Bishop Rhoades blesses diocese’s newest Catholic school

BY VINCE LABARBERA

On Monday, Aug. 29, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blessed Our Lady School — the newest Catholic school in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend — at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church in Fort Wayne. At a Mass prior to the blessing celebrating the Passion of St. John the Baptist, Bishop Rhoades talked about the great Old Testament prophet before outlining three objectives he would like to see the new elementary school accomplish.

The bishop said St. John the Baptist was the cousin of Jesus, and he asked the students questions about him — ascertaining from them that St. John the Baptist was the first person to welcome Jesus when he “leaped in her womb” with joy when Mary visited his mother Elizabeth.

“Joy is part of being a Catholic, being a Christian,” Bishop Rhoades emphasized. “And since this is the newest Catholic school in our diocese, it should be a

Long-awaited gymnasium blessed

BY VINCE LABARBERA

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blesses the crowd gathered in the new gymnasium at St. Joseph School, South Bend, which was part of a recently completed $5 million building campaign that culminated in the construction of the gym, a green space, new preschool facilities and renovations within the church. Story and more photos on page 6.

Diocese mourns passing of Msgr. John Suelzer

BY JODI MARLIN

In a 2010 interview with Today’s Catholic newspaper, Msgr. John Suelzer recounted the trepidation he felt 24 years prior upon being asked by Bishop John D’Arcy to assume the pastorate of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, succeeding Father Ed Hession. At the time, then-Father Suelzer was daunted by his impression of Father Hession as someone who was “larger than life.” In fact, he compared the situation to “casting Mickey Rooney to play Tarzan.” As it turns out, Father Suelzer was well up to the challenge.

On Tuesday, Aug. 30, the parish family of St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne, and dozens of priests and seminarians from across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend came together to mourn the loss of Msgr. Suelzer, who passed away Wednesday morning, Aug. 24, after a brief illness. Msgr. Suelzer had served in several parishes and sat on multiple diocesan committees during his tenure of service to the diocese, but perhaps was most loved by the parishioners of St. Charles, whom he shepherded for 30 years and until the time of his death at the age of 77.

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IT is providential that Mother Teresa of Calcutta will be canonized a saint during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. Next Sunday, September 4th, Pope Francis will declare this humble nun, renowned throughout the world, a saint of the Catholic Church. It will be a day for all of us to rejoice as we give thanks to God for the blessing of Mother Teresa’s life and her beautiful example to all of us of our call to holiness by bringing the love and mercy of Jesus to others, especially the poor and the suffering.

Pope Francis wrote that he desired that the Jubilee Year “be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God.” That is what Mother Teresa did, especially during her fifty years as a Missionary of Charity, the name of the religious congregation she founded. She heard God’s call to give up everything to serve Him in “the poorest of the poor.” She was truly His face of mercy, love, and compassion in the lives of so many suffering people. She saw the face of her beloved Jesus in the faces of all whom she served.

Mother Teresa’s successor as superior of the Missionaries of Charity, Sister Nirmala, said that “Mother’s heart was big like the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God’s mercy.” Mother Teresa has taught us how to do so. She entered into the heart of the Gospel through her daily prayer, daily Mass, and adoration of the Eucharist. She gazed on the Body of Christ in the Sacred Host and then saw the Body of Christ in the poor whom she served. There was no disconnect between her contemplative and her active life, between her prayer and her works. Mother Teresa said: “The Jesus whom I receive in the Eucharist is the same Jesus whom I serve. It is not a different Jesus.” This was her deep desire: to serve and love Jesus in the poor.

I feel so privileged to have met and spoken with Mother Teresa on several occasions. It was always a very humbling experience when I would go to the house of the Missionaries of Charity in Rome to celebrate a weekly Mass there and sometimes Mother Teresa would be present, kneeling in the back of the chapel. I knew then that she was a saint, so I always felt a little nervous about my homily – I would think: “what can I preach to Mother Teresa?” Even if I felt my words were inadequate, Mother Teresa was always so kind and loving, also humorous(!), in our conversations after Mass.

One of the greatest joys of my life was meeting the other “living saint” who, like John Paul II, took her to the San Gregorio convent to meet some of my Missionary of Charity friends. One of my friends, Sister Prema, now the Superior General of the Missionaries of Charity, whispered to me that Mother Teresa was in the convent. She went to get her to meet my mother. When Mother Teresa came down, my mother was totally surprised and speechless! Mother thanked my Mom for giving her son to the priesthood. I will never forget the joy in my mother’s tear-filled eyes and the joy of that encounter. My disappointment turned to joy since my mother got to meet the other “living saint” who, like John Paul, so inspired me as a seminarian and young priest.

In the faces of the saints, we see something of the love and mercy of God. This is because the saints, like Mother Teresa, opened their hearts to the merciful love of God in their lives. Because Mother Teresa believed in God’s love with all her heart, she was able, by His grace, to carry that love to the poorest of the poor. She had an absolute childlike trust in God’s loving care for us. And she believed in Mary’s love for us. Mother Teresa would often give Miraculous Medals to people.

One of the central themes of Mother Teresa’s spiritual life were the words of Jesus on the cross: “I thirst.” She felt the call to quench the infinite thirst of Jesus on the cross for love and souls. Mother Teresa said: “We are to quench the thirst of Jesus for souls, for love, for kindness, for compassion, for delicate love. By each action done to the sick and the dying, I quench the thirst of Jesus for love of that person – by my giving God’s love to that particular person, by caring for the unwanted, the unloved, the lonely, and all the poor people. This is how I quench the thirst of Jesus for others by giving His love in action to them.”

We can learn so much from Mother Teresa that helps us to follow Jesus and to live as His true disciples. This new saint of merciful love is an inspiration for us to live the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. She is an example for us of fidelity to prayer, of devotion to the Holy Eucharist and the Blessed Mother, and of serving our Lord in the least of our brothers and sisters. She teaches us, as Pope Francis exhorts us, “to go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God.”

May soon-to-be “Saint” Teresa of Calcutta intercede for us, that we may live in the love of the Lord and spread His merciful love to all, especially to the poor, the suffering, and all those who are hurting!
CRS and Mother Teresa, partners in charity

Baltimore – Sean Callahan remembers what it was like to work with Mother Teresa. “In those days my vocabulary consisted of two words: Yes Mother, Yes Mother,” said the chief operations officer for Catholic Relief Services and vice president of Caritas International.

On Sept. 4, Blessed Mother Teresa will become Saint Teresa of Kolkata. Callahan knew her when he was CRS’ East India zonal director in Kolkata, then called Calcutta, beginning in 1994. He continued her understanding relationship between CRS and Mother Teresa that dated to a few years after she and her Missionaries of Charity began to bring care and love to people who were infirmed, poor and dying in the early 1950s.

“She was very petite and spoke in a soft voice, so that I was always leaning in to hear what she was saying,” said Callahan, who has a photo of Mother Teresa, the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, on his desk at CRS headquarters in Baltimore. “Often, she would wrap her hands around your hands and hold you there while she spoke.”

When Callahan arrived in Kolkata, there were 3 million people living on the streets; 1 million of them were children.

“The need for help in Kolkata was immense at that time,” he said. “With so many people living on the streets, the desperation and sickness was everywhere. Mother started the Center for Dying for Dying because she couldn’t let the last moments of these peoples’ lives be lived alone.”

CRS began working in India in 1946 to help the local church in Bombay provide food to people recovering from World War II. A decade later, Msgr. Alfred Schneider, then a CRS director in India, heard of a nun serving the poor in Kolkata. He soon met Mother Teresa at an informal school CRS supported, and visited her Center for the Dying set up in warehouses. Schneider then raised the money for Mother Teresa’s first ambulance and arranged for her to speak to a group of Catholic women in the United States, her first instance of international publicity.

CRS was soon working with the Missionaries of Charity on child feeding programs and assistance to families in Kolkata. The relationship grew as the Missionaries of Charity became CRS’ largest partner in East India. Sisters were assigned to work with CRS.

“I remember one day showing up to a meeting with Mother Teresa, and telling her about a man I had seen in the middle of the street who looked in real distress, without clothes and very frail,” Callahan said. “Her immediate reaction was to ask me where he was and what time I saw him so she could send the ambulance. Then she gave me a phone number and told me if I ever see anything like that again to call that number. That’s the way she worked. I was relieved to know I could get help for some of the people I often encountered in those days.

“Another time I received a call from Mother Teresa, who had heard there was a flood in Bangladesh, asking if I could bring supplies in trucks because the sisters there were asking for them,” he recalled. “I explained that to do that would require special permissions from the government of the state to take the food and emergency supplies across the border. She asked, ‘What do I need to do?’ I told her she needed to get the permissions. ‘Okay,’ she said, ‘You get the trucks, I’ll get the permissions and we’ll meet in two hours.’

“So that’s what happened. She didn’t just send people out – she did the work herself. So, sure enough, we crossed the border with our supplies and sisters from the Missionaries of Charity as passengers,” he said.

Illness forced Callahan to leave India in 1995. As he was arranging his departure, he told Mother Teresa and she said she wanted to visit him on an upcoming trip to the United States. Rearranging a carefully planned itinerary, she came to CRS headquarters in May 1996, the year before she died.

“We felt we were in the presence of a saint,” said Callahan. “She gave her life to helping people in their most difficult conditions and created a mission for religions and lay persons to follow in her footsteps.”

Rosary encouraged for lives lost in Italian earthquakes

WASHINGTON — Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Ky., president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, invites all Catholics to unite in prayers with Pope Francis for the victims of the earthquakes in Italy and for those suffering due to other natural disasters.

A public statement from Archbishop Kurtz, made on Aug. 24, reads:

“This morning, Pope Francis prayed the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary with pilgrims in St. Peter’s Square for victims of the Italian earthquakes. Knowing all too well the personal toll of natural disasters in our own country, let us join with the Holy Father in prayer for everyone suffering from Louisiana to central Italy. We entrust the lives lost to our loving Mary, Mother of God, praying for the comfort of those mourning and the strength for those rebuilding. Amid our hectic lives, let us pause today to offer a rosary.
place of joy. In fact, every Catholic school should be a place of joy. That’s my first point,” he told the assembled students, teachers, parents, parishioners and guests.

“The second point again concerns St. John the Baptist and the very important mission he had,” said Bishop Rhoades. “A Catholic school, like your school here at Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, has a mission, too, like St. John the Baptist — and that is to point out Jesus to others, to follow Him and repent.”

Bishop Rhoades told the students their school’s mission is to kind of be like St. John the Baptist, and point out Jesus to others.

“The most important thing you learn here at your school is to follow Jesus. Therefore, you learn all about the teachings of Jesus and everything that Jesus did. His miracles, how He showed His love for people such as the poor, the sick and the suffering. You learn about His passion and death on the cross, His resurrection and ascension into heaven, and all about the Catholic faith. The mission of Our Lady of Good Hope School is at the center of everything. All your teachers and your principal look to Jesus as our great teacher,” he stressed.

“The third and last thing I want to talk about is courage. It’s one of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit,” he emphasized to the eighth graders who will be confirmed later this year. “To follow Jesus takes courage. And it’s not always easy, because many people in the world don’t follow Jesus and don’t believe in Him. St. John the Baptist had great courage,” Bishop Rhoades reminded his listeners.

