Canonization of ‘Mother’ Teresa

St. Teresa of Kolkata will always be ‘Mother’ Teresa, pope says
BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES AND CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — With a large tapestry bearing the portrait of the woman known as the “Saint of the Gutters” suspended above him, Pope Francis proclaimed the sainthood of Mother Teresa of Kolkata, hailing her courage and love for the poor.

Despite the formality of the occasion, “her sanctity is so close to us, so tender and fruitful, that spontaneously we will continue to call her ‘Mother Teresa,’” Pope Francis said at the canonization Mass Sept. 4.

“Mother Teresa, in all aspects of her life, was a generous dispenser of divine mercy, making herself available for everyone through her welcome and defense of human life, those unborn and those abandoned and discarded,” the pope said in his homily during the Mass in St. Peter’s Square.

An estimated 120,000 people packed the square, many holding umbrellas or waving fans to keep cool under the sweltering heat of the Roman sun. However, upon hearing Pope Francis “declare and define Blessed Teresa of Kolkata to be a saint,” the crowds could not contain their joy, breaking Missionaries of Charity nuns attend an audience with Pope Francis in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican Sept. 3. The audience was for people engaged in the works of mercy and for pilgrims in town for the canonization of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata.

Pastor of Culver flock passes away from cancer

O n a sunny Sunday afternoon in Culver — usually a quiet time around the parish of St. Mary of the Lake — dozens of people gathered, during the first few hours of visitation, to remember the life of pastor Father Jeffery Largent, who passed away on Sept. 8.

“He was a true priest,” stated longtime parishioner and friend Judy Deery. “His vocation was the main thing in his life, and his first priority was the Mass. He loved saying it, and you knew it.”

Father Largent, pastor of the parish, passed away at his Culver home after his second battle with cancer. He died peacefully, surrounded by his close friends.

Present at his passing was Joan Lupa, a parishioner of St. Monica’s in Mishawaka, who went to high school with Father Largent. She remembers reconnecting with him when he was assigned to her family’s parish.

“I remembered his sense of humor from high school and didn’t know that he had become a priest. But right from the beginning, when our son’s illness overwhelmed our family, he was always there for us, helping us through so many trials and tribulations. It was amazing. He was such a generous person.”

Lupa’s husband, Jerry, agreed. “He was a very, very good friend to our family. I remember how he...”

LARGENT, page 4
The aims of a truly Catholic university

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The following is the text of the homily given by Bishop Rhoades at the University of Saint Francis on August 31, 2016:

It is joy every year to celebrate this opening Mass of the academic year here at the University of Saint Francis. It is good to pray with you this morning and to ask the Lord to bless you and your studies and all your endeavors in this upcoming year.

I imagine most of you attend Saint Francis to prepare yourselves for a chosen field of future employment, to be educated for your future careers. Some of you are probably not sure yet what career path to follow. Perhaps you are taking a variety of courses to see what interests you the most. I hope all of you, though, are pursuing studies with an even higher aim, the aim of an education at a Catholic university. That aim is truth, truth in all its many aspects: the truth about the world and nature, the truth about the human person, and ultimately, the truth about God.

The mission of a Catholic university is not only to impart useful knowledge, not only to teach data, facts, and other information, but to pursue truth and all aspects of truth in their essential connection with the supreme Truth, who is God.

Catholic universities, born from the heart of the Church, have an expansive view of human reason, not one that is limited to certain scientific or mathematical truths or to the material world, but a reason that is open to transcendence, a reason open to the deeper realities of the human experience, like love, a reason that is open to God.

We pursue truth on the wings of both faith and reason. Not faith alone and not reason alone. We firmly uphold the compatibility of faith and reason. Against fideism (faith alone), the Catholic Church defends the power of reason and its ability to attain the truth. Against rationalism (reason alone), the Church believes that faith transforms reason and imbues it with the power to contemplate the highest truths.

Faith enriches the intellectual pursuits of the university. Our faith stirs our reason to pursue the ultimate questions, and the lifelong joy of faith is a crown of glory in heaven!

I encourage you to consider more deeply your vocation as human beings created in God’s image and likeness. What is that vocation? It’s the vocation to love, to find yourself through the sincere gift of self. I pray that while here at the University of Saint Francis, you will learn to live this vocation and that you will grow in intelligence of the heart as well as the mind!

Learning to live a life of virtue, a good and moral life, is part of the enterprise of Catholic education. A truly Catholic university recognizes that every student has not only a mind, but a soul. An authentic Catholic university seeks to inculcate a spirit of service in its students and obedience to the Lord’s command in today’s Gospel: “love one another as I love you.”

This coming Sunday, Mother Teresa of Calcutta will be canonized a saint. What a great day of celebration that will be for the entire Church. It is very appropriate that Mother Teresa, like Mother Teresa, opened her heart to the merciful love of God in their lives. Then they carried that mercy and love to others. Mother Teresa carried God’s love to people who were unwanted, unloved, lonely, forgotten, and abandoned. She teaches all of us about our voca- tion to love. She teaches us, as Pope Francis exhorts us, to “go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tender- ness of God.” This is a lesson that is part of an education at a Catholic university. I pray that your education here at the University of Saint Francis will be an education of the heart as well as the mind, an education in virtue, and an education in love. That’s what we learn at this altar today, at the school of the Eucharist, that “no one has greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

Here at this altar, the sacrifice of Christ becomes present for us in mystery, in the sacrament of His Body broken for us and His blood poured out for us. The Eucharist is the sacrament of charity. Here we learn, cele- brate, and receive Christ’s gift of Himself to us, the gift of love that strengthened Mother Teresa for her amazing life of loving service of the poor, the gift of love that strengthens us to live good and holy lives. The educa- tion we receive here at the Eucharist is the most important lesson you can learn at the University of Saint Francis, because if it’s learned, the reward is more than a diploma, it’s a crown of glory in heaven!
Day of prayer aims to begin restoring peace to U.S. communities

WASHINGTON — Prayers for peace at Catholic schools and parishes around the country Sept. 9 were meant to “build relationships and plant seeds in people’s minds and hearts” said Bishop Shelton J. Fabe of Houma-Thibodaux, La. He said the nationwide celebration of a Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities should “raise awareness” of violence and racism within communities and empower people to do the work needed to restore racial harmony.

“We always begin with prayer, which prompts us to action,” said the bishop in a Sept. 8 telephone news conference. Bishop Fabe is a member of the new task force, chaired by Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, that supports the bishops in marking the day of prayer and in other efforts to promote peace and healing.

Named the USCCB Task Force to Promote Peace in Our Communities, the group will finish its work with a report on its activities and recommendations for future efforts at the November General Assembly of U.S. bishops.

National Day of Prayer for Peace in our Communities brings out the faithful

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A prayer vigil for the National Day of Prayer for Peace in our Communities was held Friday, Sept. 9, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

MOTHER

Continued from Page 1

out in cheers and thunderous applause before he finished speaking.

The moment was especially sweet for more than 300 Albanians who live in Switzerland, but came to Rome for the canonization. “We are very proud,” said Violet Barisha, a member of the Albanian Catholic Mission in St. Gallen. Daughter of Divine Charity Sister Valdete, a Kosovar and one of the Albanian group’s chaplains, said, “We are so happy and honored. We are a small people, but have had so many martyrs.”

Born in 1910 to an ethnic Albanian family in Skopje, in what is now part of Macedonia, Mother Teresa went to India in 1929 as a Sister of Loreto and became an Indian citizen in 1947. She founded the Missionaries of Charity in 1950. Mother Teresa, Sister Valdete said, is a shining example of how “Albanian women are strong and our people are hard-working.”

In his homily, Pope Francis said God’s will is explained in the words of the prophets: “I want mercy, not sacrifice.”

“God is pleased by every act of mercy because in the brother or sister that we assist, we recognize the face of God which no one can see,” he said. “Each time we bend down to the needs of our brothers and sisters, we give Jesus something to eat and drink; we clothe, we help and we visit the Son of God.”

Like Mother Teresa, he said, Christians are called not simply to perform acts of charity, but to live charity as a vocation and “to grow each day in love.”

“Wherever someone is reaching out, asking for a helping hand in order to get up, this is where our presence — and the presence of the church which sustains and offers hope — must be,” the pope said.

As she made her way through the tight security and past several closed streets to St. Peter’s Square, Maria Demurru said, “I couldn’t miss this. Even if there’s no place left for me to sit.”

