG BORCHARD  
May their ministry be blessed and personally fulfilling.**

## Limping toward God

Most, if not all, of us make progress in the faith. We make our way toward God, not by leaps and bounds, but by stutter-steps: slowly and incrementally. The historical record — the lives of the saints — verifies this. Even those saints who had a remarkable or extraordinary experience of divine grace spent the vast majority of their life moving slowly toward God, with bumps, potholes and obstacles all along the way, many of these self-imposed. In the wake of what is perhaps the most famous “conversion story,” an experience of grace in a Milanese garden, St. Augustine (+ 430 AD) later tells us that the resolution achieved there was only partial, and that, even as a bishop, he battled the familiar temptations and sins of his past. So we mustn’t imagine that this otherwise nameless Samaritan woman in John’s Gospel who was shacking up with her paramour, after her encounter with Jesus, toddled on home and never sinned again. That encounter with the Living Water, that moment of grace, was not the end of the story; in many ways, it was just the beginning of one. As those who have participated in the RCIA can tell you, baptism isn’t the end of the process; it’s just the beginning of another, longer process of daily assimilation to Christ.

So if you find yourself struggling — struggling to pray, struggling to keep focus, struggling to believe, struggling with the Church, struggling with the same old sins — don’t lose heart and don’t give up. Perhaps our biggest problem is that we live

in the culture of the microwave and the internet, and so we like easy, quick and push-of-a-button solutions to our daily dilemmas. Nowhere in the Gospel does Jesus teach that perfection is achieved in a single, instantaneous freeze-dried moment of grace. In fact, it is this impatience with our human incompleteness and creaturely status which, according to St. Irenaeus (+ 220 AD), prompted Adam and Eve to grasp the fruit in the garden. In due time, God indeed would have given them to eat of it, but they were impatient with the divine pedagogy, with the way God was bringing them along. They wanted to be perfect — and they wanted it right now. Very many people who come to confession — and some avoid it for this very reason — say “I always seem to confess the same things.” Welcome to the fallen human race. Confessing the same sins does not necessarily mean you’re not contrite. We repeatedly confess the same or similar sins precisely because most of these sins are deeply embedded in our fallen nature and over time have become firmly entrenched in our personality. Slow progress over time is what we should be looking for. There is good reason, after all, why the Church allows us to celebrate the sacrament repeatedly in the course of our life.

The earliest Christians knew well that it is precisely the struggle which constitutes the life of the Christian. They used the graphic language of the “agōn,” the combat, the contest and even employed images of wrestling in describing the life of those who



### THE HUMAN CONDITION

MSGR. MICHAEL HEINTZ

follow Christ. They might even suggest to us that if we don’t find ourselves struggling, we should be very wary lest we’ve deceived ourselves about ourselves; for to struggle is precisely what it means to be a Christian in this world. And this struggle even has a cosmic dimension. Each of us is engaged, as it were, in a struggle of allegiance — a contest of loyalty — between the Ruler of this Age and the Crucified One, and the daily decisions we make reflect precisely that larger, cosmic engagement over whom we will serve.

Yet what is needed in us is not merely a change in behavior; conversion does not mean simply being “nicer” to other people, as though the Church is a kind of reform school where, in Skinner-like fashion, we are conditioned by fear to avoid bad behavior and to choose the good simply for a reward. No, what needs healing in us isn’t simply our behavior, but our very nature. All of our sins — our external bad acts — are but symptoms of a more profound internal pathology, a psyche that is distorted by pride, by what St. Augustine calls *superbia*, the absence of self-perspective induced by our self-absorption.

HUMAN, page 13

## What married couples really want

Ever since Pope Paul VI released his encyclical “*Humanae Vitae*,” reiterating the Church’s traditional teaching that contraception is morally wrong, many observers and even theologians have complained that the Church needs to listen to the voices of married people themselves and not only celibate clergy. It is a good point: What do married couples want? What do we really want, even if we don’t say it out loud or even recognize it, is to be saints.