He also emphasized that many of our brothers and sisters in the faith are suffering right now throughout the world and are in prison because they are Catholic. “Here in Fort Wayne we need to have courage as well to live our faith and stand up for Christ like St. John the Baptist, who is in heaven with his cousin, Jesus. And that’s why we have Our Lady of Good Hope School — to help all of you get to heaven. May God bless you and Our Lady of Good Hope School,” he concluded.

Following the liturgy, Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish and the co-celebrant of the Mass, thanked Bishop Rhoades for his support of the new school.

“In the very first moment he heard about it, he never hesitated,” Father Gurtner emphasized. He also thanked Marsha Jordan, superintendent, and Carl Loesch, secretary of education, of the Catholic Schools Office; Dr. Eric Grekowicz, principal of Our Lady School; school board members, teachers, staff and benefactors.

Bishop Rhoades then blessed the elementary school, beginning on the outside of the former preschool building; he then blessed the students and teachers in their respective classrooms.

Our Lady School opened in August with 160 preregistered students. According to the school’s website, it’s a “classical liberal arts school geared toward the pursuit of two goals: wisdom and virtue. It inspires students to contemplate all that is true, good and beautiful, and to apply those lessons to their lives.”
SUELZER
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The son of John Suelzer and the late Hildegard Lange, Msgr. Suelzer was born June 21, 1939, in Pittsburgh, Pa. He attended St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne, continuing on to Our Lady of the Lake Minor Seminary in Syracuse, Ind., and Mount St. Mary of the West Major Seminary in Cincinnati, Ohio.

He was ordained a deacon in April, 1964, and ordained to the priesthood on May 29, 1965, by Bishop Leo A. P. Sky at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend. He was immediately appointed assistant of St. Matthew’s.

During the 1970s he served as assistant of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart, St. Bernard Parish in Wabash, St. Henry Parish in Fort Wayne, temporary administrator of St. Charles Parish, New Haven. In April 1986 he became the administrator of St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder, and was installed in July of that year as pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish.

Msgr. Suelzer was also honored with several appointments to diocesan committees, including the Liturgy Committee, Priest Personnel Board, Committee for Retired Clergy, Presbyteral Council, Budget Review Board and the Board of Saint Anne’s Home and Retirement Community. He was also consultant for the diocese, and in 1995 was invested as a prelate of honor.

Shortly after receiving the news of Msgr. Suelzer’s passing, Rev. Msgr. Robert C. Shulte, vicar general of the diocese, noted that his humor and friendliness would be deeply missed.

More than four dozen associate priests, deacons and seminarians served with Msgr. Suelzer at St. Charles Parish alone, and also remember him very fondly. Msgr. Michael Heinz recalled being in awe of then-Father Suelzer, from the moment he arrived at St. Charles in 1993 as a newly minted cleric.

“He was a great role model for priests and the laity alike, and just a great man.”

DEACON JAMES FITZPATRICK

“Tall, white-haired, formal, impeccably dressed, urbane and so well-mannered. He also had a tremendously firm handshake. He was very shy by nature, which meant he didn’t initially do lots of chit-chat, and that also kept me in awe of him. Over the five years I lived and worked with him, I came to have enormous respect and deep affection for him; he was fatherly and very kind to me in numerous ways. As I departed the rectory on July 9, 1998, I told him how very grateful I was to have learned from such a fine priest and role model. There were tears: but not from the stoic German, just from the surprisingly sentimental associate who shook his hand and said thank you.”

“My greatest coup was to have convinced him to do a lip-sync with me to the Blues Brothers’ “Soul Man” as part of a school fund-raiser. We were dressed in black suits, white shirts, black ties and fedoras. We looked like German Jesuits in the 1960s; like Karl and Hugo Rahner doing American Bandstand. It was priceless, although I never bought him the pasta dinner at Paula’s that I promised him for doing it.”


“It’s tragic: He was a great role model for priests and the laity alike, and just a great man. He would do pretty much anything for anybody.”

Msgr. Kuzmich himself gave the homily at the funeral Mass at St. Charles, worked with Msgr. Suelzer. “For a priest where ever he goes, whatever he does, a priest should always be conscious of who and what he is — and what he represents, whether in the public domain or in his parish,” he began. Then he addressed his fellow members of the presbyterate. “And when a priest, didn’t John represent us well?”

He went on: “Msgr. John Suelzer was a gentleman; he was kind to others. He was a wise person and a prudent person, and we all knew his warm sense of humor. For me, he was a good friend and I will miss him. We entered the seminary together in 1958, and have supported each other in our lives and parish work. I consider it a great privilege to be his friend.”

Stacey Huneck, youth minister at St. Charles, worked with Msgr. Suelzer. “Besides his generous heart, the memories that I will always keep with me are those of him making jokes. After he hired me, he embarrassingly forgot my name — so from then onwards, he intentionally called me by the wrong name. Sometimes, he would move his glasses to the tip of his nose, poke his head through the office door and accuselly joke, ‘Did I hear laughter? ... This isn’t getting the baby’s shoes paid for!’ He is greatly missed.”

Father Tony Steinacker, one of many priests who had the honor of serving at St. Charles alongside Msgr. Suelzer over the years, acknowledged his passing with a reflection on his tutelage. “The death of Msgr. John has caused tremendous loss for everyone who knew him. In so many ways, he touched our lives and helped us to grow in the knowledge of our faith and in relationship with one another, to build up the kingdom of God here on earth. He is in God’s loving care now, and forever in our hearts. Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Visitation, a rosary and vigil for Msgr. Suelzer took place Monday, Aug. 29, at St. Charles. He was buried at Catholic Cemetery on Tuesday, Aug. 30.
Six years in the making, a new gymnasium, school addition and parish green at St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, were blessed on Sunday, Aug. 28, by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. They were the final developments in the parish’s “Living Our Faith, Building Our Future” campaign, which raised over $5 million in four years.

The campaign previously provided renovation of the Ackles Parish Life Center, pew refurbishment in the main church and new preschool facilities. The gym and addition were direct responses to a pastoral strategic plan that recognized the needs of the parish and sought to address them. With the new gymnasium construction, St. Joseph School is able to host Inter-City Catholic League basketball and volleyball games onsite for the first time in school history.

Father Kevin Russeau, CSC, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, recognized that “It is through the grace of God that we receive the blessing of our new spaces — spaces that will strengthen Saint Joseph Church and School, and allow its people to more fully live our mission of making God known, loved, and served. … Think of the countless number of blessings taking place within these walls over the last 90 years; each occurrence of a mind discovering a wonderful truth, each heart witnessing an act of charity, of service, of love.”

Father Edward Sorin, CSC, founded the parish in the fall of 1853. He built, on what is now the north parking lot, a 22 x 40-foot building, establishing St. Joseph Parish as a place of worship, service and education for the families in the South Bend area. This new addition revitalizes the school building that was constructed in 1926 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The new classroom wing of the addition was named the Suzanne Wivi Education Center, in honor of the school’s recently retired principal of 27 years. It includes classrooms for science, art and music that are “spacious, bright and inviting,” stated new Principal George Azar. “The conference rooms, school counselor room, Scrip office, staff work room and nurse’s office provide us much-needed space. We are anxiously waiting for the sod to take, so we can run around on the new green space created as well. And the new gym with concessions is amazing.”

In addition to providing much-needed facilities for school use, the gymnasium and parish green will also accommodate parish-wide functions and activities.

In order to make space for the 15,000-square foot addition, the parish demolished its old parish office building — formerly a convent for the Sisters of the Holy Cross, who were serving the parish. The parish offices are now located in the new Ackles Parish Life Center, situated across the street from the addition.

Father Russeau, CSC, spoke at the dedication and blessing. “The parish has dreamed for many years about building a first-class gymnasium and proper green play space for the children whose minds and hearts we educate,” he said.

The building and its blessing should be considered in terms of historical significance as well, he noted. “The generations of St. Joseph faithful that have come before us have left us a great legacy — one only made possible by their fidelity and sacrifice. I continue to be humbled by the generosity within our St. Joseph community today. With these wonderful new spaces, our parish has built upon our legacy for the people of today as well as for those who will come tomorrow.”

Bishop Rhoades spoke about humility, as emphasized in the Gospel reading, in his homily. He eloquently stated: “To be humble is to recognize the truth of who we are as creatures from the earth, created by God. To be humble is to be truthful with oneself and in one’s relationship with others and with regard to God. Humility is reverence for the truth about ourselves.”

He quoted St. Augustine, whose feast day was celebrated on Aug. 28. “St. Augustine, the great sinner become saint, learned and accepted the truth about himself, that he was a sinner in need of God’s mercy. If we don’t celebrate this Jubilee Year of Mercy with that awareness, it will do us no good. As Saint Augustine says: ‘No one reaches the kingdom of heaven except by humility.’

This active humility was demonstrated well by Father Russeau, as he wove together the many visitors and events of the day, a welcomed back his fellow brother priests, Father John DeRiso, CSC, former pastor of the parish from 2004-13, and Father Nate Willis, CSC, the parish’s former associate pastor.

Azar described how the school community strives to live out this humility as well.

“Each morning after drop-off, we have enjoyed beginning our day in prayer in the new school gym, as a whole school community, before dismissing to start our day. The feedback from students of all grade levels has been exciting, and it reminds us how important it is to pray as a family. We are honored to have Bishop Rhoades bless this space, as we know it will enrich the prayer that we share in the space each morning.”

Andrew Polaniecki, parishioner and school board president, described the fulfillment of the construction with excitement.

“The new gym and classroom spaces are such a blessing to the whole parish community. Having Bishop Rhoades here for the dedication is encouraging to our families, who believe in Catholic education and desire the very best of our children.”

Toward the end of Mass, before the final blessing, Bishop Rhoades mentioned how happy he was to see so many young children in attendance. He suggested to Father Kevin that sometime soon, perhaps yet another new addition to the school building would be needed. “Only if Father John does the fundraising,” Father Russeau quipped.

St. Joseph Parish and grade school recently completed a $5 million building campaign that culminated in the construction of the gym, a green space and new preschool facilities, as well as renovations within the church. Following Mass on Sunday morning, Aug. 28, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and parishioners of St. Joseph process to the new gym for a blessing of the facility.

The pews at St. Joseph Church were refurbished as part of the parish’s recent building campaign.
Pope leads 11,000 pilgrims praying rosary for quake victims

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — After a strong earthquake struck central Italy and with the early news reporting many deaths and serious damage, Pope Francis turned his weekly general audience Aug. 24 into a prayer service. He urged the pope and some 11,000 pilgrims and tourists to recite the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary in St. Peter’s Square, six Vatican firefighters were on their way to the town of Amatrice, about 85 miles east of Rome, to help search for victims under the rubble. The pope sent six Vatican police officers to join them the next day. The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude 6.2 quake had an epicenter close to Norcia, the birthplace of St. Benedict and home to a monastery of Benedictine monks, who are attracting a growing number of visitors because of their solemn prayer life and beer brewing business. The monks and their guests were all safe, but the monastery and Basilica of St. Benedict suffered serious structural damage. Smaller tremors — at least two of which registered more than 4.0 — continued even 24 hours after the main quake. By early Aug. 26, Italian officials said the death toll had reached 267, and 266 people were hospitalized with quake-related injuries. Rescuers had been able to pull 238 people out of the rubble.