The small Italian woman said, “Mother Teresa is a sign of the times. In her smallness, she revealed the calling we all have. She said we are all saints by our baptism and we must recover our original holiness. She lived in humility and simplicity like the poor of the earth and was never ashamed of that.”

President Barack Obama sent a delegation led by Lisa Monaco, his assistant for homeland security and counterterrorism. The U.S. delegation also included Ken Hackett, ambassador to the Holy See; Carolyn Woo, president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services; and Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA.

The first reading at the Mass was read by Jim Towe, who served as Mother Teresa’s legal counsel in the United States and Canada from 1985 to 1997, and as director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, 2002 -06. After the Mass, 250 Missionaries of Charity Sisters and 50 Missionaries of Charity brothers served pizza to about 1,500 poor people who had come to the Mass from shelters, dormitories and soup kitchens the order runs throughout Italy.

Pope Francis, through the office of the papal almoner, funded the lunch, which was prepared by a team of 20 pizza makers, who brought ovens with them from Naples and cooked behind the Vatican audience hall.

Special collection announced for victims of flooding in Louisiana

Terrible flooding in Louisiana, the worst domestic disaster since Hurricane Sandy, has affected as many as 60,000 homes, with nearly 20,000 people having been rescued from the flood waters.

Along with other dioceses throughout the country, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will take up an emergency collection on the weekend of Sept. 17-18 to assist the victims of the Louisiana floods. This collection will be used both to support the humanitarian efforts of Catholic Charities USA and to provide pastoral and rebuilding support to impacted dioceses.

Thank you for your generosity and prayerful solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Louisiana.
BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES invites you to join him on a pilgrimage to Spain & Portugal for the 100th Anniversary of the apparition of Our Lady of FATIMA

JULY 7-16, 2017

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New ministry announced:

Miriam’s Blessing

On Thursday, Sept. 14, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, the Diocese announced the formation of a brand new ministry called Miriam’s Blessing. This ministry, which is a partnership between the Office of Family Life and the Office of Evangelization, is a ministry for parents who receive a poor prenatal diagnosis.

Many times in a case of a poor prenatal diagnosis, there can be a huge pressure to abort. Miriam’s Blessing pairs these parents with volunteer couples who chose to carry their baby to full term, for individualized support and answers to questions along the way. Volunteer couples provide encouragement to the expecting parents as they begin to think about a birth plan and care for the child at risk.

The compassionate ministry of Miriam’s Blessing seeks to accompany parents and let them know that they are not alone. Regardless of a poor prenatal diagnosis, each baby brings something special to their family — they are a blessing and a gift.

For more information on Miriam’s Blessing, please visit www.diocesefwsb.org/family.
By Deb Wagner

The Women’s Care Center was established in 1984 to support women with unexpected pregnancies who wanted to explore their options and become better mothers. The hope is that women will choose to give life to their babies, and that mission has remained the same all of these years.

Women’s Care Centers are in eight states. Eleven of the 25 are right here in this diocese. There are three in both Fort Wayne and South Bend, and others in smaller cities such as Auburn, Plymouth, Mishawaka and Elkhart, to name a few.

The services provided at each of the locations is the same. Women’s Care Centers are probably best known for their free pregnancy testing and limited ultrasound services. The purpose of the limited ultrasound, which is often performed by nurses and other trained volunteers, is to show the mother that a baby lives within her. Once the mother hears the beating heart of the baby, she almost always opts to continue with the pregnancy.

Other services provided by Women’s Care Centers include birth preparation classes, which encompass not only the birth preparation, but labor and delivery, care for the newborn and breastfeeding as well. Clients might be directed to programs like Super Shot, referred to social service agencies such as Women, Infants and Children, Education Creates Hope and Opportunities, Healthier Moms and Babies, Healthy Families programs, education and training opportunities, job fairs, medical care or insurance coverage. The moms can ask for help from a Women’s Care Center at any time during the child’s life.

Anne Koehl has been the director of the first Women’s Care Center in Fort Wayne since 2003. She said that pregnant women are really encouraged to make a commitment to the services and programs provided.

Each Women’s Care Center has a Crib Club. Crib Clubs give incentive to mothers to earn coupons for clothing, diapers, baby-related toiletries, sleepers, and blankets by doing positive things for their child. The three locations in Fort Wayne have teamed with the Christ Child Festival to stock the Crib Club rooms from onesies to size 4. Koehl remarked, “The Fort Wayne Women’s Care Center is most grateful to the members of the Christ Child Society of Fort Wayne for partnering with us to provide for our moms and babies through our three Crib Clubs.”

Since Jan. 1, Women’s Care Centers have distributed 89,737 diapers, from newborn to pull-ups, and 8,000 outfits to mostly 20- to 24-year-old women who are underserved and often looking for insurance, according to Koehl. She also reports that they have 841 babies on the way and have served 1,800 women through 8,000 visits in the last eight months.

The perfect success story for a Women’s Care Center is where a pregnant woman who is anxious and scared, maybe even conflicted and is contemplating having an abortion, is redirected to various social service agencies, finds a solution for her situation, has a baby nine months later and returns for post-delivery assistance.

Each Saturday night and Sunday morning, volunteers prepare food in the St. Mary Catholic School kitchen in Huntington.

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Provided by the Women’s Care Center

Dee Dee Dahm is a charter member of the Christ Child Society and a long-time board member and volunteer of the Women’s Care Center. She also helps manage the organization’s new Crib Club in Fort Wayne, where she is pictured.

Those volunteers come from a wide array of backgrounds, including Huntington University students and those desiring to complete community service hours. Bracht, who has been involved with the ministry for several years and comes from a computer background, develops routes each week. The Open Door ministry is completely funded by donations.

The ministry was started by the St. Mary and Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic churches in the city. Each Saturday night and early Sunday morning, volunteers prepare food in the St. Mary's school’s kitchen. Every Sunday, from 9:30 a.m.-noon, 19 drivers deliver it to those in need.

The meals are simple, consisting of a soup or sandwich, side dish, and dessert.

“When individuals have received meals for 10 years,” Bracht said; “others, just for a couple months. Those who are added to the route remain there permanently, unless they are not home during the following week’s delivery. In that case, they are removed from the list.

Serving at-risk children and families in need with these programs:

- LAYETTE PROGRAM
- CRIB CLUB
- COATS FOR KIDS and more!

Email: info@christchildfw.org

Open Door ministry feeds the hungry.
Parishioners pray for peace in Detroit

Parishioners from several Detroit parishes gather Aug. 25 to pray for peace, an effort organized by the Archdiocese of Detroit’s Office of Black Catholic Ministries.

Pope praises bishops’ guidelines on helping divorced, remarried couples

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis thanked a group of bishops in Argentina for providing their priests with concrete guidelines for implementing the section of his apostolic exhortation on the family about circumstances in which divorced and civilly remarried couples might eventually be allowed to receive Communion.

The Vatican newspaper, L’Osservatore Romano, published an article Sept. 12 confirming that Pope Francis wrote to the bishops of Buenos Aires pastoral region thanking them for their document on criteria for applying what the pope wrote in Chapter VIII of “Amoris Laetitia” (“The Joy of Love”). The chapter, titled “Accompanying, discerning and integrating weakness,” is focused on the pastoral care of couples who are living together without being married or who have divorced and remarried without getting an annulment.

In offering their priests guidance for applying the teaching in the pope’s document to the situation of couples in their care, the bishops insisted it is not proper to speak of “permission to receive the sacraments” when it is, in fact, an invitation to “a process of discernment accompanied by a priest.”

Countries bordering Nigeria help those displaced by Boko Haram

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (CNS) — When aid worker El-hedji Gombe Abba was growing up, very little happened on the road that runs through Nigeria’s Diffa region into the city, but nowadays people fleeing Boko Haram violence form a seemingly endless line along it. “This is a new and terrible way of life,” Abba told Catholic News Service in a Sept. 8 telephone interview from Diffa, the regional capital of a territory of 600,000 people situated close to Niger’s border with Nigeria. Abba, who is in his mid-30s, works for a nongovernmental organization called Demi-E, which partners with Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops’ international aid and development agency, in helping local and displaced people in the region. Michael Stulman, CRS regional information officer for West and Central Africa, told CNS in a Sept. 7 telephone interview from Diffa that the agency has prioritized helping those affected by Boko Haram violence. More than 20,000 people have been killed in attacks by Nigeria-based Boko Haram, and some 2.6 million people have been forced to flee their homes. The conflict that began seven years ago in Nigeria has spilled into Niger, Chad and Cameroon, all of which have joined Nigeria in fighting the Muslim militant group. Abba said people making their way to Diffa set up temporary shelters at the side of the road, “where it is safer than many other places.”