Writing for his fellow Polish clergy in 1961, the future Pope John Paul II, Archbishop Karol Wojtyła, proposed that Catholic pastors should stop looking at married people “from the perspective of sin.” Instead, he advised, pastors serve married people best by regarding them from the “perspective of perfection.” Like priests and religious, husbands and wives are called by God to holiness, even if they don’t live in a consecrated “state of perfection,” but instead live busy lives in the world. Dare we think of ourselves as saints?

What did the future Pope John Paul II mean by the “perspective of sin?” It is not hard to understand. Married couples live and work in the world, spending most of their time in secular activities. They engage in sex and have children. They party with their friends and root for sports teams. Their lives are full of opportunities for sin. They need to know the rules so that after their fairly sinful lives they can get into heaven after all.



### GUEST COMMENTARY MARIE and ADRIAN REIMERS

Presumably what married people need is help to get to heaven in spite of their secular lives.

The “perspective of perfection” is different. The Second Vatican Council teaches (in “*Lumen Gentium*”) that every Catholic is called to sanctity (or holiness), which means the perfection of love. This kind of perfection is realized by a life of love for Christ and in Christ. We might say that we married couples don’t so much want “holiness” as we want to live with Jesus — knowing Him, loving Him, and welcoming Him into our homes.

From this perspective, holiness is not about “do’s” and “don’ts,” — the rules for staying out of hell while keeping purgatory to the minimum. Jesus invites His followers to love one another as He has loved them (John 13:34). And “having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end” (John 13:1), and He showed this love by giving His life for them on the cross. This is Christ’s love — the love that is self-gift — and this is the kind of love that married couples are called to. At the

MARRIED, page 13

## Corpus Christi ... the greatest gift



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### Feast of Corpus Christi Luke 9:11-17

This weekend, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, or *Corpus Christi*, as it was known in the days of the Latin liturgy. In all its celebrations, the Church has a twofold purpose. The first purpose, of course, is to call us to be joyful in the reality acknowledged by the feast. The second purpose is to teach us.

So this weekend, the Church calls us to celebrate the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. It is the feast of the Holy Eucharist, which the Church proclaims as its precious treasure, given to us by the merciful God.

The Church asks us to reflect.

The first reading for this weekend is from Genesis. Genesis shares with all the other books of the Old Testament this identification. These books are more than merely history, or the statements by prophets. Rather, each in its own way reveals the fact that God is the Creator.

After Creation, and indeed after human sin, God did not leave humanity to its own fate. Instead, God reached out in mercy, sending figures such as Abraham and Melchizedek, mentioned in this reading, to clear the way between God and humankind.

Melchizedek, the king of Salem, (better known as Jerusalem), was a man of faith, as was Abraham. Through gifts symbolizing their own limitations, but also representing the nourishment needed for life itself, they praised God’s mercy.

St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Corinthians gives us the second reading. It is a revelation of the Last Supper, using the same words found in the

Synoptic Gospels. The presence of this story in all these sources tells us how important the first Christians regarded the Last Supper. The fact that they celebrated the Eucharist in ancient Corinth tells us how important the Eucharist was to Christians even in the First Century AD.

Finally, the words are unambiguous. They say, “Bread ... my body,” and “Cup ... my blood.” Straightforward, clear, the words say nothing about similarity or symbol. They are direct, definitive statements.

St. Luke’s Gospel supplies the last reading. A great crowd gathered to hear Jesus. Mealtime came. The Apostles had virtually nothing to give the people — only five loaves and two fish. In the highly symbolic use of numbers in days when scientific precision was rarely known, five and two meant something paltry and insufficient.

Jesus employed gestures also used at the Last Supper, gestures actually a part of Jewish prayers before meals. He then sent the disciples to distribute the food.

All had their fill. After all had eaten, twelve baskets were needed for the leftovers. To return to the symbolism of numbers, twelve meant over-abundance and lavishness.