Indians gather to celebrate birthday of Blessed Teresa, soon-to-be-saint

KOLKATA, India (CNS) — They came from all around to celebrate the birthday of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, the founder of the Missionaries of Charity, who will become a saint Sept. 4. Kolkata Archbishop Thomas D’Souza celebrated Mass at the order’s motherhouse Aug. 26 for the woman “who knew everyone and touched many lives.” Hymns were sung in Hindi and English. Sister Lucia, deputy head of the religious congregation, repeated Mother Teresa’s words: “We are not social workers; what we are doing for the people is, in fact, doing something for God, in the path of God.” Then the nuns, priests and faithful prayed for Mother Teresa and reiterated their commitment to carry forward her humanitarian work. Missionaries of Charity Sister Mary Prema Pierick, who was in Rome to lead the celebrations for the canonization to “risk their lives,” saying the canonization “will be a moment when, gathered around Mother, we shall have an experience of universal family of the children of the one heavenly Father. The difference of caste, creed, color, rich, poor will not prevent us from rejoicing together in the honor bestowed on Mother. Mother is with God and, as she promised us, she continues to light the light of hope and peace in everyone’s heart.”

Sisters committed lives to serving poor, vulnerable people in Mississippi

NAZARETH, Ky. (CNS) — The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth commit in their mission statement to “serve the poor,” and an assistant for the pope has praised their work. “But now we are experiencing that,” Sister Paula Merrill, a member of the congregation, said. “Every day when I pray, I think of the pope’s words ‘Who are we that we should criticize’... Our commitment is to say, ‘What more can we do?’”

Nigerian cardinal urges president to speed up promised changes

LAGOS, Nigeria (CNS) — Cardinal Anthony Olubunmi Okogie, archbishop of Lagos, has urged President Muhammadu Buhari to hurry with the changes he promised before his election last year. “Today, cries of hunger can be heard across the length and breadth of our vast country,” Okogie said in an interview with The Catholic Commentator, the archdiocesan newspaper. “Nigerians hungry not only for food, but also for good leadership, for freedom and justice,” the cardinal, retired archbishop of Lagos, said in an open letter to the president. The cardinal urged Buhari to make changes quickly, and, if he had begun, to redouble his effort so as to live up to Nigerians’ expectations. “It may not be written on the pages of history that Nigerians die of starvation under your watch,” he said. “This is the time to revitalize moribund industries, revitalize our agriculture, make our country tourist and investor friendly, and enable our young men and women to find full employment. Women’s World Trade Center, rein- vogue our agriculture, make our country tourist and investor friendly, and enable our young men and women to find full employment by contributing to the common good,” the cardinal said. He also appealed for an introduction of town hall meet- ings initiated by Buhari’s minis- ters, but added “in practice, you, not just your ministers, must converse with Nigerians. You are the president. You must be accountable to them.”

Cardinal Olke said Buhari could be likened to a pilot of an aircraft flying in turbulence.

Louisiana floods called worst U.S. natural disaster since Superstorm Sandy

BATON ROUGE, La. (CNS) — The line of destruction caused by historic flooding in southern Louisiana stretches for 25 miles, and, according to Red Cross officials, it is the worst natural disaster in the United States since Superstorm Sandy in 2012.

As we all know, the severe flooding in many areas of our diocese has dramatically affected the well-being and livelihood of countless people. Red Cross officials have reported that the clergy, religious and laity are stepping up to help those affected by this tragedy, and, working closely with the Catholic Church and our Knights of Columbus, the diocese will continue to make a real difference in the lives of the people of the Baton Rouge area.
Diocesan Holy Hour of Prayer for Peace in our Communities

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will lead a Holy Hour of Prayer for Peace in our Communities as part of the National Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities, on Friday, Sept. 9, the memorial of St. Peter Claver, from 7-8 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Dioceses throughout the United States will be observing this National Day of Prayer for Peace and Unity in light of race-related tensions and strife in various communities.

Rev. Frater Brennan professes Solemn Vows

DE PERE, Wis. — On Sunday, Aug. 28, the Solemnity of St. Augustine, Rev. Frater Michael Brennan, O. Praem., professed Solemn Vows, forging a mutual lifelong commitment to the canonical life between himself and the entire professed community. Abbot Neville presided over the entire professed community.

On Monday, Aug. 29, Rev. Frater Brennan was also ordained to the diaconate by Most Rev. Dale J. Melczek, D.D., bishop emeritus of Gary, Ind.

Rev. Frater Brennan, 39, is the son of Michael and Dorothy Brennan of Michigan City, and a son of Queen of All Saints Catholic Church in Michigan City. His parents now belong to St. Pius X Catholic Church in Granger.

A 1995 graduate of Marian Pre二战 High School, Michigan City, he graduated from St. Norbert College, De Pere, Wis., in 1999 with a bachelor’s degree in philosophy and psychology and a minor in religious studies. In 2001 he received a Master of Education degree from the University of Notre Dame. He anticipates completing his Master of Divinity in May 2017 and a Master of Arts in Spirituality in the fall of 2017. Both degrees will be granted by Catholic Theological Union, Chicago. Rev. Frater Brennan will be ordained a Norbertine priest on May 27, 2017.

Day of Recollection planned

HUNTINGTON — The Offices of Catechesis and Youth Ministry will have a day of recollection Saturday, Sept. 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Victory Noll Center, address. The day is open to all priests, deacons, religious, Catholic school principals and their staff, religious educators, catechists, youth ministers and parents/grandparents. There is no charge to attend; however, registra-

Our Lady of Fatima Statue visits dioecese

Provided by Sacred Heart School, Warsaw

On Aug. 16, Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, was honored to have the Fatima Centennial U.S. Tour for Peace statue visit. Larry Magiotti, custodian of the statue, spoke at the children’s Mass about the beautiful story of our Lady of Fatima. Pictured are Sacred Heart students praying in front of the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The statue also visited the parishes of St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart, St. Mary of the Assumption, Decatur and Queen of Peace, Mishawaka.

Christian Culture lecture planned

NOTRE DAME — The Saint Mary’s College Department of Humanistic Studies will present presidential historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Doris Kearns Goodwin to speak at the Christian Culture Lecture. Goodwin will present “Leadership Lessons from the White House: Doris Kearns Goodwin on the American Presidents” on Tuesday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m. in O’Laughlin Auditorium with a book signing and reception to follow.

As the country’s preeminent presidential historian, Goodwin will share cherished stories, intimate insights, and in-depth analyses of the U.S. presidency, which she has studied for more than four decades. She will also suggest how Christianity has affected the presidency and influenced governance.

Drawing from her award-winning and bestselling biographies of Lyndon Johnson, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Franklin Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln, Goodwin brings the past alive, delivering an insider’s look at the captivating stories that illuminate the inner complexities of our most famous leaders.

“We are thrilled and honored to welcome Doris Kearns Goodwin to Saint Mary’s,” Professor of Humanistic Studies John Shinners said. “It’s especially exciting to have her here to share her insights just a month before the upcoming historic national election.”

Goodwin was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in history for “No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II.” She worked with Steven Spielberg on the film “Lincoln,” based in part on her award-winning “Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln.” She is well known for her appearances and commentary on television, where she is seen frequently on NBC, MSNbc, CBS, ABC, FOX, CNN, “The Charlie Rose Show” and “Meet the Press.” Other appearances include “The Oprah Winfrey Show,” “The Tonight Show with Jay Leno,” “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart,” “The Colbert Report,” “The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson,” and many more.

Goodwin has served as a consultant and has been interviewed extensively for PBS and the History Channel’s documentaries on LBJ, the Kennedy family, Franklin Roosevelt, Abraham and Mary Lincoln and Ken Burns’ “The History of Baseball and The Civil War.”

Goodwin earned a Ph.D. in Government from Harvard University, where she taught Government, including a course on the American Presidency. She served as an assistant to President Lyndon Johnson in his last year in the White House, and later assisted President Johnson in the preparation of his memoirs. Goodwin is the winner of the Charles Frankel Prize, given by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Sarah Josepha Hale medal and the Lincoln Prize.

Admission is free with a ticket. Contact the Moreau Center box office at 574-284-4626 or moreaucenter.com for information.

USF announces tenure, promotions; honors faculty at dinner

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis recognized faculty achievements at its annual Faculty Scholarship banquet on Aug. 25. Instructors who won university awards, completed advanced degrees or earned tenure, promotions and sabbaticals were honored.

The 2015-2016 Leepoxy Award for Teaching Excellence was awarded to Dr. Michael Bechill of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Paul Schmidt of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences was awarded the 2015-2016 Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award.

Faculty earning promotions in 2015-2016 include:

• Amanda Benz, Assistant Professor of Nursing;
• Weston Cutter, Associate Professor of English;
• Mark Everetts, Assistant Professor of Music Technology;
• Dr. Andrea Geyer, Associate Professor of Chemistry; Dr. Mark Hopp, Professor of Biology; Dr. Elizabeth Kuebler-Wolf, Associate Professor of Art History; Dr. Lewis Pearson, Associate Professor of Theology; and Mary Jo Tirpak, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy.

Faculty earning tenure in 2015-2016 include:

• Rebecca Coleman, Associate Professor of Social Work;
• Weston Cutter, Associate Professor of English;
• Mark Franzen, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy;
• Dr. Andrea Geyer, Associate Professor of Chemistry; Dr. Matthew Hopf, Associate Professor of Biology; Michelle Lefever, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology and Nutrition; Dr. Lewis Pearson, Associate Professor of Philosophy; Dr. Thomas Schneider, Associate Professor of Political Science; and Dr. Louise Weber, Associate Professor of Biology.

Faculty members who were honored for completing advanced degrees are: Carrie Engel, School of Health Sciences, Dr. Angela Ibarra, School of Science and Health Sciences, Dr. Robert Lee, Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership and Dr. Susan Lown, School of Health Sciences.
Principal of St. Therese School loses battle with cancer

By Molly Gettinger

The mission of St. Therese School, Fort Wayne, is “to learn and share the Gospel and serve all God’s children.” That perhaps has been no better lived than in the life of the school’s late principal, Chuck Grimm. After a four-year battle with cancer, and surrounded by his family, Grimm passed away Wednesday, Aug. 24, at the age of 54.

Born in Portland, Ind., Grimm graduated from Ball State in 1984. That fall, he taught as a first-grade teacher at St. Joseph’s School, Decatur. In 1988, he transferred to St. Patrick School in Fort Wayne, and between 1988 and 1992 he taught a variety of grades including kindergarten, fourth grade and middle school, and he served as assistant principal. He received his masters degree from Indiana University in 1990. Grimm first joined the faculty of St. Therese in 1992 as assistant principal and third grade teacher, and was appointed principal in 1995. He served as teacher and development director for Benoit Academy from 2002 until 2006, when he was appointed principal of St. Aloysius. Grimm rejoined St. Therese in 2006 as principal, and has served there in that role ever since.