Minnesota woman lit candle daily for 27 years for missing boy

ALBANY, Minn. (CNS) — Agnes Imdieke awakened the morning of Sept. 3 in her apartment on the outskirts of Albany and got ready for the day. As she did every day, she lit a candle and said a prayer for the safe return of Jacob Wetterling. It’s a ritual she said she set aside for each morning for the past 27 years since the 11-year-old boy was abducted from a rural area near his hometown of St. Joseph Oct. 22, 1989. Later that day, Agnes learned that Jacob’s remains had been found in a remote area near Paynesville.

Danny Heinrich confessed to his kidnapping and murder during a hearing Sept. 6 in a Minneapolis courtroom, having earlier led authorities to the boy’s body. Now, Imdieke’s prayers have a different focus: bittersweet gratitude that Jacob was finally found and returned to his family, and for healing for everyone touched by his death, especially his mother, Patty Wetterling. Her commitment to pray for Jacob gained strength thanks to her late mother, Friedericka. On Oct. 21, 1990, Agnes and her sister, Benedictine Sister Alice Imdieke, were talking with their mother, whose health was failing at the time. They asked her if there was anything she would wish or hoped for. She told them she hoped that Jacob would be found and returned to his family. Friedericka died the next day — on the first anniversary of Jacob’s abduction.

Writer-director sees himself in two characters in new film

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Early in the morning after the Hollywood premiere of his new film, “The Vessel,” Cuban-American Catholic writer-director Julio Quintana said it was a strange feeling to see himself on screen. He had seen it in the mirror years earlier when he was growing up in the naive attempt of proving my faith through history,” he said. “I’ve always been involved with Jesus and Christianity. I’m studying ancient Greek and reading all these historical documents. His takeaway is that “You can’t really prove any of these religions wrong, but you can’t prove any of them right, either.” Quintana said he grew depressed by the fact that “I couldn’t prove my faith academically, and I really wasn’t sure what to make of that. It really took a while to come to grips with the fact that why won’t God let me prove what I know?”

Thus, he added, “Father Douglas is me in a lot of ways, my young student self, trying to categorize and prove and make everything academic.” Then there’s Leo — portrayed by Quintana’s brother, Leonardo. “Leo builds the puzzle, the mystery is the movie’s title, but could also be seen as a vessel of sorts himself. ‘Leo is more me now, which is dramatically interesting for me. He does not fit, but feels. The movie is my boat. I didn’t know why I was making it when I started it. I felt I had to do it for my own spiritual journey and how it’s a source of healing,” Julio told Catholic News Service.
**FORT WAYNE — Allison Ballard, director of the University of Saint Francis Jesters program, recently spoke as part of the Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability Conference in Pittsburgh, Penn.**

The Jesters program was selected for a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts that will fund an initiative to allow people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to work alongside professional arts instructors as part of the Jesters program. This commitment to creating a solid infrastructure within the program is one reason why Ballard was invited to the LEAD conference. According to NEA spokesperson Lauren Tuzzolino, Jesters is a "model arts program that focuses on people with disabilities." She has been highlighting the program to state arts agencies "so others could be more informed and inspired by the great work that is possible."

Sponsored by the University of Saint Francis since its founding in 1978, Jesters is a performing group composed of individuals with mild to severe developmental or physical disabilities ranging in age from 6 to adult.

**NEW LEADERSHIP AT OUR SUNDAY VISITOR**

HUNTINGTON — Our Sunday Visitor has expanded its leadership team to serve the changing needs of Catholics and Catholic organizations.

Greg Willits was named editorial director as of June 22. As editorial director, Willits oversees the quality, design and reach of OSV’s published content. He was most recently the executive director for the Archdiocese of Denver’s Office of Evangelization and Family Life Ministries. Prior to that he hosted a daily, three-hour radio talk show on SiriusXM’s The Catholic Channel, called the “Catholics Next Door,” with his wife, Jennifer.

Willits was one of the earliest adopters and most dedicated proponents of new media for Catholic evangelization in the U.S., through his involvement with Star Quest Production Network and the Catholic News Media Conference. He is also a founder of the Rosary Army apostolate and the author of two published books: “The New Evangelization and You: Be Not Afraid,” and “The Catholics Next Door: Adventures in Imperfect Living.”

Scott Landry joined OSV as chief mission officer on May 9, taking on responsibility for representing, executing and upholding the mission, identity and values of Our Sunday Visitor with ultimate responsibility for all publishing and editorial initiatives.

Landry has served in leadership for Catholic organizations for the past 10 years. His background includes operating the Good Catholic Leadership Group, a Catholic consulting and leadership coaching firm serving as president and executive director of Catholic Voices USA; and before that, serving as cabinet secretary for Catholic media in the Archdiocese of Boston. He is the author of “Transforming Parish Communications: Growing the Church through New Media.”

Joe Wilkert started his role as president of publishing on Jan. 4. He focuses on transforming the format and distribution of published content to serve the needs of Catholic. He is an active blogger on Digital Content strategies, offering ideas and recommendations for the creation and distribution of rich content.

Before joining OSV, Wilkert was the director of strategy and business development at Olive Software, the leading digital reading platform for the most widely read newspapers and periodicals in the U.S. Prior to Olive Software, he was general manager and chief digital officer of the Tools of Change conference at O’Reilly Media Inc. He managed each of the editorial groups at O’Reilly, as well as the Media Press team and the retail sales organization. Before joining O’Reilly, he was vice president and executive publisher at John Wiley & Sons Inc., in their professional and trade division. During his tenure at Wiley he oversaw the acquisition of Nell Printing Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of OSV. For the past 13 years, while serving as president and general manager of the Offentory Solutions acquisition, he led the acquisition of six companies that significantly increased OSV’s market reach with parish offering envelopes and fund raising services for parishes and dioceses. In addition, these investments diversified OSV with technology services for parishes and dioceses in the areas of online giving and website and mobile app content management platforms.

The OSV Senior Executive Leadership Team also includes: Linda Teeters, vice-president of finance and treasurer, 12 years at OSV; Terry Poplava, executive director of marketing and sales, nine years at OSV; Tim Shoup, executive director of manufacturing, 13 years at OSV; Frank Thomas, executive director of information technology, three years at OSV; Tina Burnau, director of customer satisfaction, 19 years at OSV; and Cheryl Moore, director of human resources, four years at OSV.
Klopf era comes to a close

BY FREDERICK EVERETT

With the suspension of Dr. Ulrich Klopfer’s medical license in the early hours of the morning of Aug. 26, three decades of killing tens of thousands of unborn children at clinics in Fort Wayne and South Bend came to a resounding end. After more than 15 hours of deliberation, the state medical licensing board found Klopfer guilty of five charges made by the Indiana Attorney General’s office. Among these were the failure to report abortions performed on children under the age of 14, failure to give informed consent at least 18 hours prior to an abortion procedure, and failure to meet professional competency standards.

In particular, according to Niki Kelly of the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, many of the board members were particularly struck by Klopfer’s nonchalant attitude regarding the case of a 10-year-old girl who had been raped by her uncle. The doctor failed to notify the police even after learning that the parents were going to keep the matter secret. One board member stated that what bothered her most was Klopfer’s striking lack of medical judgment and competence.

In truth, none of this would have ever come to light were it not for the prayers and efforts of numerous pro-life individuals and organizations working within the diocese. For example, many cases in which surgical or chemical abortions were being performed without the state-required counseling, informed consent and waiting periods would not have come to light were it not for sidewalk counselors or counselors at the Women’s Care Center who actually interacted with the women seeking or procuring the abortions.

For years, both Allen County Right to Life and St. Joseph County Right to Life would notify the Indiana State Department of Health and the Attorney General’s office with allegations of impropriety and illegality with seemingly little result. Then, in 2015, Indiana Right to Life formed the Enforcement and Regulatory Oversight Committee, headed by Cathie Humbarger of ACRTL, which unified the efforts of the right-to-life movement in jurisdictions where Klopfer performed abortions. Together, they filed over 1,800 complaints.