### Reflection

The Church on this feast calls us to focus our minds on the Holy Eucharist and our hearts on God.

In the second reading, from Paul’s Second Epistle to the Corinthians, the Church takes us back to the Last Supper, but also to the beliefs of the Christians who lived a generation or so after the Last Supper. For them, the reality of the Eucharist was clear. Paul was clear about it. “This is my body.” “This is my blood.” The bread becomes Christ’s body, the wine Christ’s blood.

The first reading reminds us that throughout history God has reached out to people to nourish their starving, fatigued souls.

Finally, the Gospel tells us of God’s immense love. When our

soul hungers, God supplies — not in any rationed sense, but lavishly. This outpouring of spiritual nourishment comes in and through Christ, the victim, and the victor of Calvary.

God’s love still nourishes us, through the Eucharist in the Church, as it was long ago on the hillside when the Apostles assisted Jesus in feeding the multitudes.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Gn 14:18-20 Ps 110:1-4  
1 Cor 11:23-26 Lk 9:11b-17

**Monday:** 2 Pt 1:2-7 Ps 91:1-2, 14-16  
Mk 12:1-12

**Tuesday:** Zep 3:14-18a (Ps) Is 12:2-3,  
4bcd, 5-6 Lk 1:39-56

**Wednesday:** 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12  
Ps 123:1-2 Mk 12:18-27

**Thursday:** 2 Tm 2:8-15 Ps 25:4-5b, 8-10,  
14 Mk 12:28-34

**Friday:** Ez 34:11-16 Ps 23:1-6  
Rom 5:5b-11 Lk 15:3-7

**Saturday:** 2 Tm 4:1-8 Ps 71:8-9,  
14-15b, 16-17, 22 Lk 2:41-51

# Biblical preaching, healing the culture

If Catholics in the United States are going to be healers of our wounded culture, we're going to have to learn to see the world through lenses ground by biblical faith. That form of depth perception only comes from an immersion in the Bible itself. So spending ten or fifteen minutes a day with the word of God is a must for the evangelical Catholic of the twenty-first century.

Biblical preaching that breaks open the text so that we can see the world, and ourselves, aright is another 21st-century Catholic imperative.

There is far too little biblically-based catechetical preaching, (at which the Fathers of the Church in the first millennium excelled), today. The Church still learns from their ancient homilies in the Liturgy of the Hours, but the kind of expository preaching the Fathers did is rarely heard at either Sunday or weekday Masses. It must be, though, if the Church's people are to be equipped to convert and heal contemporary culture. For the first step in that healing process is to penetrate the fog, see ourselves for who we are and understand our situation for what it is.

How might biblical preaching help us do that?

Take the recent Solemnity of the Ascension as an example. The essential truth of the Ascension is that it marked the moment in salvation history at which humanity — glorified humanity, to be sure, but humanity nonetheless — was incorporated into the thrice-holy God. The God of the Bible is God-with-us, Emmanuel. But, with the Ascension and Christ's glorification "at the right hand of

the Majesty on high" (Hebrews 1:3), humanity is "with God." If the Incarnation, Christ's coming in the flesh, teaches us that God is not distant from us, and if the Passion teaches us that God is "with us" even in suffering and death, then the Ascension teaches us that one like us is now "with God," and indeed *in* God. Which means that humanity is capable of being sanctified, even divinized.

Eastern Christian theology calls this *theosis*, "divinization," and it's a hard concept for many western Christians to grasp. Yet here is what St. Basil the Great, one of the Cappadocian Fathers of the Church, teaches about the sending of the Holy Spirit, promised in Acts 1:8 at the Ascension: "Through the Spirit we acquire a likeness to God; indeed we attain what is beyond our most sublime aspirations — we become God." What can that possibly mean?

It means that, through the gift of salvation, we are being sanctified — we are being drawn into the very life of God, who is the source of all holiness. And it means that our final destiny is not oblivion, but communion within the light and love of the Trinity. Why? Because the glorified Christ, present in His transfigured humanity to the first disciples in the Upper Room, on the Emmaus Road, and by the Sea of Galilee, has gone before us and is now "within" the Godhead, where He wishes His own to be, too.