Jeanette Donovon is currently serving as acting principal of St. Therese Catholic School. She shared that “Chuck’s commitment to his students was evident throughout his work. Mr. Grimm loved to have fun with his students. At one point, he even had his hair shaved because they raised so much money. He was willing to do anything to motivate the kids: special ribbons, buttons, or whatever he could do. One time, he got a pie in the face.”

Donovon continued: “Mr. Grimm loved Christmas. Every year he would start playing Christmas music in his office in October. He would also put up a 5-foot aluminum Christmas tree in his office, every year. It took up a good part of the office, but every class would take a trip down to see the tree.”

“Grimm’s commitment to children extended beyond his time as a teacher and principal. He spent several summers directing one of the six Foellinger Foundation Clubhouses, which provide at-risk children with a safe place to spend their summers. “He really enjoyed working with those kids,” Donovon shared. “Chuck was passionate about ensuring everyone had a safe place to go.”

He also had a strong commitment to providing a Catholic education to those who otherwise may not be able to afford it. At St. Therese he was a strong proponent to the voucher system, believing that a holistic Catholic education ought to be provided to everyone. He assisted other schools with the voucher program as well.

Marsha Jones, superintendent of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Catholic Schools, shared: “Over the last 16 years I have enjoyed the friendship of Chuck, but also benefited from his insight on educational issues. He was always willing to serve as a mentor to new principals or fulfill a committee need, when asked. He will be greatly missed. Most of all, he was very committed to the success of St. Therese School and its students, whom he cared for deeply.”

“In my very last visit with Chuck at hospice, he became very emotional as he spoke about how much he loved and cared for the children of St. Therese,” she continued. “He described how the children were his life and brought him so much joy, never more so than when a he saw a child who had been struggling with a concept finally succeed. They continued to bring him the energy he needed as he battled his illness, and I am confident that he will be watching over all of them as he experiences the joy of eternal life with Jesus.”

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• Keynote Speaker:  Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades
• Catered breakfast

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The year he was diagnosed, Grimm led St. Therese’s march to fight cancer of any kind. Michael Niemoeller, a first-grade student suffering from a brain tumor, helped him carry the sign.
Notre Dame faculty member joins Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences

BY CLAIRE P. KENNEY

This month, Pope Francis welcomed Paolo Carozza, director of the University of Notre Dame’s Kellogg Institute for International Studies, into the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. St. John Paul II established the academy in the mid-1990s to promote social science as a platform for the betterment of society.

“The Church needs a sophisticated engagement with the best of the social sciences in order to be able to judge as fully and realistically as possible what is happening in our world,” Carozza told Today’s Catholic. “And the social sciences need the deeply humanizing vision of Christian tradition in order to remain open to the whole breadth of reason, to use the phrase of Benedict XVI—and to the most authentic and relevant questions of human and social life.”

Carozza’s experience in bridging social science with human and social issues extends beyond his role as director of the Kellogg Institute, which concentrates on societal development on a global level. Carozza directed Notre Dame’s Center for Civil and Human Rights from 2011-13, and he previously served as the president of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Currently, he teaches at the university’s law school; his areas of expertise include comparative law, human rights and international law.

Carozza lends his background to society in other ways as well. He is actively involved with Notre Dame’s faith-based student club, Communion and Liberation. The club works to foster the maturity of faith of its members, including an understanding of the connection between Catholicism and culture.

“I help guide the communion and liberation community at Notre Dame because one can’t experience the exceptional beauty and fullness of humanity that we encounter in Christ’s presence and not be filled with the desire to share it with others,” he said.

He considers his admittance into the academy to be a responsibility, and believes that his background will blend well with his involvement on the board.

“It is a real gift to be invited to serve the Church in a way that puts all of my experience as a scholar in play so directly,” he commented.

Along with the other members of the academy and the Holy Father, Carozza will concentrate on a variety of current issues — including topics taken up at the direct request of Pope Francis, such as religious freedom, modern forms of slavery and sustainable development.

St. Mary of the Annunciation celebrates 75th anniversary

BY DENISE FEDOROW

BRISTOL — St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish, Bristol, observed its 75th anniversary with a variety of events over the weekend of Aug. 15, culminating with a Mass and dinner reception Tuesday night, Aug. 16.

The celebration began Saturday evening with a Mass, followed by bingo and food. A blessing and dedication of the new bell tower took place Sunday, after the 11 a.m. Mass. Following the dedication, those in attendance enjoyed ice cream sundaes in Annunciation Hall.

On Monday, a Holy Hour featured music provided by Mark Forrest, followed by a light reception. Tuesday, St. Mary’s pastor, Rev. Robert “Bob” Van Kempen, celebrated the parish’s 75th anniversary Mass, with Father Neil Wach, CSC, Father Steve LaCroix, CSC, Father Jason Freiburger and Father Bob Garrow concelebrating. Seminarians Keeton Lockwood and David Huner also participated.

During the homily, Father Van Kempen took the congregation on a short history tour of the parish. He stated that the parish had its beginnings before the church building existed. It was founded in 1941 and was dedicated to St. Isaac Jogues, a Jesuit missionary priest who brought Native Americans to the faith. A painting of St. Isaac Jogues is on the stand.

Since then there have been 2,388 baptisms recorded, 611 marriages and 485 funerals. St. Mary of the Annunciation has 750 registered families.

Father Van Kempen asked those in attendance to think of those first parishioners and all the dedication that strengthened the parish over the years, including those from St. John the Evangelist in Goshen and St. Vincent de Paul in Elkhart who helped get the parish off the ground, and all the times the people gathered there. This is where everything happened — the parish church,” he said.

Father Van Kempen also recognized Father John Vrabely, who served the parish for 25 years. “He was someone who served God so faithfully,” he said. Regarding his predecessor, Father James Secoloff, he noted, his “greatest gift to the parish was its Adoration Chapel.” He then fondly recalled Pat Cortas, calling her the “boss of the parish.” A longtime parish secretary, bookkeeper and director of religious education, Cortas passed away last year.

“People grew in faith, as did the parish,” he said. “Priests come and go, but this is your home, your church, your parish ... You don’t come here for a ‘feel good’ session, but you come to worship, to be nourished, to be fed, to grow in faith and open yourself up to God, because in the end, when you’re standing before God, he’s going to know what you did or didn’t do and it will be too late to change. The church is here to help,” he said.

“Tonight we laugh, we give thanks, we celebrate and share stories. (and) celebrate our faith in God. We have a great advocate and intercessor: If we give ourselves over to her, she will lead us to grow closer to her Son,” he said. “Let’s be mindful of what God has asked of us and be open to His Son, Jesus Christ.”

At the end of the Mass he thanked everyone for their hard work. “This is quite a joy-filled day for us, and we appreciate everyone being here with us.”

Several priests join St. Mary of the Annunciation’s Pastor Father Robert Van Kempen in celebrating Mass on the occasion of the parish’s 75th anniversary Aug. 16. From left are Father Jason Freiburger, Father Bob Garrow, Father Bob Van Kempen, Father Steve LaCroix and Father Neil Wach.

Father Robert Van Kempen gives a homily relating some history of the parish, including that the parish was initially dedicated to St. Isaac Jogues, a Jesuit missionary priest who brought Native Americans to the faith. A painting of St. Isaac Jogues is on the stand.

PHOTO BY DENISE FEDOROW

Father Van Kempen thanked everyone for their hard work, their dedication and their commitment to the church. “I ask you to join me in thanking everyone for their service and dedication to the church, and I also ask you to give thanks,” he said. “We are so grateful for what we do here.”

PHOTO BY DENISE FEDOROW

After Mass a dinner was served in Annunciation Hall and the parish library that included a variety of desserts, including these festive cupcakes. Those who attended the dinner received a commemorative coffee mug.

PHOTO BY DENISE FEDOROW

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Paolo Carozza, professor of law and political science and director of Notre Dame’s Kellogg Institute for International Studies, has been appointed to the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences by Pope Francis.
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Lifelong learning in South Bend celebrates 42 years of classes

BY JENNIFER MILLER

This autumn, the Forever Learning Institute in South Bend — a ministry of St. Therese, Little Flower Parish — will celebrate 42 years of offering classes for those 50 years of age “and better.” FLI believes in the importance of challenging educational classes for the older adult population, and in fact, over 100 classes per semester are taught by 120 volunteer instructors.

The width and breath of the classes is truly stunning. From cooking Dim Sum and learning Polish, Hebrew or Arabic to improving I-Pad skills and sweating though Zumba, the courses truly educate the mind, body and soul. Almost every academic interest and hobby is addressed — all for the sake of learning and growth.

The fee to join is minimal, and the classes feature no tests or grades. But the community, rich learning experience and personal growth draw participants to return each year.

“You can come and expand your horizons spiritually, physically, intellectually and emotionally,” board Director Elsie Nemeth enthusiastically explained. “People find a home away from home here — as well as so much enjoyment. We are all about lifelong learning.”

New this semester is a course on “Vanity Fair” this fall.

St. Therese, Little Flower's ministry to older adults in the South Bend area takes the form of a wide variety of ongoing education classes offered next door to the parish, at the Forever Learning Institute.

Forever Learning Band at Music Village. Interested students with musical background and ability can join together to practice and play the classics, such as “6 Trombones.” Tim McBride, FLI board member, is leading the class and looking forward to the new initiative.

Another new course, “Okuyamba,” will be taught by Cyndy Searfoss, MA. It’s a course on delivering palliative care and best practices from both Uganda and the United States, offered in partnership with the Hospice Foundation.

All of the institute’s instructors are volunteers. Nemeth explained that this is because they see teaching at FLI as a “way to give back to the community.”

Daniel Csanyi, who is offering a particularly unique class this semester, is one example of that spirit of giving back: He feels it is important to set an example of lifelong learning.

“The participants are intelligent, motivated and enthusiastic to read the books,” he said. The classes he teaches focus on 19th and early 20th century literature. Csanyi will be leading a course on “Vanity Fair” this fall.

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The majority of courses meet at the Forever Learning Institute, next to St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, 54191 Ironwood Road in South Bend. Registration for the fall semester begins Aug. 30.
BY MOLLY GETTINGER

At the age of five, in 1927, Jane Derda moved to Indiana and became a member of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Now, at 95, she is just as active in her parish community as she was then. She participates in anything from Bible studies to faith sharing groups; one of her favorites among these is the diocesan-wide program “Why Catholic? — Journey Through the Catechism,” which is welcoming new participants as it begins its fall season.

Derda participates in Why Catholic at her home parish of Corpus Christi Catholic Church; however, that was not her initial parish. When she was 5 years old, her family transplanted from Ohio to the west side of South Bend, where they attended St. Adalbert Catholic Church. She recalls growing up as a parishioner at St. Adalbert, where she would bring her prayer book, in her first language of Polish, to the 40 Hours Devotion before the Blessed Sacrament. She remembers participating in special prayer services during the war, such as an intercessory service for Our Lady of Sorrows.

Forty years ago she first became a member of Corpus Christi. At the time, Mass was still offered in the basement of the school. Later, she moved into the neighborhood where Corpus Christi is located and raised her five children, then in their teens and early 20s, with her husband, Tony. A seamstress by profession, Derda would occasionally find herself using her gift of sewing and embroidery for creating alter cloths, church banners and vestments.