Over 200 volunteers, supporters and families attended a Sept. 4 celebration and prayer service with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades for the Apostolate of Divine Mercy. Attendees were encouraged to get involved in helping to save lives, assist families and create a culture of life. Opportunities for prayer at The Life Center include Mass every Tuesday at 7:30 a.m., Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. and Saturday at 8 a.m. during the 40 Days for Life campaign. Adoration is every Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Wednesday from 2-7 p.m.

In motion in 2013 took persistence and patience as the legal process played out.”

In 2014, Shawn Sullivan of The Life Center in South Bend also became involved in the legal process against Klopfer:

“Prior to Black Friday of 2014, TLC and their advocates were not part of any legal proceedings related to Dr. Klopfer. Instead, TLC’s activities focused on reaching out to mothers as they entered the abortion clinic and offering them legal, financial, or medical assistance, adoption, and even protection and immediate housing if they were being forced to have their abortion. TLC considered itself in the emergency room of the crisis pregnancy business.

The five-to-10 second spiel of the TLC advocates to mothers entering the Women’s Pavilion was the last opportunity to convert a mother from her decision to go forward with a termination appointment and choose life for her child instead. That all changed, however, on Black Friday, 2014, when a mother, having been offered assistance told the TLC advocates that she would like to consider their offer of help but that she had already taken the abortion pill. We all looked at each other stunned. ‘Isn’t this your first visit, though?’ we asked the mother. She said yes, but that Dr. Klopfer had already given her the medical abortion pill.

Upon hearing word that the state medical licensing board had finally suspended Klopfer’s medical license, Sullivan summed it up as “a true calling story. It’s finished.” Humbarger and Burdell, both of whom were actually in the hearing into the wee hours of the morning, felt a certain satisfaction, but also had a mix of emotions. Writing immediately after the event at 3 a.m., Humbarger shared these thoughts:

“While there is some satisfaction in seeing the career of an abortionist come to an end, it is a very sad tale.

“Abortionist Klopfer told the board members in his testimony today that he and his family escaped from East Germany when he was a child and they spent some time in a refugee camp. They immigrated to the U.S. and after finishing high school and college, he entered medical school and ultimately became an OB-GYN. Almost immediately he began his career as an abortionist and has performed abortions for over 40 years. Best estimates put the total number of abortions he has performed at well over 50,000.

“This is a sad tale of an immigrant with a bright future ending up in the latter years of his life in this way. While I am pleased his nefarious deeds have stopped, I cannot rejoice. There is no victory here for the thousands of preborn boys and girls who never had a birthday, or their mothers who are now the mothers of dead babies. There is no victory for a broken old man who has wasted a wonderful career and there is no victory for those of us who have invested our hearts and souls over years bringing him to justice.

“May God receive all the glory for whatever glory there is in this heartbreaking story. Please join me in committing to pray for the eternal salvation of Ulrich Klopf. ‘It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God’ (Hebrews 10:13).”

Burdell shared her emotions as well: “I was extremely relieved with this chapter, as it appears in all likelihood, has been closed. I am so incredibly grateful to God that He has answered the prayers of our pro-life communities. And I am encouraged that justice still exists, even though it sometimes takes painstaking labor and patience in bringing it about.”

Apostolate of Divine Mercy celebrates four years of combating culture of death

For millions gathered in Rome, the canonization of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta was a day of celebration for the life-changing, yet simple acts of mercy from one Missionary of Charities nun. For more than 200 people in South Bend, that same day, Sept. 4, was also a day of celebration for the fourth year of service by the Apostolate of Divine Mercy in service of life, marriage and family. For Mother Teresa of Calcutta, the apostolate’s work of charity and mercy was a work of mercy in the poor and vulnerable, including the most vulnerable in our society, the innocent unborn.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades expressed his gratitude for the work of the Apostolate of Divine Mercy during a Sept. 4 prayer service. “I thank God for the closing of the abortion clinic in South Bend. We can never underestimate the power of prayer, especially the Mass and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. I am very grateful to all of you who have spent, and continue to spend, time in prayer in the Divine Mercy Chapel for the cause of life.” At the conclusion of his homily, Bishop Rhoades surprised the apostolate by entrusting it to the care and intercession of St. Teresa of Calcutta. Bishop stated: ‘The work you do is a work of charity and mercy. I pray that St. Teresa will inspire you to serve Jesus in the poor and vulnerable, including the most vulnerable in our society, the innocent unborn.”

While there is some satisfaction in seeing the career of an abortionist come to an end, it is a very sad tale.
Diocese honors medical vocation through Mass and conference

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

On Saturday, Sept. 24, the Fort Wayne Catholic Medical Guild will host its first Catholic Medical Conference, MedCon2016, at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. The day’s events will focus on how to incorporate the Catholic faith with the medical vocation as well as the ethical challenges that Catholic medical professionals face today.

In addition to keynote speaker Dr. Thomas Hilgers, other speakers include Dr. Ashley Fernandes, associate director of the Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities at The Ohio State University and an associate professor of pediatrics at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, as well as Sister Mary Diana Dreger, OP, M.D., the first nun to graduate from Vanderbilt University and a physician at Saint Thomas Medical Partners — The Holy Family Healthcare in Nashville, Tenn.

Sister Dreger believes that this conference will be a dynamic and informative event.

“Many times Catholic healthcare conferences tend to focus on the obvious Catholic concerns. Typically that would be abortion and euthanasia, and related issues,” she said. “But this conference is different as it starts with the basic principles underlying Catholic healthcare. This will give the participants a great opportunity to think about the persons involved in healthcare, namely the patient and the physician and their relationship.”

The day will conclude with the celebration of a White Mass by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

Named after the white coats traditionally worn by medical professionals and recognized as a Catholic Medical Association custom in the U.S. since the 1930s, a White Mass is a Mass intended for those working in the medical profession. Traditionally, White Masses have been celebrated around the Feast of St. Luke, patron of health care professionals, on Oct. 18. Though 2016 is the inaugural year for the MedCon conference, the White Mass has become somewhat of a tradition for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Since 2013, the Fort Wayne Catholic Medical Association has hosted a White Mass to pray for those working in the medical profession and for matters related to medicine.

Dr. David Kaminskas, who has practiced medicine in Fort Wayne for nearly 35 years, helped to organize the MedCon event. Like Sister Dreger, he believes that it is important to educate physicians, medical students, nurses, etc., on the various issues affecting health care today and how to practice medicine that aligns with Catholic tradition and ethics.

“One has never been more concerned about the future of medicine in this country,” said Dr. Kaminskas. “Between governmental regulations and insurance companies controlling our every step, I pray that we can continue to provide the care that people deserve. We should never be told we cannot practice our Christian values as we bring God and our faith to the people we serve.”

Dr. David Kaminskas

Sister Dreger echoed Kaminskas’ comment on the serving aspect of the medical profession.

“Medicine becomes an act of love for another person. It would be a different world in health care today if every healthcare professional could see our patients the way God sees them,” she said. “Like Sister Dreger, Fernandes strives to integrate his faith and his work.

Additional speakers:

• Interactive Sessions
• Fellowship
• Q and A
• Meals

Catholic Medical Conference and White Mass
For Physicians, Healthcare Workers, Spouses, Students, & Friends

ALL MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS WELCOME

Presented by the Fort Wayne Catholic Medical Guild

September 24th, 2016

Dr. Thomas Hilgers

National Speaker from Pope Paul VI Institute and NaPro Technology

ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS:

• DR. ASHLEY FERNANDES
• SR. MARY DIANA DREGER
• BISHOP KEVIN C. RHoades

INFO AND RSVP

www.MedConFortWayne.com (260) 222-6978

Dr. Thomas Hilgers, developer of the Creighton Model Fertility Care System, will address medical professionals at 11:15 a.m., Sept. 24, in the University of Saint Francis North Auditorium, 2701 Spring St., Fort Wayne.

Much aware and supportive of Dr. Hilgers’ work and the two men spent time together at the Vatican,” Kaminskas said. Hilgers knows firsthand the challenges of navigating the secular medical world. He was dismised from a renowned training program due to his Catholic-based approach to fertility.

Referred to as a “medical visionary,” Hilgers’ innovation is an asset to fertility and reproduction research. He is also a testament to using the Catholic faith as a compass in the medical industry. A growing number of medical professionals practicing in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend use Hilgers’ approach, including Dr. Christopher Stroud, Dr. Angela Martin, Dr. Patrick Holly, Dr. David Parker and Dr. Kathleen Heimann.