Wonderful, you say. But what does that have to do with healing 21st-century culture?

Everything.  
At the root of today's culture of happy-go-lucky hedonism,

ing onto a new life — they are not an end in and of itself. The joys of marriage do not lie in the beauty of the ceremony and the exuberance of the wedding night, but in the lifelong growth in a love that imitates God's own love — a love that increasingly looks like Christ's own love.

Married life is hard. Children come and soon turn into teenagers. The wedding night endorphins fade, and romance becomes a memory. The moral demands of married life can become burdensome. In his 1961 article, John Paul II wrote that it is necessary not so much to strive for fidelity to nature — obeying the natural law — but to be faithful to grace. The ethos of conjugal life is not one of obedience to abstract or incomprehensible prohibitions — the marital ethos is one of perfection in love.

Besides the married state, of course, the Church does recognize the "state of perfection" — the consecrated religious state — which is marked by vows of poverty, celibacy and obedience. By its very nature, marriage excludes these vows. Nevertheless, the spirit of these vows, the attitudes lying behind



## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

GEORGE WEIGEL

which inevitably leads to debonair nihilism, is a profound deprecation of the human: a colossal put-down that tells us that we're just congealed star dust, a cosmic accident — so why not enjoy what you can, as soon as you can, however you like, before oblivion? Why take your humanity seriously — including that part of your humanity by which you are constituted as male or female? You can change whatever you like; it's all plastic and it's all meaningless, because the only meaning of our humanity is the meaning we choose for it.

Christian faith offers a far nobler vision of the human condition than this dumbed-down self-absorption. Where do we find that nobler humanity exemplified? In the Ascension, and the incorporation of Christ's human nature into the mutual love of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And where the Master has gone, the disciples are empowered by grace to follow.

That's what should have been preached on the Solemnity of the Ascension. That's the kind of preaching we need, day after day and Sunday after Sunday.

**George Weigel** is Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

them, can and should be an intrinsic part of every Christian's life. Married people must own property — only in a spirit of austerity, avoiding consumerist attitudes. Husband and wife should frequently express their love physically — only in a spirit of reverence for their bodies and not in lust. They are responsible, obedient not to someone outside the marriage, but to the responsibilities they have to each other and to the children they have brought into the world.

St. Augustine famously prayed, "You made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." We marry for love, because we want love — not just the gift of human love, but the perfect Love that human love points to and participates in. God gives wife and husband to each other to share His love on earth in their life together and in their joint witness to His love. What married people want more than anything is God.

**Marie and Adrian Reimers** are parishioners at St. Matthew Cathedral. Adrian is a philosophy professor at Notre Dame and a specialist in the thought of John Paul II.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for May 29, 2016  
1 Cor 11:23-26; Luke 9:11b-17

Following is a word search based on the second reading and Gospel for the Feast of Corpus Christi, Cycle C: the Lord provides food. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

THE LORD	HANDED ON	NIGHT
BREAD	THANKS	BROKE IT
REMEMBRANCE	THE CUP	SUPPER
NEW COVENANT	BLOOD	OFTEN
DRINK	TWELVE	VILLAGES
FISH	PEOPLE	SIT DOWN
FIFTY	HEAVEN	BASKETS