She recalled a tornado that tore through the neighborhood the same year the new parish was built. “It took my roof and part of the garage. When the tornado started coming, I ran into the basement,” she said. “Father Horvath was afraid the new church would become swept away. He stood outside on the hill, looking west over the neighborhood. The tornado rushed by church without causing any damage to the brand new building.” Forty years later that church is still standing, and Corpus Christi is a vibrant faith community led by Father Daryl Rybicki.

Why Catholic is one of the many groups in which Corpus Christi parish members are invited to participate. Derda has been an active member of this faith-sharing group since its first season in the fall of 2015. The Why Catholic program is divided into noncontingent seasons, and invites Catholic adults to deepen their faith through study of the catechism and community with others. Running for six weeks in the fall and six weeks in the spring, parishioners are invited to participate in just one six-week session or to remain active in the journey for the entire four years of the journey. Each year has a theme: the upcoming theme explores the Creed.

Across the diocese, various parishes host Why Catholic groups. Individual groups contain roughly six-10 members and meet in group leaders’ homes. With many groups at each parish, Why Catholic planning committees place participants into a group according to their availability.

When Derda talks about her experience with Why Catholic, she shares that “I’ve always loved Jesus and the Church. These have always been my first loves. This group deepens this love. You meet people on the same journey as you. It is so interesting to listen to everybody. The more you listen, the more you find out and go deeper. Everybody has their own experiences and versions of things that they bring to the table.”

“This is about getting people together to grow in faith,” added Debbie Green, Corpus Christi parishioner and a Why Catholic group leader. “Often we come to church but don’t even know the person sitting next to us. This brings us together as a parish community. We have people from all Masses coming together. If someone is sick, we pray for them. We’ve done service projects. Our group has become a family inside the church. And then when you go to church, you know more people. We are becoming a family.”

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The Local Cup: Brewing coffee and Catholic social teaching

BY JENNIFER MILLER

W hen Michael and Catherine Griffin married, they promised each other they would make a commitment to their family and serve their local community and church. The shape of what that commitment would look like was unknown to them at the time, but they were open to the Holy Spirit’s promptings.

Michael, or “Griff,” serves as a theology professor of Catholic social teaching at Holy Cross College; Cathy works as a nurse for the Holy Cross Sisters. They are the parents of Benedict and Basil. In 2010, the couple was speaking and “wistfully dreaming” with friends John and Brooke, all four avid coffee drinkers, about how wonderful it would be to have a local coffee shop. Given the proximity of their home to the Holy Cross Neighborhood of South Bend, where the lived, the area already had a strong, diverse community with an active neighbor association.

Four years later, they tried a mini-version of a “pop-up” coffee shop during the NNN event Arts Café. It was wildly successful and very overwhelming.

They applied and received a grant from the Holy Cross Sisters, set up a board of volunteers and claimed 501c3 status. In March 2015, the couples began the process of restoring an old business building that was worn and decayed into a friendly and welcoming space.

The choice of a location was a specific practice of Catholic social teaching, specifically regarding good stewardship and care for creation. Originally Minkler’s Hardware, the classic brick structure on the corner of Portage and California avenues had also been a barbershop, offices and most recently, used by the NNN community association. The rehab project was blessed in March 2016 by former Holy Cross Parish, and he and his family could share their love of God with the community.

With a humble and joy-filled spirit, the Griffins clearly live an active, faithful Catholic life. The Catholic social teachings of subsidiarity and solidarity are practiced at The Local Cup, but done so in action and not by outright preaching. Griff gladly shares his theology and faith when asked, but his desire to build the kingdom of God knows that sometimes the words follow the works. One practical way the principles are implemented is through the unique business model of a sustainable, “pay it forward” system. Griff hoped that the project would provide “development without gentrification,” a goal he feels is worth a lifetime of effort. He recognized the beauty and strength already present in the NNN, from the diversity and history in the area, and hoped that as parishioners of nearby Holy Cross Parish, and he and his family could share their love of coffee and the reimagining of the place. The café buys the roasted beans from them, grinds, brews and serves its own unique blend.

The product itself is locally sourced. The beans are direct trade from a farmer in Honduras, sent to South Bend and roasted in town by Zen and Bendix Coffee. The café buys the roasted beans from them, grinds, brews and serves its own unique blend. Catholic social teaching principles can also be observed when local teenagers are hired as baristas. More than a shift job, they are given both leadership skills and coffee brewing training. As a result, the employees feel valued and respected. They are paid fair wages and given shifts that don’t conflict with Sunday morning church services. College students serve as weekend managers.

Relationships

One relationship grew out of direct service with The Local Cup. Cathy became acquainted with Mr. Lu when the café was still just a dream. He was a researcher at the University of Notre Dame and lived alone, right around the corner. Lu was about to retire, and asked if they could use any volunteers. Cathy knew how often, in retirement, it can be difficult to find one’s new place and purpose, so she welcomed him.

Lu quickly found a home though at The Local Cup. Quietly refilling people’s coffee or just collecting and cleaning dishes, he brings a sense of care and compassion to the busy café. He even drew a graphite and paper detailed drawing of a Chinese temple, which hangs framed along with other striking local art on the walls.

Makaila Rangers, a barista at The Local Cup and NNN neighbor, finds that the business’ CST approach makes all the difference. “We live in this community, work with each other and we hang out, text and have dinner together. We are actually good friends and are really close. It’s not like we just work at the same place,” she said.

The Local Cup located at 1009 Portage Ave., South Bend.

Cassie Haw and her son, who are Near Northwest Neighborhood residents of South Bend, catch up with The Local Cup founder Michael Griffin, outside the café located at 1009 Portage Ave., South Bend.

Baristas at The Local Cup prepare drinks for their customers — the drinks that have been paid for by other customers who came before them.

Give Drink to the Thirsty
Poor Sisters of St. Clare religious professes final vows

BY JODI MARLIN

In a ceremony that was open to all, Sister Marie Veronica of Jesus, of the enclosed Poor Sisters of St. Clare, completed her perpetual religious profession to the Divine Bridgroom at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 15, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The Mass of profession was celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and concelebrated by five priests at St. Andrew’s Church, New Haven. The church is physically connected to Our Lady of Angels Monastery, where the Poor Sisters of St. Clare live.

The community was previously known as the Franciscan Sisters Minor, a public association of women who feel called to dedicate themselves to a lifestyle of holiness and service following the rule of St. Francis. They became enclosed four years ago after Bishop Rhoades permitted the community to embrace a primitive expression of the Rule of St. Clare and live a life of poverty and restricted interaction with the outside world.

It was at that point that their name changed to the Poor Sisters of St. Clare. They now lead a life of prayer and relative quiet, although they may talk to each other or to visitors periodically throughout most of the day. Their daily agenda consists of prayer, Eucharistic adoration, daily tasks, participation in classes, meals, recreation and social time.

As evidenced by Sr. Marie Veronica, removing themselves from the outside world has only served to intensify their joy and love for Christ. That devotion has served to intensify their joy and love for Christ. That devotion has served to intensify their joy and love for Christ.

Generally, the enclosed sisters are physically connected to Our Lady of Angels Monastery, where the Poor Sisters of St. Clare live. Their daily agenda consists of prayer, Eucharistic adoration, daily tasks, participation in classes, meals, recreation and social time.

And it is really is her joy — it’s an expression of her great joy.

Bishop Rhoades thanked all the sisters for their great self-gift, for their sacrifice and for their joy. In his homily, he also called attention to Mary’s acceptance of God’s will for her life — her “yes” to him. Sister Marie Veronica imitated that submission, he noted.

She realized, ‘This is not about me. Why don’t we let the community be involved?’ For her it’s an expression of her great joy. And it is really is her joy — it’s like heaven on Earth, what we experience. It’s extreme.”

Bishop Rhoades thanked all the sisters for their great self-gift, for their sacrifice and for their joy. In his homily, he also called attention to Mary’s acceptance of God’s will for her life — her “yes” to him. Sister Marie Veronica imitated that submission, he noted.

Today, Sister Marie Veronica pronounces another great yes to God. She says yes to live the consecrated life as a response to God’s call. She makes perpetual vows, promising to follow the Lord in the manner of Saint Clare of Assisi, as a cloistered, contemplative nun. There’s an echo of Mary’s yes, her fiat, today as Sister Marie Veronica makes her perpetual profession in response to God’s call,” he said.

“Sister Marie Veronica says yes today to the contemplative life, a life of prayer in the cloister as a Poor Sister of Saint Clare. She says yes to follow Christ’s life of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Touched by God’s love, like Mary, like Saint Clare and Saint Francis, and like Saint Veronica Emiliani, Sister Marie Veronica is saying yes to that love, the love that gives meaning and joy to our lives. Her yes today, a yes to be repeated every day, is a step toward heaven.”

In attendance were members of Sister Marie Veronica’s family, including her parents, Keith and Marie Goins, and several of her siblings; all of whom the bishop thanked for their sacrifice and for their faithfulness.

Following the Mass the sisters enjoyed a potluck dinner, music and fellowship with their guests, who included the Franciscan Brothers Minor. The brothers also participated in the Mass with their attendance and by providing joyful and reflective choral support.

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SUNDAY, SEPT. 11
Serving the food you love in air-conditioned comfort 12-5

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Photos by Jodi Marlin

Several priests concelebrated the Mass of Perpetual Religious Profession of Vows of Sister Marie Veronica of the Poor Sisters of St. Clare at St. Andrew’s, with members of the Franciscan Brothers Minor and deacons.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades hears the Perpetual Religious Profession of Vows of cloistered Sister Marie Veronica of Jesus, PSC, during a holy Mass celebrated at St. Andrew’s Church, Fort Wayne, Aug. 15.
YES! We are celebrating our (__) 25th Jubilee       (__) 50th Jubilee       (__) 60th Jubilee
We will attend Mass in (__) Fort Wayne   (__) South Bend    Attend Reception? (__) YES   (__) NO
Number of family members attending reception with us:__________
Names:_________________________________________________________________________________________
Address:________________________________________________________________________________________
Phone:________________________________________ Email:___________________________________________
Current Parish:_______________________________________________ Wedding date:___________________
RSVP by September 16, 2016 for Fort Wayne and September 23, 2016 for South Bend.

On Aug. 16, Bishop Kevin Rhoades assembled 12 diocesan pastors from parishes with large Latino populations and introduced the Prophetic Voting Campaign — a unique opportunity through which the Church can bear prophetic witness and stand with the marginalized during an election season that threatens to make them feel overwhelmed and unimportant. Above, clergy and laity of St. Patrick Parish and St. Joseph the Worker Parish, both in Fort Wayne, launch their Prophetic Voting plan. The overall diocesan goal is to have deep, one-on-one conversations with a total of 2,000 Catholic and minority voters throughout the diocese. The initiative also helps potential voters register, discover when and where to vote, and invites them into a sustained effort to build the leadership capacity and public voice of low and moderate-income residents of Northeast Indiana. To become a Prophetic Voting parish or to learn more about the long-term goals of the campaign, visit www.diocesefwsb.org/social-justice.