Dr. Thomas Hilgers

By Claire Kenney
Retreat invites college students to grow in faith

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

Organizers of a nationally known retreat at the University of Saint Francis Sept. 30-Oct. 2 are inviting college-aged youth to grow closer to Christ.

Summit Awakening 4: Homeward Bound is a student-led, Christian-based retreat ministry sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and USF, which promises personal testimonies, group reflection and immersion in the mystical body of Christ.

The inspiration for the theme, Homeward Bound, stems from the story of the Prodigal Son as told by Jesus in the New Testament. The retreat will examine the experience of returning home, forgiveness and mercy all which flow from the heart of Christ.

In addition to these lessons, a sense of community is central to the event. Awakening retreats are held in locations all over the U.S. Awakening is an experience for those who are spiritually searching, and are not sure of God's role in their lives but want to know more, as well as for those who are just looking to dig a little deeper. In general, the retreat affords participants with the time and space to step away from hectic campus life and take time to look inwardly and think about their own spiritual journey. Students who have already attended the retreat are invited to serve as leaders who help facilitate discussions.

Students from Purdue University, Indiana University, and The Ohio State University helped hold the first Awakening in the Fort Wayne area in 2014. Now Summit Awakening is held annually, staffed by students from a variety of institutions including USF, IPFW, Indiana Tech, Ivy Tech, Trine University and Manchester University.

Co-coordinator Elizabeth Hess, a senior at IPFW studying elementary and social education, is among them. She’s helping to plan the retreat with Phillip Litchfield, a junior at IPFW. Hess felt compelled to become more involved after attending a retreat in April 2015, which she described as “life changing.”

“I felt God speak to me and got connected with some awesome Catholics,” she said.

The retreat proved to be good timing. In her words, “It was just what I needed at that time.”

Hess said she hopes other retreatants will share a similar experience. “We hope that it can be a place to find community and share and grow in faith,” she said. “It’s coming to know and love God better.”

That means helping each other work through problems. College can be a confusing time for many people, but a sense of solidarity can be comforting. Hess said the organizers hope this retreat will unite local Catholic co-eds across multiple campuses.

“You’re really hearing from people especially who share the same struggles you have and know that you’re in this together,” she said.

The three-day retreat starts 6 p.m. Friday and concludes Sunday at 2 p.m. All activities will take place at Business Center of University of Saint Francis Downtown Campus, 826 Ewing St. The $30 registration fee includes food and other perks. The retreat is open to any college-aged student in the diocese. For more information, visit summitawakening.com.

Austin Whisler hugs Eseosa Ighinizu at the 2015 Summit Awakening retreat.

“Lord, teach me and show me my vocation in life.”

– Bishop John M. D’Arcy
Local couple teaches seminar at Pontifical North American College

BY ANDREW MENTOCK

MISHAWAKA — South Bend area psychologists Dr. Jeffrey and Susan Feathergill are fresh off of a seminar at the Pontifical North American College in Rome on pre-marital counseling.

The seminar took place from Sept. 12-15. The couple graciously has accepted the opportunity to share knowledge that they have gained from years of practicing their faith, as well as from their careers as clinical psychologists.

“We are inspired by the recent synods and Encyclicals such as ‘Deus Caritas Est,’ by Pope Benedict, and ‘Amoris Laetita’ by Pope Francis,” said the Feathergills in a letter to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades — whose alma mater is PNAC. “As we do in our clinical practice, we will integrate psychological approaches to helping others with Catholic teachings and an understanding of Catholic anthropology.”

The Feathergills both received their doctoral degrees in clinical psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology in 1994. Currently they run Feathergill and Associates LLC, which is a psychotherapy practice in Mishawaka for individuals, families and couples. They are parishioners at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Granger.

In addition to their clinical practice, they are both adjunct professors at the University of Notre Dame, where in the past they worked together on a course, Introduction to Pastoral Care.

The new rector at PNAC, Rev. Peter Harman, invited the Feathergills to teach the seminar after hearing about their work as professors at the University of Notre Dame from Rev. Gerald McGlone, who is the current director of psychology at PNAC.

The seminar includes a variety of topics for its special group of students.

“We are very honored, and have prepared what we hope will be a helpful course for the diaconate,” they said. “And to participate in the care and education of men who will soon become shepherds as deacons and priests.”

Two psychologists in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Dr. Jeffrey Feathergill and Dr. Susan Feathergill, traveled to Rome recently to share wisdom regarding pre-marital counseling with men preparing for the diaconate.

Care.

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“We are very honored, and have prepared what we hope will be a helpful course for the class of men who will soon be ordained as temporary deacons,” they said. “And to participate in the care and education of men who will soon become shepherds as deacons and priests.”

If you’ve ever considered becoming a priest or a brother, we invite you to take some time away from your regular routine for a retreat. Join us for daily Mass and prayer, gain some tools that you can use in your discernment, and learn what the Congregation of Holy Cross has to offer.

For more information please visit: retreats.holycrossvocations.org

For High School Seniors: Oct. 6 – 8, 2016

For Undergraduates: Nov. 4 – 6, 2016

For Post-undergraduates: Jan. 13 – 15, 2017

For High School Juniors: Mar. 30 – Apr. 1, 2017

provided by the Feathergills

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In its employment practices, selection of students and administration of all programs, the University of Saint Francis maintains a policy of non-discrimination regarding age, race, gender, disability and national origin.
St. Joseph’s fosters vibrant faith community in Wells County

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

BLUFFTON — St. Joseph Church has been the only Catholic church in Wells County since its founding more than 140 years ago. “We’re a minority,” said church secretary Michelle Paxton, naming several other denominations which outnumber Catholics in the Bluffton area. Still, the parish is a vibrant community of worshippers who gather for Sunday Mass, daily prayers and recitation of the rosary. St. Joseph’s, with its 230 registered families, draws many parishioners to its organizations and boasts a faith-filled outreach to the surrounding community as well.

The pastor, Msgr. Pius N. Ilechukwu, is a native of Nigeria who has been in residence since 2013 and is enthusiastic about the area. “I like this place,” he said. “This is a lovable parish, with good people … very generous, very open.” His observations are borne out by the spirit of cooperation and involvement among parishioners of all ages.

Paxton echoes his sentiment. “What’s really nice about a small parish is that everyone helps … It’s amazing, the love we have in this parish.” She is also director of religious education and heads up a five-member team of instructors for kindergarteners through 12-graders. “I’m very proud of our program,” she adds.

Music minister Sister Rose Ehrlich divides her time between St. Joseph’s and St. Paul of the Cross in Columbia City. She is in Bluffton each Wednesday and Friday and every other Sunday, when her choir sings at Sunday Mass, but said she receives able assistance from Diane Witwer and Diane Holland on the off weekends. “I could not do this without help,” she noted. “I’m very blessed.”

Msgr. Pius said he expects them to become disciples, helping St. Joseph’s to be a more welcoming parish. The Council of Catholic Women, under the leadership of President Mary Ann Bickley, stands ready to help “wherever there’s a need,” she said. An upcoming craft fair slated for Nov. 12 has been a successful fundraiser in past years and popular with the community as well. A holiday giving tree draws parishioners to help needy families at Christmas time. Proceeds from a baby bottle project each spring go to Helping Hands, a local women’s clinic. The organization recently provided new hymnals for the church, purchased a portrait of Jesus for the church in celebration of the Jubilee Year of Mercy and provided plane fare for the pastor to return home for his brothers’ funerals. Other ministries of council members include hosting funeral dinners and visiting the sick.

A 20-year parishioner of St. Joseph’s, Bickley said the parish is “very much like family … I feel very comfortable here,” she adds.

Jessica Seago is chairman of the Social Committee, which heads up fun activities for parishioners. An annual parish picnic featuring fried chicken and homemade side dishes and desserts is a popular favorite, as well as the coffee and donuts offered after the 10 a.m. Sunday Mass when parishioners gather for a bit of fellowship before heading home. An Epiphany brunch in January rounds out the social schedule.

An active Knights of Columbus fosters vibrant faith community in Wells County

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An active Knights of Columbus
Years ago, the parish constructed an outdoor path for parishioners and visitors to enjoy while meditating on the mysteries of the rosary.