### FED

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

## HUMAN

Continued from Page 12

We commonly equate pride with arrogance, but that's just one of its more noticeable expressions. Pride is more deeply rooted in us than we might imagine. Most of us don't roll out of bed in the morning, look into the bathroom mirror, and say "I am the center of the universe." No, it's far more insidious than that. Pride isn't one more icon on the screen of our life, it's more like a virus which infects our whole operating system. This pride formats — that is, it distorts — the very way we perceive reality, including ourselves. Other people then become either a means we use to get what we want or an obstacle to the exercise of our will, an obstacle we must either overpower or remove. Our very thought processes, all our calculations and scheming, reflect the willfulness and self-referentiality which is pride: "It's all about me," after all. And so the healing and elevation of our nature, which is what conversion means from God's perspective, is the work not of one evening, one mission, one retreat or one confession; rather, it is the work of a lifetime. Far from being a reform school, the Church is more like a convalescent home, where the medicine and healing of grace — through the sacraments — are to be found and applied. And I might suggest that the one, com-

mon antidote for all the deadly sins, whether pride, avarice, lust, anger, envy, gluttony or sloth, is charity. If every sinew of our being is infused with God's love, if we're chock-full of charity, there'll be no room for sin. So in your daily struggles to overcome sin — whether you're greedy or lustful or lazy or consumed with jealousy or have a nasty temper — don't begin by asking to have fewer impure thoughts, or for a weaker craving for material goods or for more control of your short fuse; always start by first asking to be filled with His divine love. You'll be amazed at how effective this is.

So if you're struggling, don't lose heart and don't give up. It's the Enemy, the Ruler of this Age, who wants you to equate the struggle with failure. Then he wins. And you lose. Rather than give up out of frustration or discouragement, re-frame your understanding of the Christian life precisely in terms of this slow, daily, incremental assimilation to Christ. And remember, as Thomas Aquinas taught, "it is far better to limp along the right road than to run headlong down the wrong one."

**Msgr. Michael Heintz** is rector at the Cathedral of St. Matthew in South Bend.

## MARRIED

Continued from Page 12

altar, the bride and groom promise each other an unconditional love by which they will belong to each other as long as they both shall live. And as they celebrate that love in the physical gift of themselves to each other, they share in God's creating love by bringing new lives into being.

Marriage is the creation of a communion of mutual self-giving that exactly imitates God's gift of Himself to His people — of Christ's gift of Himself for and to His Church. Husband and wife do for each other what Christ and His Church do, and by doing this they enter into the communion of the Blessed Trinity itself. This changes everything about our perspective on what married couples want.

Maybe the saddest thing we hear said at weddings is, "This is the happiest day of your life." If this were really true, it would be sad. The wedding day and succeeding honeymoon are indeed wonderful — a celebration open-

# Sports

**SERRANI, BUSCH RECEIVE EVANS SCHOLARSHIP** Bishop Luers seniors Augustus Serrani and Madison Busch were recipients of Evans Scholarships, offered to golf caddies and covering full tuition at Indiana University or Purdue University. Serrani caddied at the Fort Wayne Country Club. Busch caddied at Orchard Ridge Country Club in Fort Wayne. Serrani plans to attend Indiana University and study biology as a pre-med student. Busch plans to attend Purdue University and study elementary education. Todd Firestone, the current head professional at Meridian Hills Country Club and former pro at Fort Wayne Country Club, presented the awards at an assembly at Bishop Luers High School on May 16.

## CYO soccer tournament: A St. Elizabeth sweep, St. Jude's perfect season and St. Joseph "buzz" continues

BY RON BUSCH

The CYO end of season soccer tournament concluded the week of May 16-20 at Fort Wayne's Kreager Park with exciting soccer action. Bad weather forced tournament games to be extended an additional week.

The big news was a "sweep" by St. Elizabeth's 7th and 8th grade girls' and boys' teams in championship games. In the girls' action St. Elizabeth scored a convincing 6-0 victory over a determined St. Charles soccer squad. St. Charles had fallen earlier in the regular season to St. Elizabeth 3-0. The girls' team was coached to victory by Mark Walden.

St. Elizabeth's 7th and 8th boys' team followed suit by defeating the St. Vincent 8th grade boys in a close 2-1 "nail

biter." The victory avenged an earlier regular season St. Vincent victory. This was the fourth year the two teams have battled in the tournament. The boys' team is coached by Matt Schenkel with assistant Mark Coffee. Congratulations to both teams and their very successful soccer programs this year at St. Elizabeth.