El 16 de agosto, Obispo Kevin Rhoades juntó a 12 pastores diocesanos de condados con grandes poblaciones latinas e introdujo la Campaña de Votación Profético — una oportunidad única a través del cual la Iglesia puede dar testimonio profético y respaldar a los marginados durante una temporada de elecciones que les hace sentir abrumados y sin importancia. En la foto, miembros del clero y laicos de la parroquia de San Patricio y San José el Trabajador, ambos de Fort Wayne, ponen en marcha su plan de Votación Profética. La meta diocesana es de abarcar profundas conversaciones con un total de 2,000 votantes católicos y minorías en toda la diócesis. La iniciativa también ayuda a los potenciales votantes a que se registren y descubran cuándo y dónde votar, y les invita a un esfuerzo sostenido para fortalecer la capacidad de liderazgo y voz pública de los residentes de bajos y ingresos del noreste de Indiana. Para convertirse en una parroquia de Votación Profética o para aprender más sobre los objetivos de la campaña, visita www.diocesefwsb.org/social-justice.
Pope meets with Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Continuing his dialogue with leaders in the world of social media and technology, Pope Francis met with Facebook founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg. Zuckerberg and his wife, Priscilla Chan, met the pope Aug. 29 in the Domus Sanctae Marthae, where the pope lives.

“It is an honor to be with you today,” Zuckerberg told the pope, adding that he hoped to help spread the pope’s “message of mercy and tenderness.”

He also presented Pope Francis with a model replica of Aquila, a solar-powered aircraft that will beam Internet connectivity to areas with limited or no connection.

Greg Burke, Vatican spokesman, said the pope and Zuckerberg spoke about “how communications technology can be used to alleviate poverty, encourage a culture of encounter and help deliver a message of hope, especially to the most disadvantaged people.”

Pope Francis presented Zuckerberg and his wife with a copy of “The Name of God is Mercy,” a book-length interview he did with Italian journalist Andrea Tornielli. In a message posted on his personal Facebook page, Zuckerberg expressed his admiration for the pope and “how he’s found new ways to communicate with people of every faith around the world.”

“It was a meeting we’ll never forget. You can feel his warmth and kindness, and how deeply he cares about helping people,” Zuckerberg wrote.

Throughout his papacy, the pope has highlighted the importance of social networks as a means to “facilitate relationships” while warning of their ability to “lead to further polarization and division” if used incorrectly.

“The digital world is a public square, a meeting place where we can either encourage or demean one another, engage in a meaningful discussion or unfair attacks,” the pope wrote Jan. 24, in his message marking the 50th World Communications Day.

Earlier this year the pope met with several notable tech giants, including Google’s Eric Schmidt and Apple CEO Tim Cook.

He also met with Kevin Systrom, CEO and co-founder of Instagram, two weeks before the Vatican launched the pope’s Instagram account, “Franciscus.” Upon its launch, the account broke a new record for gaining over 1 million followers in 12 hours.

Pope Francis’ Twitter account, @Pontifex, has also left its mark in the social media landscape with over 30 million followers spread across nine different language accounts. Twipolacy, a study of the Twitter accounts of world leaders and their retweet rates, declared the pope “by far the most influential” world leader on Twitter.

ALL INVITED

Join the 4th “Birth” day and re-dedication of the Apostolate of Divine Mercy in Service of Human Life and the joyful celebration of the canonization of Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Prayer Service by Bishop Rhoades
Sunday, September 4th
5 PM
2018 Ironwood Circle,
South Bend, IN 46635
574-286-7860
The event is free. Join us for a dinner/reception

Congratulations to the Apostolate of Divine Mercy in Service of Human Life on your 4th “Birth” day!

May God continue to bless your work & volunteers as you expand the scope of the Apostolate’s mission & evangelization initiatives.

Our parish supports & prays for you as you continue to serve those families and pregnant women in emergency need.

Christ the King | Holy Family | St. Adalbert
St. Anthony de Padua | St. Bavo | St. Casimir
St. Matthew Cathedral | St. Pius X
St. Stanislaus Kostka | St. Therese Little Flower

We hope many in our community will join your celebration with Bishop Rhoades at the prayer service for the Apostolate as it is rededicated to an expanded mission: The Apostolate of Divine Mercy in Service of Life, Marriage & the Family and in celebration of Mother Teresa’s canonization.

5 PM | 2018 Ironwood Circle
Sunday, Sept. 4 | South Bend, IN 46635

The event is free. Join us for a dinner/reception following

Thanks APOSTOLATE of DIVINE MERCY for your work in the Spirit of Mother Teresa! May the Lord grant you continued successes in your fight against the evils plaguing life, marriage, and families.

Fr. Tony and St. John the Evangelist in Goshen congratulate the Apostolate on four years of success, and we pray for your expansion as the APOSTOLATE of DIVINE MERCY in SERVICE OF LIFE, MARRIAGE, AND THE FAMILY.
Summit attendees get ZEAL for mercy

BY DENISE FEDOROW

They gathered from all over the diocese — priests and religious, directors of religious education, school faculty, RCIA directors, youth ministers, parents and grandparents — all serving in different ministries within their parishes, to attend the ZEAL Missionary Discipleship Summit held Saturday, Aug. 27, at Lakeview Middle School in Warsaw.

The theme for this year’s summit was mercy, coinciding with the jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis. The morning began with Mass celebrated with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and concelebrated by several priests.

Bishop Rhoades offered the Mass for Msgr. John Suelzer of St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne, who passed away earlier in the week and also, because in honor of the Feast of Saint Monica, for the return of fallen away Catholics to the sacraments.

Father Andrew Budzinski expressed gratitude on behalf of himself and his brother priests for the work that the attendees do for the faith.

“Consider our calling — we are called to a noble and horrifying task — to help people become saints. Feel unqualified? Unprepared? Good,” he said.

“Every thing the Father has is yours. Don’t hoard it and don’t hide it. It’s to be multiplied — dozens of times with your students, hundreds of times with other parishioners, thousands of times with generations of descendants of Jesus Christ,” Father Budzinski said. He also encouraged those in attendance to imitate the saints — St. Monica’s perseverance in prayer, Blessed Mother Theresa’s model of mercy, and Msgr. Suelzer, who served with love.

Bishop Rhoades delivered the keynote speech on the topic of the mercy of God. He spoke of being blessed to accompany the 137 young people from our diocese to World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland, and how impactful it was to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau and the Divine Mercy Shrine.

“After visiting a place of terrible sin, darkness and hatred, a place of misery, we visited a place where another reality shone forth: infinite love and redemption, a place of mercy,” he said.

“Pope Francis teaches that the word ‘mercy’ reveals the very mystery of the most Holy Trinity. Christ, the Son of God, is the full and definitive revelation of divine love and mercy. In His teachings and in His actions, Jesus shows us that God’s love is always ready to rise up and forgive, always ready to go to meet the prodigal son. God’s love is greater than sin, and stronger than death.”

In the crucifix, Bishop Rhoades said, we are reminded of the depth of God’s merciful love and the price of our redemption.

He concluded by stating that no matter what one’s ministry is in the church, everyone is called to show and bear witness to God’s mercy.

“If the new evangelization is to bear fruit we must live and testify to mercy, what Pope Francis calls ‘the beating heart of the Gospel.’ When he dedicated the Shrine of Divine Mercy Pope John Paul II said, ‘This fire of mercy needs to be passed on to the world. In the mercy of God the world will find peace and mankind will find happiness.’ I believe this. May the Lord bless us with the zeal to spread the fire of His love and mercy in our diocese and beyond.”

Following the keynote, breakout sessions were organized by ministry. After lunch, a panel that included Rev. Bob Lengerich, St. Mary of the Assumption, Decatur; Sr. Marie Morgan, OSF, Technology Department chairperson, Marian High School; Kathy Fech, director of faith formation and Building Inclusive Parishes, St. Joseph, Fort Wayne; Audrey Davis, secretary for young adult evangelization and social justice ministries for the diocese; and Deacon Mel Tardy, St. Augustine Parish, South Bend, discussed how to put God’s mercy into action within the various ministries in the church.

Music for the Mass was provided by members of St. Joseph Parish in Fort Wayne.

Bishop Rhoades distributes the Eucharist during the Mass celebrated at the start of the ZEAL Missionary Discipleship Summit.
Blessed Teresa: Witness of modern-day holiness

Blessed Teresa of Kolkata came to The Catholic University of America 45 years ago to receive her first honorary degree. If I'd been president of our school at the time, I would have tried hard to get a picture of her in a Catholic University sweatshirt.

I do have a lovely picture of my predecessor, Clarence Walton, with Mother Teresa in her saris, with the hood the university confers on doctors of humane letters. The citation for the degree said that the university was privileged to recognize a woman “for whom love is not a slogan but a way of life.”

In 2010 the U.S. Postal Service held a ceremony at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, at the corner of our campus, to dedicate a 44-cent stamp to Mother Teresa.

I attended that ceremony. So did Mother Teresa’s novice mistress from the Sisters of Loreto, the order she joined before she founded the Missionaries of Charity. The novice mistress was 105, though she didn’t look a day over 80.

On Sept. 4 of this year, Pope Francis will proclaim Mother Teresa a saint. And so she is one of the great and holy women of the 20th century.

This might seem a little sudden, as these things go. She died only 19 years ago. Most saints whose feasts we observe died only 19 years ago. Most get a picture of her in a Catholic time, I would have tried hard to have her first honorary degree. If I’d been years ago to receive her first... 

In the most ancient Christian tradition, however, it has been revered as inspired by the Holy Spirit.

This book, along with so much of the Wisdom Literature, builds on the basic notion that the unspoken Jewish belief in the one true God of Moses, and the law of Moses itself, reflect the deepest and best human logic, or wisdom.

Specifically, this reading simply says that much of life cannot be predicted beforehand, nor can it be limited. God is all-wise. The wonder is that God has shared with us in speaking to us through representatives such as Moses and the prophets.

For its second reading, the church chooses a passage from the epistle to Philemon. Only rarely is this epistle the source of a reading in the liturgy; possibly because Philemon is the shortest volume in the New Testament, with only one chapter. In this chapter there are only 25 verses.

The story is dramatic. Paul writes to Philemon, whose slave, Onesimus, escaped from Philemon’s custody and went to be with Paul. To run away from slavery was a very serious crime in Roman law at the time, as it once was in the United States.

In this letter, Paul announces that he is sending Onesimus back to Philemon, but Paul counsels Philemon to receive this runaway slave as a brother in Christ.

Beyond the particulars, several lessons strongly appear.

The first is that all humans are equal in dignity, having been created by God and having been redeemed by Christ.

Secondly, disciples must love all others, including those difficult to love.

St. Luke’s Gospel supplies the last reading.

The Gospel already has made clear that true discipleship builds upon a deeply personal will to follow the Lord. It is a decision not always easy to sustain. Enabling a disciple to continue in this resolve to remain and to abide by it in every circumstance of life requires not just determination but God’s strength and insight.

Continuing, the Gospel bluntly says that many obstacles can stand between a disciple’s initial intention to follow Christ and actually living as a disciple.