Columbus organization of about 55 members spans generations, said President Mike Lautzenheiser. There is no shortage of men willing to tackle its many projects. The group often prayed the rosary at the abortion clinic in Fort Wayne when it was in operation, and they travel to Washington D.C. for the annual March for Life. They collect toys for needy children at Christmas and provide weekend meals in a backpack for children from low-income families. They are well-represented at the first Saturday evening Mass each month, at which they lead the rosary, then act as greeters, altar servers, lectors and lay distributors. Lautzenheiser pointed out that, in a parish as small as St. Joseph’s, everyone wears several hats in order to get things done. If another group says, “I need some help,” the Knights willingly step in, he added.

St. Joseph Church was founded in 1875 after years of priests arriving by horseback on occasional Sundays to celebrate Mass in the home of early pioneer Timothy Enright. Initially, five families were instrumental in constructing that first church building on the corner of Cherry and Williams Streets, a 30 by 50-foot structure, at a cost of $1,300. It was dedicated by Bishop Joseph Dwenger that same year.

Many decades later, with a burgeoning parish population, a larger church was constructed on the current site at 1300 N. Main St., on land donated by E.J. Schaefer, founder of Franklin Electric Company in Bluffton. It was dedicated by Bishop Leo Parsley in 1966. Later, space was increased with the addition of nine classrooms, two conference rooms and a gymnasium through the generosity of the Schaefer estate, augmented by parish funds.

Recently, as the parish celebrated its anniversary, Msgr. Pius said: “Now is the time of great hope for a bright future … Your kindness, generosity, dedication to things of God, volunteer spirit, unity, your love and more, all these give me great joy … I wish you God’s special and choicest blessings.”

Though St. Joseph’s stands alone as the only Catholic church in Wells County, it has long been a beacon of light that stands in silent testimony to the deeply rooted faith of its parishioners.

WELLS

Continued from Page 12
Talking to kids about porn and human sexuality

A growing concern today involves the role of pornography as the next generation’s instructor in human sexuality. For many young people, pornography has become the only guide to sexuality they have ever known. For Catholic parents, this raises the critical challenge of how best to approach these matters with their children, given that kids as young as 8 or 9 may already be acquiring information and viewpoints about human sexual behaviors from Internet pornography. I would like to present six practical suggestions for parents, culled from parental testimonials and insights, from other experts in the field and from ex-users of porn.

First, steer away from “The Talk” towards a more integrated approach. Having “The Talk” relies on the mistaken notion that parents have educational content or factual knowledge that they are duty-bound to try to deposit into their children’s brains. This approach is not only awkward and paternalistic, but can convey a sense that sexual education is a one-time, get-it-over-with ordeal. Kids require ongoing guidance and support from their parents — an agreement to it. Yet many parents fail to restrict what is entering their children’s bedrooms in prostitution are victims of human trafficking and the vast majority wish they could break free from it.

Second, be attentive to opportune moments to share wisdom and stories. Because we live in a highly permuted culture, opportunities for parents to share and discuss important value assessments regarding human sexuality with their children arise often. Drifting into a bathroom with a risqué picture or seeing something on TV might, for example, serve as an opportunity to note how it’s again the love of women to use them as sex objects. Passing through a part of town where prostitutes are plying their trade might spark a discussion about how many women involved in prostitution are victims of human trafficking and the vast majority wish they could break free from it.

Third, avoid Internet access in the bedroom. Sometimes parents will say, “The kids have access at school and everywhere else, so I let them have unrestricted access at home — they’ve got to learn how to handle it anyway.” But this approach really does differ from the outside world, serving as an oasis and a protected environment for children. If someone offered to install a pipe into your child’s bedroom that could be turned on to pump in raw sewage, you would not agree. So are parents then required to restrict what is entering their children’s bedrooms through the Internet and TV?

Fourth, be wary of Internet access on cell phones. Due diligence with cell phones for electronic devices on the kitchen table during visits to diminish hands that function strictly as phones without Internet access, or maybe the kids should be given a phone only at those times when they are down and off at events like piano practice, soccer, etc. As children grow older and show signs of maturing, restrictions and limitations can be scaled back.

Fifth, monitor Internet usage. Check browser history and make use of monitoring software, even though a particular child may be an angel. Keep the family computer in a shared space like the living room with the screen visible so family members can be aware of each other’s online activities. Laptops and tablets can pose a bit of a challenge in this respect as teens sit cuddled up on the couch with screens not visible to others. In family life, we are called to serve as our brother’s keeper. Set limits on screen time for children, and maintain password/access control over devices. Have the neighbor’s kids deposit their electronic devices on the kitchen table during visits to diminish possessions and necessities.

Some things are more important than money

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lk 16:1-13

The first reading for this weekend is from the Book of Amos. This prophet, regarded as one of the Minor Prophets, was from Tekoa, a rural area of Judea, about 10 miles from Jerusalem. Amos was a shepherd.

Obviously, he knew well the religious traditions of his ancestors. He also had a sense of events occurring beyond his own environment, even events happening in other lands. His pastoral occupation, and his keen knowledge not only of religious tradition but also of life far beyond his own situation, gives his book of only nine chapters a special quality. Most notable is the message of this reading. Indeed, the passage even mentions ancient units of currency, such as the shekel. Most importantly, it is highly critical of any quest to gather great sums of money, all ethics aside. It insists that a higher standard always exists, and it bluntly states that a reward greater than monetary gain is to be preferred — and it is available.

For its second reading, the Church presents the First Letter to Timothy. Early Christian history presents Timothy as a deeply connected pioneer convert to Christianity.

Actually, Timothy was so close to the Apostle Paul that Paul refers to him as “my beloved son,” although, of course, nothing suggests that Timothy literally was the apostle’s biological child. To the contrary, Timothy was the son of a Greek father and a devout Jewish mother. As his mother was Jewish, Timothy was Jewish under the laws of Judaism.

Tradition is that Timothy was the first bishop of the Christian community in Ephesus. In this weekend’s reading, Timothy is asked especially to pray for rulers and persons in authority. They especially are vulnerable to the temptation of yielding to greed and ambition. St. Luke’s Gospel supplies the last reading. It is a parable. An irresponsible manager fears the results if his employer discovers his mishandling of his responsibility. So the manager calls his employer’s debtors and orders them to tamper with the notes so to speak. If the loan was for was for 100, the manager says to change the amount to 50. This arrangement would have been unacceptable then as it would be now. The employer would have had every right to repudiate the manager’s manipulation of the amounts owed.

Had the manager insisted on the original amount, however, he would have lost the regard of the community by appearing to be out of control of his own business — and heartless for extracting what was owed from people with bad luck.

Mercy was more important than recovering the money owed as debts.

Reflection

It is easy to become lost and confused in the world of ancient Jewish economics, quite unlike modern finances. Then again, some similarities persist. So it is better not to elevate the employer in the parable recounted by Luke’s Gospel to too high a level of prestige. Certainly, the irresponsible manager cannot be excused of fraud.

The bottom line is that some things in life are more important than money. It is the theme of the reading from Amos. The central figure in the Gospel is the employer. The manager is either misguided or dishonest or both.

The manager reduces the debts, even if prompted by his own mishandling of the situation. This is the message: the employer’s mercy.

Not without a lesson, however, is the story of the manager and of the debtors’ willingness to join in the fraud. The line between genuine security and peace of mind and the one hand, and grasping for more and more on the other, is easy to cross. It is so easy for humans to rationalize, to comforters, to succumb to fear.

Remember what is important. Pursue what is important.

READINGS

Sunday: Am 8:4-7; Ps 131:2-4; 48:1-3; 21:8-12; 16:1-3

Monday: Prv 32:37-40b; Ps 152-4b; 4; 5; 5b; 6-16

Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6; 10-13 Ps 119:1-4; 27:3-34; 27:3-36; 44:8-19; 21-22


Thursday: Eccl 12:1-11; Ps 90:3-6; 12:1-4; 17 Lk 9:19-22


Saturday: Eccl 119 — 128 b; 90:3-6, 12-14; 17 Lk 9:43b-45
He's not 'turning his back to the people'

C

one of its effects, not its primary purpose. Priest and people praying together toward the Lord can thus be a helpful antidote to the temptation to think of Mass as a ritual of communal self-affirmation — a temptation all too common in the contemporary culture of Me.