5th and 6th grade action also experienced weather delays. St. Jude's 5th and 6th grade girls completed a "perfect season" by besting St. Vincent's 5th grade girls 4-1. The undefeated St. Jude's team is coached by James Ewing. Coach Ewing expressed delight in his team's efforts this year, especially during the tournament. Emma Farar had a "hat trick" of 3 goals in the championship game. The coach was also impressed with goalie Lillie Tippman's efforts over the course of the unblemished season.

Thursday, May 19 the 5th and 6th grade boys team at St. Joseph completed the "buzz" mentioned in last week's *Today's Catholic*. Facing the St. Charles 5th grade team (with whom they had tied in the regular season) the St. Joseph Panthers charged to a 5-1 victory, capping a memorable first season in CYO soccer play. In previous years St. Joseph had been combined with St. Elizabeth. This has been quite a memorable season for the school.

This completes a wrap up of this spring 2016 CYO soccer tournament action. It has certainly been a year to remember.

Look for a similar wrap up of other CYO spring 2016 sports next week. Several new records were set this year in track and field, and softball provided some equally exciting action as well.



Photos provided by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School girls' varsity soccer team won the championship game against St. Charles Borromeo.**



**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School boys' varsity soccer team won the championship game against St. Vincent de Paul.**

## ICCL baseball playoffs in full swing

BY MATT SOBIERALSKI

**SOUTH BEND/MISHAWAKA** — After another great regular season for the diamond kings of the ICCL, the playoffs began and every team had an opportunity to start fresh and seize control of the postseason tournament championship. The regular season champion St. Matthew/St. Jude team came into the tournament as the favorites and received a first round bye. However, some other teams would not be denied a chance at winning some hardware and would prove their worthiness with outstanding performances.

In a first-round game played at Chet Waggoner Little League in South Bend, the Crusaders of Holy Cross looked to avenge a previous loss at the hands of the Corpus Christi Cougars. In a back and forth contest that saw the Cougars' Trevor Johnson go 3 for 4 at bat, the Crusaders and Cougars would need extra innings to settle this game. With two outs in the bottom of the seventh inning with the game tied at five, Johnson stepped up to the plate and looked to seize the moment and push his team onto the next round. Johnson sent a Crusader pitch past the infield and knocked in the game winning run with a single to give

Corpus Christi the victory 6-5 and a second-round date with the Trojans of Holy Family.

Meanwhile, at Kennedy Park in South Bend, Mishawaka Catholic and Christ the King were playing for a chance to take on the regular season champion St. Matthew/St. Jude. Behind gritty pitching and clutch hitting the Saints of Mishawaka knocked off the Kings of Christ the King by a score of 9-4.

In the semi-final round of the playoffs, Corpus Christi brought their boom sticks to Chet Waggoner Little League for their game against the Holy Family Trojans. Everybody got into the action for the Cougars as they rolled into the ICCL championship game by defeating the Trojans 14-2.

In the other semi-final game, the Saints of Mishawaka

Catholic were looking to avenge an early season loss against the regular season champion St. Matthew/St. Jude team. The Saints brought their "A" game to Kennedy Park where Thomas Egan put on a pitching spectacle. Egan threw a complete game where he struck out 13 St. Matthew/St. Jude batters to, not only avenge their early season loss, but propel them into the championship game.

After a tough and competitive season, the ICCL Championship is set to be played this Thursday at Chet Waggoner Little League with the first pitch set for 6:15 p.m. The match-up between the Corpus Christi Cougars and the Mishawaka Catholic Saints should not disappoint as both teams played earlier in the year to a 5-5 deadlock that had to be called due to darkness.

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# 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](http://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.

**Newman Connection offers transition help**  
Fort Wayne-South Bend — The goal of the Newman Connection is to help high school graduates stay connected with their faith as they transition to college and university. They collect names and contact information for graduating seniors and relay that information to college campus ministry departments or Newman Centers. For more information visit [www.newmanconnection.com](http://www.newmanconnection.com).