It is important to remember that Luke was written when Christianity, albeit an infant religion in the Roman Empire, very much was sailing into the hot, strong winds of cultural opposition to Gospel values and even persecution under the law.

In fact, an obvious result of this situation, was that Christians inevitably faced pressure from their loved ones to forsake the Gospel. Thus, the Evangelist here recalls that Jesus said a true disciple should turn away even from father and mother, brother or sister, if these close relatives refused abandoning Christ.

First and foremost was the disciple’s choice to be on one Christ.

The Gospel sets the stage: Living the Christian life is not easy. Christians must withstand much if they are committed.

Among other pressures is the pressure not to see God in others, not to give others their due. Only in standing firm against such pressures can a disciple expect to stay the course. To stand firm, the disciple first must admit personal inadequacy and ask for strength and wisdom from God.

Blessedly, if humbly sought, such sanctification and wisdom will come from God.

Following Christ is not an easy road.

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

The Book of Wisdom was written, according to scholars, in Alexandria, by a Jew who either had emigrated from the Holy Land, or whose ancestors had come from the Holy Land. Originally, it was written in Greek. Since it was written outside the Holy Land and not in Hebrew, orthodox Jews have never accepted it as genuine Scripture. Noting this, Anglican scholars in the early 17th century excluded it from the King James Version of the Bible.

In the Sunday School of Old Testament, it is tradition, however, it has been revered as inspired by the Holy Spirit.

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READINGS

Sunday: Ws 9:13-18b Ps 90:4-5, 12-17

Phil 9:10-12 17-19 1425-33

Monday: 1 Cor 8:1-6 Ps 5:5-7, 12 Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31 Ps 45:11-12, 14-17 Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Mi 5:1-4a Ps 136:5c-9b Mt 13:16-18, 23

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27 Ps 84:3-6, 12Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22 Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 Lk 6:43-49

Dreaming of the Caribbean: Bold adventures, surprise homecomings

An hour’s flight from Caracas, Venezuela. It was time to take a leap of faith, Wendy told me. Time for an adventure.

Sunday night rolled around — dishwasher loading, Netflix and Etsy — and I couldn’t stop thinking of St. Croix. I felt a jolt of inspiration. Somewhere folded within Wendy’s news, should I acknowledge it, was a challenge.

Could we all use the push to finally do the thing we’ve always wanted to do? Couldn’t we all use the audacity — that place in the heart where blood pumps in equal measures of courage and impatience — to go ahead and do it?

My early 20s took me across the globe with friends, with family and for journalism: from Kilkenny, Ireland to Ketchikan, Alaska. I prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, strolled through Venice on a wet, ethereal night and embraced the pope in St. Peter’s Basilica.

But part of young adulthood is letting the slow tilt of maturity...
Advice to students new and old

Last week I offered some remarks at the matriculation ceremony for Thomas Aquinas College in California. Since I would give the same advice to any Catholic students reentering the school year, I thought I would share my thoughts here.

A few months before I was named bishop, I gave another lecture at Thomas Aquinas College. I was asked to deliver a talk that I thought was going to be a little too heavy. It was late at night, I had flown in from Chicago and driven up the California highway, and I thought, “Oh, this talk is going to bomb.” Yet when I finished it, there was an hour of questions from the engaged students! The experience gave me a direct taste of the intellectual vitality of Thomas Aquinas College, which has always been a joy. One of the pleasures of being assigned to Santa Barbara is that this college is in the region.

Today, I would like to share a few simple thoughts, directed especially to incoming freshman. It is a privilege to welcome these new students to the school, which is one of the premiere liberal arts colleges in the country. You have come to a great place—and to a pivotal moment in your lives. For the next four years, you will have the opportunity to immerse yourselves in the best minds that the Western world has produced: Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Augustine, Boethius, Anselm, Thomas Aquinas, Duns Scotus, Dante, Newton, Lincoln and Einstein—among many others.

In doing so, you will be standing very much athwart the contemporary culture, which holds that truth, both theoretical and moral, is relative and that personal freedom trumps objective value. Your instructors here don’t drift with the cultural mainstream; they believe, with G.K. Chesterton, that an open mind is not an end in itself but rather is like an open mouth, designed to bite down on something solid and nourishing. And they maintain, with Pope John Paul II, that authentic freedom always subsists in tight correlation with the truth. In light of this, please know that you are going to be formed, whether you like it or not, as warriors. For the vision of life that you will take in here will not be widely shared by your contemporaries. Expect opposition; expect a struggle; but enter into the lists with what the French call the joie de combat.

Young friends, know that you will engage in a study of the great minds of the West precisely because this college is dedicated to Jesus Christ and his Gospel. St. John tells us explicitly that “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” It is crucially important to grasp—in our relativistic time—that Jesus is not one teacher among many, one more in a long line of prophets and sages, but the very truth that every teacher, prophet, and sages has sought. But if he is the Logos in person, then every particular expression of the Logos—whether it is found in mathematics, poetry, chemistry, physics, or metaphysics—speaks, in some way, of him. This is the ground of Christian humanism and the explanation as to why the best representatives of the Catholic tradition never drove a wedge between faith and reason. It is also why the patron of this school, when asked by the Lord what he desired as a reward for his service, famously responded, “Non nisi te, Domine” (“Nothing but you, Lord”). Thomas Aquinas understood that in receiving Christ, he would also receive everything else of value. A final consideration, which might seem a tad trivial after all of this high-flying talk. The study of the greatest minds is, quite simply, a delight. Machiavelli is a thinker with whom I rarely agree, but he said something that I have always treasured. He observed that when he entered his study to read the most sublime philosophers, he took off his mud-spattered workaday clothes and put on a regal gown, for he knew that he was entering into communion with masters.

Over the coming years, you will set aside mere practicalities, clothe yourselves in regal gowns and become participants, however humble, in the most stimulating conversation of all: God bless you on this great adventure!

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September 4, 2016

Lk 14:25-33

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: a teaching that sounds hard. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

CROWDS WIFE CANNOT CROSS FIRST FOUNDATION TWENTY TRAVELING BROTHERS WHOEVER WHICH OF YOU SIT DOWN BUILD FAR AWAY COMES TO ME LIFE CARRY TOWER THE COST WHAT KING PEACE

THE COST


SCRIPTURE SEARCH

September 4 and 11, 2016

Luke 14:25-33

Phm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33 and Ex 37:7-11, 13-14; 1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-10

The Cross Word

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

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

WORD ON FIRE

BISHOP ROBERT BARRON

CAPECCHI

Continued from Page 19

carry your feet to the ground, like a teeter-totter nearing the grass. It’s figuring out where to be and do and put on a regal gown, for he is the Wedge between faith and reason. Catholic tradition never drove a wedge between faith and reason. It is also why the patron of this school, when asked by the Lord what he desired as a reward for his service, famously responded, “Non nisi te, Domine” (“Nothing but you, Lord”). Thomas Aquinas understood that in receiving Christ, he would also receive everything else of value. A final consideration, which might seem a tad trivial after all of this high-flying talk. The study of the greatest minds is, quite simply, a delight. Machiavelli is a thinker with whom I rarely agree, but he said something that I have always treasured. He observed that when he entered his study to read the most sublime philosophers, he took off his mud-spattered workaday clothes and put on a regal gown, for he knew that he was entering into communion with masters.

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LOCAL CHEERLEADER NAMED ALL-AMERICAN

Saint Joseph High School student Kayla Graham was named an All-American Cheerleader during her recent time at the Universal Cheerleaders Association summer camp at Butler University. This award comes with an invitation to cheer at a special parade later in the year. The UCA provides high quality educational training for college and high school cheerleaders through summer camps and clinics on college campuses. Cheerleaders play an instrumental role in raising, leading and maintaining school spirit in and around their communities.

BY RON BUSCH

FORT WAYNE — Last season, St. Charles dominated Catholic Youth Organization football news in Fort Wayne and also at the diocesan championship held at the University of St. Francis’ Bishop D’Arcy Stadium. The St. Charles team won the championship 40-6 over South Bend St. Anthony. The consolation championship was held at the University of St. Francis’ Bishop D’Arcy Stadium. The St. Charles team won the championship 24-0.

The 2016 versions of St. Charles and St. Vincent do battle this year in week three of the upcoming season. This promises to be one of many interesting matchups in the fall. The two battled in the 2015 Fort Wayne CYO tournament at the grades seven and eight finale, as well as in the finale of the grades five and six tourney.

Look for other Fort Wayne teams to make this an exciting CYO season. The 2016 schedules appear at right.

Seyventh and eighth football schedule

Week 1 — Sunday, Sept. 11
12:30 p.m. — St. Charles vs. St. Vincent at St. Charles
2 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Vincent

Week 2 — Sunday, Sept. 18
12:30 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — Knights vs. Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Vincent
Week 3 — Sunday, Sept. 25
12:30 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Charles
2 p.m. — St. Charles vs. St. Vincent vs. Knights at St. Vincent

Week 4 — Sunday, Oct. 2
12:30 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. St. Vincent
2 p.m. — Knights vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent

Week 5 — Sunday, Oct. 9
12:30 p.m. — St. Vincent vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — St. Charles vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Week 6 — Sunday, Oct. 16
12:30 p.m. — St. Vincent vs. St. Charles at St. Charles
2 p.m. — Knights vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Week 7 — Thursday, Oct. 20
12:30 p.m. — St. Vincent vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Vincent

Week 8 — Thursday, Oct. 27
12:30 p.m. — Knights vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Week 9 — Thursday, Nov. 3
12:30 p.m. — St. Charles vs. St. Vincent at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Vincent

Week 10 — Thursday, Nov. 10
12:30 p.m. — Knights vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Week 11 — Thursday, Nov. 17
12:30 p.m. — St. Charles vs. St. Vincent at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Vincent

Week 12 — Thursday, Nov. 24
12:30 p.m. — Knights vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Week 13 — Thursday, Nov. 30
12:30 p.m. — St. Charles vs. St. Vincent at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Vincent

Week 14 — Thursday, Dec. 7
12:30 p.m. — Knights vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Week 15 — Thursday, Dec. 14
12:30 p.m. — St. Charles vs. St. Vincent at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Vincent

Week 16 — Thursday, Dec. 21
12:30 p.m. — Knights vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
2 p.m. — St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Fifth and sixth football schedule

All games at 5:30 p.m.

Week 1 — Thursday, Sept. 8
Central Catholic vs. St. Vincent at Havenhurst
St. Charles vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Week 2 — Thursday, Sept. 15
St. Vincent vs. Knights at St. Vincent
St. Charles vs. Central Catholic at St. Charles

Week 3 — Thursday, Sept. 22
St. Vincent vs. St. Charles at St. Vincent
Knights vs. Central Catholic at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Week 4 — Thursday, Sept. 29
St. Charles vs. Knights at St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 5 — Thursday, Oct. 6
Central Catholic vs. St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 6 — Thursday, Oct. 13
Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 7 — Thursday, Oct. 20
Central Catholic vs. St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 8 — Thursday, Oct. 27
Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 9 — Thursday, Nov. 3
Central Catholic vs. St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 10 — Thursday, Nov. 10
Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 11 — Thursday, Nov. 17
Central Catholic vs. St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 12 — Thursday, Nov. 24
Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 13 — Thursday, Nov. 30
Central Catholic vs. St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 14 — Thursday, Dec. 7
Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 15 — Thursday, Dec. 14
Central Catholic vs. St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

Week 16 — Thursday, Dec. 21
Central Catholic vs. Knights at St. Charles
St. Vincent vs. Central Catholic at St. Vincent

The tournament schedule will be played on Thursday, Oct. 20, and Sunday, Oct. 30, at Saint Francis.