Second, if properly prepared by thoughtful pastors and liturgists, the reorientation of the Liturgy of the Eucharist would help Catholics deepen their appreciation of the Kingdom dimension of the Mass. The Mass is a foretaste of the wedding feast of the Lamb in the new Jerusalem, described by that apostolic seer, St. John, in Revelation 21. By turning together toward the Lord-who-comes — now, under the forms of bread and wine, and later, as the Risen Lord who will hand everything over to the Father so that "God may be all in all!" (1 Corinthians 15:28) — the praying Church could be regularly reminded that Christians are the people who know how the world’s story is going to turn out. That assurance of God’s victory over sin, suffering and death should both comfort us and energize us for mission.

Third, returning to the practice of a common orientation during the Liturgy of the Eucharist would help mitigate the continuing problem of the priest-celebrant who imposes his own personality on the liturgy — a problem that has been exacerbated in recent decades by the celebration of the Mass versus populorum, or "toward the people.

To these three reasons I might now add that a fourth: that a reorientation of priest and people during the Liturgy of the Eucharist would bring Latin-rite Catholic practice into harmony with the practice of the Eastern Catholic Churches and the Orthodox Churches. A fifth reason is that this re-orientation would place the reformed liturgy of Vatican II in continuity with an ancient liturgical tradition of the Church.

Any such reform of the reform must be very carefully prepared by preachen and catechesis, which will not be a matter of weeks but of months, perhaps even years. But that is itself another reason to take Cardinal Sarah’s basic proposal seriously. Liturgical catechesis is imperative today if the People of God are going to understand and use the liturgy as an act of worship that equips us for mission.

That catechesis will have to deconstruct the myth that a change of orientation during the Liturgy of the Eucharist means "the priest is turning his back to the people." No, he isn’t. Together, the priest-celebrant and those who have been baptized in order to offer God proper worship, are facing toward the Lord who is about to come — and who, in coming eucharistically and in glory, brings the human drama to its fulfillment.

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

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SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for September 18, 2016


Follows is a word search based on the Gospel reading for 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: enterprise in this world, and for the next. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

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HEINTZ

Continued from Page 14

How often have we not only expected a certain answer to our prayer, but even more, expected such an answer on our terms and in our schedule? We are, not infrequently to our chagrin, sons of Adam and daughters of Eve, after all.

In answer to the objection that God's foreknowledge does not take away or diminish our human freedom, God's sovereignty and providence are such that He can actually incorporate our free choices (even the sinful ones). Evil will cannot foil His will) into His overarching plan of salvation. Two things follow: (a) God does, in fact, know what will be; and (b) this does not, however, mean that we are somehow "programmed" to choose any particular end. To use a somewhat cliche image: if we were capable of knowing, for example, that the Kansas City Royals are not going to win the World Series this year, we might say a claim on the basis of knowing them and their record; if we, whose knowledge is imperfect can, on the basis of what little we do know, come to such a conclusion, then God, whose knowledge is perfect, certainly can know; further, God, has a claim on the time itself being a creation), all of human history (what to us is past, present, or future) is eternally revealed to God. But this does not mean that God’s knowing somehow eliminates or removes our freedom. Going back to our example, we have little or no control over what the Royals will do this season (we do not manipulate their pitching or hitting), we simply know them well enough to know they won’t be playing in October. St. Augustine (+ 430 AD), writing a lengthy reply to a noblewoman named Proba who had inquired about prayer, suggests that the articulation of our needs, while by no means necessary to God in order to co-operate with Him in bringing about certain effects which He has ordained for our good (e.g., if I want it to rain on my garden and my neighbor wants sunshine to play golf, can we imagine God is so fickle or capricious that one of us has a better chance to “woo” God to our desires?). Thomas’ point has been summarized simply in a modern aphorism: prayer does not change God; prayer changes people and people change things. Thomas Beauchamp, in his middle ground between viewing prayer as then simply unnecessary (because God’s will is eternal) or as our attempts to curry favor and somehow manipulate God’s will.

Jesus’ ‘question of Bartimaeus.

“What do you want me to do for you?” is, in a real sense, what He asks of us each day. And we do ourselves no service to suppose that our prayer must be somehow made sophisticated than mere petition. Of course, petition is not (nor should it be) our only form of prayer. But far be it from us to assume we are somehow above it.

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BIOETHICS

Continued from Page 14

in the neighborhood regarding the serious threats from Internet porn.

Sixth, set appropriate rules regarding relationships, and be involved in the kids’ gaming practices. Too often parents are tempted to take a “hands-off” approach to this area of their children’s lives. When I was growing up, we knew (and eventually appreciated) my father’s rule that we couldn’t date until we were 18. Setting appropriate rules for kids serves as a sign of a parent’s love and concern for them. Whenever parents determine that dating should begin, it offers further opportunities and occasions to discuss problems and scenarios that can help teens set moral boundaries.

Talking to kids and helping them to become good stewards of the gift of human sexuality bestowed by God is hard work. In a culture that forcefully communicates a pornified consumer-gospel, though, it is certainly one of the most important and enduring gifts a parent can seek to provide for the happiness and well-being of their children.

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

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Mgr. Michael Heintz is on the faculty at Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary, Emmitsburg, Maryland.
Sports

September is upon us, and it's time to look into the competitive world of CYO football. From the schedules submitted last issue, it's not hard to imagine battles shaping up this year between the Fort Wayne Catholic schools, including a week three match-up between St. Vincent and defending champion St. Charles. Today's Catholic goes back into weekly circulation Sept. 25, and highlights from one game each week will be provided. This will not necessarily be a match-up of the two highest ranked teams, so as to provide some coverage for all the teams.

The first of four teams to focus on is the Central Catholic Fighting Irish. The Irish are made up of five schools: St. John, St. Jude, Most Precious Blood, Queen of Angels and St. Louis Besancon. Central Catholic, although coming off a winless season last year is optimistic with 12 returning players from 2015.

Standout eighth-grade players and positions include: Louis Tippmann RB/LB, Dako Toulouse RB/DB, Dominic Tippmann RB/DB, Brandon Douge QB/DB, and Owen Levy OL. Important contributions from seventh-graders include: Brock Stopher RB/LB, Eli Gernhardt QB/S, Joe Reidy TE/DB, and Jack Tippmann DE/OL.

Coaches include Head Coach Keith Douge with assistants Pat Filler, Steve Henry, Scott Krebs, Tim Daring, Jeff Jones, Randy Carey, Mark Ward, and Vince Tippmann.

Head Coach Douge said, “This is a team that has come together well considering all the logistics that have to happen to keep this many schools come together. The players are embracing what it means to be a team member/player and contribute to the team in any manner where they fit. The willingness of the players to step up when called upon has been a true blessing for the coaching staff. They are a great group to coach.”

Because of Central Catholic's small size the team needs to be creative in their game plan. Fundamentals of blocking and tackling are always stressed and are always in need of work and improvement, as with any team.

Coach Douge said of his philosophy: “We have a great opportunity to coach young Catholic men and learn how to keep whatever we do centered on Christ. Not every league has the opportunity to do that and we are blessed to play in the CYO. Second point is to have fun. My experience is if the kids are not having fun they will lose interest and if we have lost a player who could develop later and not like football because of an experience they may have had, it is a failure on our part as coaches. Our biggest goal is to have all of our current players return for the next year and bring others with them. Having fun, learning the game and coaching fundamentals that put them in a position to compete are important.”

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ICCL Game of the Week:

St. Matthew trumps Westside Catholic

BY JOE KOZINSKI

A moment of silence hovers over Father Bly Field Sunday, Sept. 11, as fans reflected on the anniversary of 9/11 prior to the kickoff of the 2016 Inter-City Catholic League, which would pit crosstown rivals, the Blazers of St. Matthew and the Westside Catholic Cardinals, against each other. The athletes were born after the infamous day in the country’s history, but the wounds were still seen on their faces as they donned their helmets.

Both teams started this season’s campaign with confidence and the lofty goal of a championship, but knew it would be won on the field and not through stat sheets and pre-game hype.

The Cardinals began the game with a promising field position and a solid plan to attack the Blazers. However, linebacker Bryce Martens would make his presence felt early by stopping Dean Emprisperger deep in the backfield and then making an open-field tackle on running mate Klayton Coleman on fourth down just before the yard markers. The Blazers then put on a demonstration utilizing their “Big Three” — Isau Gonzalez, Joey Barkowski and Martens — who methodically marched down the field, moving the ball inside and outside for a five-play touchdown drive capped off by a quarterback sneak to paydirt.