**Germanfest to begin at St. Peter**  
Fort Wayne — Germanfest will begin with Mass on Sunday, June 5, at St. Peter Church,

518 E. DeWald St., at 11 a.m. Celebrant Father Charles Herman will be joined by the Fort Wayne Mannerchor and Damenchor who will provide music for the liturgy. Following Mass a German dinner will be served in the Pavilion. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children.

**Sack lunch ministry in need**  
Fort Wayne — The Franciscan Center Sack Lunch Program is in need of donations and volunteers. Donations of brown paper bags, sandwich bags, napkins, potato chips, pretzels, fruit snacks, and granola bars are needed. A continuing need

is for route drivers who deliver sack lunches to the poor in our community on Saturday mornings. Opportunities for once per month or once every other month are available. Monetary gifts are also welcome. Contact Sony Laisure at 260-744-3977 or [contact@thefranciscancenter.org](mailto:contact@thefranciscancenter.org) for details.

**Polish dinner to help fund World Youth Day pilgrims**  
Angola — To immerse themselves in the Polish culture, and to raise funds for travel, members of St. Anthony Youth Ministry will have a Polish dinner consisting of kielbasa,

## REST IN PEACE

**Angola**

Gayle L. Ort, St. Anthony of Padua

**Auburn**

Catherine M. Sebert, Immaculate Conception

**Elkhart**

Mary Vanator, 81, St. Vincent de Paul

**Granger**

Sharron Lee Cook, 77, Pius X

**Huntington**

Linda L. Johnson, 72, SS. Peter and Paul

Virginia E. Scher, 86, SS. Peter and Paul

**Monroeville**

Paul E. Lortie, 85, St. Louis Besancon

**Mishawaka**

Patrick F. Serge, 89, St. Monica

**Notre Dame**

Dr. Willard G. Yergler, 74, Basilica/Sacred Heart

**South Bend**

Theresa B. Howard, 89, St. Casimir

Sophie J. Nichols, 95, Christ the King

Nicholas J. Eufemi, 92, St. Joseph

William D. Niedbalski, Sr., 89, St. Jude

Ava Madeleine Lobo, infant, Holy Cross

Submit obituaries to [mweber@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:mweber@diocesefwsb.org)

kapusta (sweet and sour cabbage), stuffed cabbage, pierogi and mashed potatoes. The dinner will begin at 6 p.m., Saturday, June 4, in the St. Anthony Parish Hall, 700 W. Maumee St. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by calling Laurie at 260-665-2259, or Marilyn Karpinski at 260-667-8829.

**Access to Success summer seminar announced**

Notre Dame — Access to Success, a 5-day summer seminar covering what college students need to be academically successful will be June 13-17, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily at Saint Mary's College Madeleva Hall, room 254. The

cost is \$65 for early bird registration (now until June 1); \$75 after. A limited number of scholarships are available. Contact Diane Fox at [dfox@saintmarys.edu](mailto:dfox@saintmarys.edu) or 574-284-4463 for information.

**Forty hour devotion planned**

Warsaw — Sacred Heart Parish, 125 N. Harrison St., will offer 40 hour devotion of the Blessed Sacrament June 3-5 beginning Friday at 9 p.m. A Corpus Christi feast day procession will follow the Sunday 11 a.m. Mass with closing benediction. A carry-in meal will end the festivities. Weekend speaker will be Deacon Jim Tighe.

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# Local woman heeds pope's call for ecological education

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

**A** Bishop Luers educator is raising awareness about the benefits and importance of honeybees and honey through educational programming.

Megan Ryan, a special-education teacher and environmentalist, has married the two interests with the formation of the Southwest Honey Co. in Waynedale. In short, at the heart of this organization is conservation, beekeeping, education and fundraising.