Attention Business Professionals!

Diversify your business network! Create new connections with other Catholic business professionals.

Thursday, September 15 | 5:30-7:30pm
The Lodge at Coyote Creek Golf Club | 4935 Hillegas Road, Ft. Wayne, IN 46818

$10 Per Person. Includes Hors d'oeuvres. Cash Bar Available.

$5 Putting Tournament (optional) Proceeds to be split between Seminarian Education Fund and the winner. Door prizes also to be awarded.

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RSVP to Tess by Sept 12: tsteffen@diocesefwsb.org | (260) 399-1457
or online at www.TodaysCatholicNews.org/MeetandGreet

The Fort Wayne St. Vincent de Paul Society’s 5TH ANNUAL CHARITY-FEST

Saturday, October 1, 2016
Music by THE JUNKYARD BAND
Live & Silent Auctions
• Cash Bar • Dinner Buffet
The University of St. Francis
Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center
431 West Berry Street, Fort Wayne 46802
Cost: $25 per person in advance - $30 per person day of event
Tables of eight may be reserved when ordering tickets in advance.

CONTACT: FRANK ODDOU at 260-494-0148

The tournament schedule will be played on Thursday, Oct. 20, and Sunday, Oct. 30, at Saint Francis.
Jaylon Smith: youth sports, faith and life after injury

BY RON BUSCH

Jaylon Smith, a talented athlete, Bishop Luers High School graduate and Notre Dame linebacker, was injured during the last game of his Notre Dame career on Jan. 1. Now recovered, he was recently drafted by the Dallas Cowboys and begins his NFL career this fall.

Smith sat down with Today’s Catholic to talk about how his early Fort Wayne influences, as well as his faith, formed him as a athlete and sustained him during his rehabilitation.

Today’s Catholic: What grade school did you attend? Did you participate in CYO or youth sports?

Jaylon Smith: I attended Village Elementary School and played Metro Youth Sports for the Outreach Rams, under Tom Macon.

Today’s Catholic: What sports interested you at an early age?

Jaylon Smith: I have always been interested in sports, but my favorites were football, baseball and basketball.

Today’s Catholic: Do you have any early recollections of your youth sports experiences?

Jaylon Smith: Some of my favorite and greatest memories are playing for the Rams. There was always a lot of pressure on me because my brother was very well-known throughout the community for his football skills, and I wanted to be great like him. I was under his shadow and always wanted to live up to his expectations. That fueled me to be a great football athlete. My experience with the Rams was very unique, because I grew up with many of the guys on my team and a lot of them went to Bishop Luers as well. During our time at Bishop Luers we earned four state championships because of the chemistry we developed from playing together for so long.

Today’s Catholic: Did any early coaches influence you?

Jaylon Smith: Yes, Tom Macon, Matt Lindsey, Virgil Tharp and Matt Millhouse all had a very great influence over me.

Today’s Catholic: What lessons learned during youth sports have you carried over into today?

Jaylon Smith: I learned to always play with a passion, as well as to always give and receive respect from those around you. I also learned that in order to be great you must have dedication, work hard and be coachable.

Today’s Catholic: Did you have an early ambition to play a college or professional sport?

Jaylon Smith: Yes, I have wanted to play in the NFL since I was 7 years old.

Today’s Catholic: When did you decide to pursue football exclusively as your sport?

Jaylon Smith: For me, football has always been my first love, however I still really enjoyed playing baseball and basketball so I played those as well for a number of years. Senior year of high school I made the decision to focus solely on football.

Today’s Catholic: What words of wisdom would you share with coaches of youth sports, such as CYO?

Jaylon Smith: First and foremost, I have never had a concussion in my life and I would credit that to my Metro Youth Sports team, specifically Tom Macon, teaching me how to tackle the right way and play with my head up. Also, instilling the basic fundamentals of football into the youth is a huge key. You can apply those to everything in life and that has helped me greatly. Those basic fundamentals have helped me form my “Clear Eye View”. Clear Eye View is having a focused vision, determined belief and earned dreams. This means that whatever your Clear Eye View is, if you have those three keys, you will achieve your dreams.

Today’s Catholic: Has your faith played a part in your success?

Jaylon Smith: Faith is huge for my success. Because of my belief in God I have been blessed with success during my time playing football. It is very important to always give thanks to God, and that is just something I have always lived by. Giving Him thanks before, during and after games is a huge priority for me. Without Him, I wouldn’t have been blessed with the talents to even play this game at a high level.

Today’s Catholic: Can you think of a specific example in which you relied on your faith?

Jaylon Smith: Throughout my injury I have had to rely heavily on my faith. Throughout my success I have understood that an injury is always a possibility and I have feared that. Now that it has happened, I do not have any more fears because of my faith and trusting him that this injury was just part of His plan for me. I am humbled by the situation and very thankful it has happened because nothing has stopped me from my Clear Eye View.

Today’s Catholic: How do you practice and rely on your faith or beliefs in your day-to-day life?

Jaylon Smith: Consistent prayer drives me everyday to put positive words into my conscious and subconscious mind which allows me to flow freely. Giving thanks to God day in and out keeps me on the path to success.

Today’s Catholic: Do you have any words of encouragement for a CYO youngster wanting to follow in your footsteps?

Jaylon Smith: Take it day by day, set goals and methods to achieve them. School is extremely important and you must take it seriously. I still have a 3.0 GPA at the University of Notre Dame. Without valuing education, it is very hard to succeed in life.
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. 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.

Vocation Society plans meeting
Fort Wayne — The Father Solanus Casey Vocation Society (formerly the Serra Club) meeting will be Friday, Sept. 9, at St. Joseph Hospital with Mass at 11:30 a.m. in the hospital chapel followed by lunch and speaker, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades who will celebrate Mass.

Day of Reflection
Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent, across from Marian High School, Wednesday, Sept. 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “Mercy: Grow and Reflect.” Bring a Bible. The cost of the day is $20 and includes lunch. Register by Sept. 9 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Evening prayer hosted in Geddes Hall for Notre Dame community
Notre Dame — Vespers will be held once a month during the academic year in Our Lady of Mercy Chapel located in Geddes Hall. Hosted by the Institute for Church Life, the 30-minute evening prayer service begins at 5:15 p.m. and includes liturgical music, Scripture and a brief reflection by members of the university community. The dates for Vespers during the fall semester are Sept. 21, Oct. 12 and Nov. 30.

Jason Evert to speak on love, lust
Fort Wayne — Jason Evert will speak to parents and teens about purity and how to determine the difference between love and lust, on Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 7-8, at St. Vincent de Paul Church. At 6 p.m. Wednesday the topic is “Parenting for Purity” and is for parents only. At 7:30 p.m. Wednesday students in grades 7 and above, and their parents, can listen to his second topic, “Love or Lust?” At 9 a.m.

Thursday Evert will give a third talk, also titled “Love or Lust?” for students in grades 7 and 8, parents are welcome to attend.

Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Pray for vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life on Sept. 6 from 7-8 p.m. at the Mother Theodore Guerin chapel, located at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with Father Andrew Budzinski. For information, contact Christine Nix at cho-nahoom-nix@diocesesfwb.org or 260-422-4611.

Prayer gathering at St. Jude Parish
South Bend — A monthly prayer gathering is beginning at St. Jude Parish, 19704 Johnson Rd., on the 2nd Monday of the month from 7-8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, Mass on Monday, Sept. 12 at 5:30 p.m. will be followed by light refreshments. For information contact Dave and Jan Torma at 574-291-3381 or Patrick and Carol Miller at 574-273-4429.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61553 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Sept. 2, from 5-7 p.m. Adults $9, children 5-12 $4. Shrimp or chicken strips available for $9.50 and cheese pizza for $1 per slice.

Craft bazaar seeks vendors
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger Craft Bazaar is now accepting registrations for vendors and crafters for its Nov. 12 event. Crafters may rent tables for $50 each. Register on the performing arts page at www.bishopdwenger.com/Performing-Arts. Contact Karen Graham at 419-518-0241 for information.

Franciscan Fest seeks crafters
Fort Wayne — Crafters are invited to set up a table at Franciscan Fest for $20 per 8-foot space. Franciscan Fest will be held Sunday, Oct. 2, from 5-7 p.m., at St. Andrew’s Church, 2610 New Haven Ave. Call 260-739-6882 to reserve your spot.

Catholic Business Network meeting
Fort Wayne — The Catholic Business Network will resume Friday, Sept. 9, with Mass in the Guerin Chapel at 7 a.m. followed by fellowship in the Cathedral Center at 7:30 a.m. Guest speaker will be Thomas Didier. Refreshments provided by Oak Street Health. Call Cathy Tausin at 260-418-0262 for information.

The CrossWord
Crossword puzzle

REST IN PEACE

John N. Talarico, 70, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
Jack R. Witham, 78, St. Jude
William A. Kratzert, Jr., 89, St. Joseph
Gloria Resendez, 73, St. Joseph
Richard F. Hoffman, 81, St. Jude
Catherine M. Kittz, 96, St. Jude
Msgr. John N. Suelzer, 77, St. Charles Borromeo
Melvin H. Rodenbeck, 87, St. Jude
Granger
J. Brian McEvoy, 75, St. Mary of the Assumption
Walter J. M. Wiebke, 75, St. Jude
John A. Miller, 71, St. Charles Borromeo
Evelyn Lengerich, 74, St. Mary
Martha Sabbe, 101, St. Bavo
New Haven
Regina F. DeCoursey, 71, St. John the Baptist
Kenneth Arend, 83, St. Louis Besancon
Notre Dame
Rev. Marvin R. O’Connell, 66, Basilica of the Sacred Heart
South Bend
Helen T. Golubski, 89, St. Adalbert
Paul Podsirmki, 66, Holy Family
Hermina Takacs, 93, St. Jude
Warsaw
Sophia H. Long, 6, Sacred Heart
Waterloo
Robert C. Parker, 70, St. Michael the Archangel

Submit obituaries to mweber@diocesesfwb.org

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**DIOCESAN HOOLY HOUR**

**PRAYER FOR PEACE IN OUR COMMUNITIES**

**Friday, September 9, 2016**

**Memorial of Saint Peter Claver**

**7-8 p.m.**

Join Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades for a Diocesan Holy Hour of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities on Friday, Sept. 9, from 7-8 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.

Dioceses throughout the United States will be observing this National Day of Prayer for Peace and Unity in light of race-related tensions and strife in our communities.
You have always taken care of your family. What happens if you can no longer take care of yourself?

We don’t like to think about long-term care, because we don’t like to think that we’ll need it. But, chances are, we will.

Consider these statistics:

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$83,000 – is the average annual cost of private nursing home care.
$60,000 – is the average annual cost of at-home nursing care. ¹

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¹ U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Clearinghouse for LTC Information, 03/03/2014