Ryan and business partner Alex Cornwell have been acquainted for some time. Both grew up in and around nature at the 31-acre Southwest Conservation Club off of Bluffton Road—the future home of their endeavor. When the opportunity presented itself to transform their mutual passion into a business, the details seemed to “fall into place,” as she put it.

Southwest Honey Co. is the fruits of many months of labor. The end product is affordable, “adventure-style” educational programming for children K-12, and adult social events—all of which will further the organization's mission of supporting the honeybee population. Youth programs are scheduled for Tuesdays and Wednesdays in June and July at the Southwest Conservation Club. Adult workshop dates will be announced soon.

Parents can expect hands-on activities that pique their children's interest and encourage experiential learning and exploration. In her words, they are “little adventurers,” whose natural curiosity can be satiated by the programming.

“We really want students to walk away excited about pollinators,” said Ryan. “(We want them to realize) you don't have to be a beekeeper to help the bees.”

Speaking of help, it comes full circle in a way. Ryan has several hives on site that provide honey to be sold as a fundraiser in support of the apiaries and the Southwest Conservation Club. Ryan touts the medicinal benefits of honey, noting that they use all-natural practices.

Though Ryan is doing her part to save the bees, there's a larger and disturbing trend that has many scientists worried. On a global level the bee population is declining due to diseases and invasive pests. If left unaddressed, experts believe it will drastically change the world as we know it because of all of the hard work the honeybee does.

And that work translates into serious economic returns. The value of honey bee pollination to U.S. agriculture is more than \$14 billion annually, according to a Cornell University study. Crops from nuts to vegetables and as diverse as alfalfa, apple, cantal-



Photos By Lauren Caggiano

**Megan Ryan explains the anatomy of a honeybee to a student during an educational event May 15 at the Southwest Conservation Club. Parents are encouraged to sign up for summer classes now.**



**A student examines a honey comb under a microscope during an educational event May 15 at the Southwest Conservation Club. Experiential learning is the hallmark of the organization's programming.**

“Ecological education can take place in a variety of settings: at school, in families, in the media, in catechesis and elsewhere. Good education plants seeds when we are young, and these continue to bear fruit throughout life.”

Ryan has accepted the pope's challenge and hopes to continue making an impact — both in and outside the classroom. Ryan, who holds a master's degree in education, was selected this spring for her outstanding work in Catholic education as 2016 winner of the Father Tom O'Connor Light of Christ Award. The award recognizes individuals for their commitment to social justice and peace. She was honored for work with Sodalitas, a service mission effort at Bishop Luers that engages almost 600 young people in work that helps to instill in them a desire to serve the community and each other as they move into adulthood.

That forward-thinking approach will serve her well as she advances the Southwest Honey Company's mission. She was happy to report that the organization received a grant from the USDA's North Central Region SARE (NCR-SARE) to study the “symbiotic relationship between farmers, ranchers and honeybees through consumer



**Students learn to identify the anatomy of a honeybee during an educational event May 15 at the Southwest Conservation Club. Co-founder Megan Ryan started the organization to better connect students with their natural environment.**

loupe, cranberry, pumpkin, and sunflower all require pollinating by honeybees.

Ryan sees this stark reality as a wake-up call from God to change our ways. She cites the Adam and Eve story, when God gave humans dominion over all plants and animals. In order to be truly pro-life, “you have to care about all of it,” she said. That means respecting and caring for all forms of life—not just human beings.

Pope Francis recently addressed this very topic, in the encyclical “On Care for Our Common Home” (Laudato Si’). In the document, he calls for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. He challenges families to embrace a culture of ecology:

education.” The study will evaluate the direct impact and correlation between education through activity-based educational experiences and the choices consumers make to participate in active conservation of the natural environment in the community and at home.

In addition to private grants the Southwest Honey Co. depends on the support of the community. For each \$5 donation, donors can name a bee. All funds go towards the mission of promoting and preserving the local honeybee population.

**For information** about programming or to make a donation, visit [www.southwesthoney.com](http://www.southwesthoney.com).