The next series would be the Barkowski show. He accounted for the 50 yards, with a run of five and 45. He also added an extra point run as the Blazers scored 19 unanswered points in a span of just over three minutes.

The Cardinals, desperately seeking some rhythm, instead found Gonzalez on the receiving end of quarterback Breydon Zelinski’s errant pass in the end zone. Trickery was still in the Blazer playbook, as the team again hopped on its own kickoff and started at midfield.

The Cardinals didn’t hang their heads, but instead used the opportunity to go on an 11-play, 54-yard march composed of carries from Zielinski, Sammy Sierra and Coleman. They capped off with a two-yard touchdown from Johnson, to end the scoring of the contest at 33-7.

“The Blazers were fundamentally sound and put together a good game plan. We made some adjustments and our kids responded in the second half,” quipped Cardinal Head Coach Giles Horban. “We expect big things from our team. We will talk and work on the positives as well as the negatives and be competitive in week two.”

“We were concerned about the matchups, but our big three really played well — as did our team,” said Blazer skipper Ben Domonkos. “We spoke to our kids and told them everyone has a plan until they get punched in the mouth. It’s up to us to respond to that initial contact.”

In other scores around the league, the Mishawaka Catholic Saints fought Osceola Grace to a tie as Quentin Nelius scored on a two-yard burst. The Panthers of St. Anthony, behind scores from Charlie Peterson and Walter Wesson, held off the Crusaders of Holy Cross and Gavin Stefanek, 12-8.

A complete list of schedules and highlights can be found at www.icclsports.org.

To inaugurate the football season at the University of Saint Francis, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades prayed with the team and the crowd gathered for the school’s first home game on September, 10. Bishop Rhoades also offered a blessing on the USF marching band.
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Stephanie Patka - spatka@diocesefwsb.org

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Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Indiana is seeking multiple Full Time Match Support Specialists in both Allen County & Kosciusko County. Please visit the “hiring” section on their website at www.bbbsnei.org for more information.

All resumes can be sent to Kristy Rice: kristy.rice@bbbsnei.org.

Disaster case management volunteers needed

SOUTH BEND — Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is seeking volunteers to assist with disaster case management services to individuals and families affected by recent torrential rain and flooding in South Bend and surrounding areas. To date, 937 homes have been affected by flooding in this area and the availability of Small Business Association Disaster Loans have been announced by Governor Pence.

In collaboration with state disaster case management representatives from Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the Michiana Long Term Flood Recovery Group (MLTFRG), our local Catholic Charities will be providing ongoing coordination and training for volunteer case managers who will provide support and services over the next eighteen months to those impacted by flood damage, including families displaced from their homes.

Appropriate characteristics for volunteer case managers include the stamina to work long hours, ability to thoroughly and accurately complete detail-oriented paperwork and capacity to listen and respond with empathy to individuals impacted by a traumatic situation. There are currently two levels of volunteers needed:

Level 1: immediately available. Volunteers are needed from Sept. 9-20 to assist with completing intake and assessment forms for possible assistance.

Level 2: extended availability. Volunteers are needed to train as Disaster Case Managers. Possible commitment of up to 18 months. Training will be provided.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Catholic Charities South Bend office at 574-234-5111. Monetary gifts are greatly appreciated and will expand our capacity to serve those impacted by this natural disaster in our own Diocese. Donations can be made online at www.ccfwsb.org or mailed to 1817 Miami St., South Bend, IN 46615. Prayers are appreciated.

The Central Catholic Fighting Irish take on St. Vincent in week one play.

Head Coach Jim Carroll and assistants include coach Fred Miguel. The Knights feature 27 returning players from last year’s teams.

As the team has been working hard in early practices, the coach prefers not to name any standout players right now. In early practices, they are learning individual capabilities and just which Knight will be a good fit for each position. This continues to be a learning process for the Knights at this time.

Team strengths include very good listening skills, everyone’s willingness to show up and work hard. Coach Carroll commented that “They are a great group of young men.”

Coach Carroll’s philosophy is to “Keep it loose, keep it real, keep it fun. Learn something, pray and get better each day.”

The team has a simple goal: “They are all just interested in being football players and enjoying the brotherhood that only a football team can create.”

An interesting team goal is that the current eighth-graders won the CYO championship as sixth-graders and want to repeat now as eighth-graders. The team motto is “100 percent on every rep and every play.”

The St. Charles Cardinals, who were last year’s 9-0 diocesan champions, return 16 players from last year’s squad.

The Cardinals will rely on a number of outstanding eighth-graders: Brenden Lytle (an outstanding quarterback with great arm and great speed), Devon Tippmann (started at middle linebacker last year, tremendous talent, born to be a middle linebacker), Amir Drew (running back and linebacker, new to St. Charles, great speed and balance), Michael Finley (tight end and linebacker, big target with great hands and blocking ability), Miguel. The Knights feature 27 assistants include coach Fred Miguel, offensive coordinator Jordan Talarico, and Shane Lee (defensive coordinator), and Joe Eddy (likely competitor) and Joe Eddy (likely competitor) and Joe Eddy (likely competitor). Assistant coaches this season include:

Stephanie Patka - spatka@diocesefwsb.org

Joe Romie
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Saint Joseph High School offers events

SOUTH BEND — Eighth-grade visit day will be Friday, Oct. 14, when eighth graders experience a high school day and follow a freshman schedule. A prospective family reception will follow from 6-7 p.m. Meet current parents, students, and administrators for a pre-game social at Leighton Stadium. Enjoy a home football game at 7 p.m. versus Adams High School. To reserve a spot contact Sue Ushela, Director of Admissions, at susheula@saintjos-e.chigh.com

Open House planned for Saint Joseph High School

SOUTH BEND — Learn about the benefits of an SHS education. Tour the school, visit with students meet the faculty, administrators and coaches. Explore the academic programs, co-curricular, athletic, service and spiritual opportunities Saint Joseph offers on Sunday, Oct. 23, from 1-3 p.m.

Dwenger hog roast planned

FORT WAYNE — The Bishop Dwenger Saints Alumni will host an event on Saturday, Oct. 8, at 7 p.m. A hog roast, bonfire and dance to live music provided by Frankie and the Holy Rollers. $50 per person. Must be 21 to attend. Western wear encouraged, but not required. RSVP to Dennis Leggett at 260-466-0088 or dleggett@bishopdwenger.com. Register online at www.bishopdwenger.com/Saints-Alive.

Bishop Luers Men’s Knights ‘Smoker’ party

FORT WAYNE — The Bishop Luers Men’s Knight ‘Smoker’ Party will be Saturday, Oct. 15, from 7 p.m. to midnight, under the tent at Bishop Luers High School following Mass at 5:45 p.m. Tickets available at all home football games as well as at the door that night. Food, fellowship, fun and football with raffle prizes and the Notre Dame vs. Syracuse game on the giant screen. Benefits Bishop Luers Athletics. Attendance is open to men 21 and over.

Bishop Luers homcoming activities announced

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers homecoming will be Friday, Sept. 16, beginning with Mass at 4:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. The Distinguished Knight Awards will be presented after Mass. A tailgate dinner will be held in the tent near the friary at 5:30 p.m. The game against Northside will be at 7 p.m. Alumni and friends are invited to the Nine Mile restaurant, 13598 U.S. 27, following the game, from 8 p.m. to midnight. Live entertainment will be provided by 4 Clips North, a band that includes Tom Saul and Evan Stuerzenberger of the Class of 2010.

FORT WAYNE College financial planning workshop at St. John the Baptist

FORT WAYNE — Billy Vail, president of Integrity Wealth Advisors, a member of the National Institute of Certified College Planners and the National Collegiate Advocacy Group, will be presenting a College Financial Planning Workshop Tuesday, Sept. 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the basement of St. John the Baptist Church, Fort Wayne.

Book signing offered

FORT WAYNE — A book sale and signing of “The Prodigal Son” by author, Father Tyrell Alles, OSB, pastor of St. Peter’s Catholic Church in Fort Wayne, will be Saturday, Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cathedral Books and Gifts in the Archbishop Noll Center. Rise and Roll bakery will cater pastries and refreshments.

Little Flower Holy Hour

FORT WAYNE — Pray for vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life on the first Tuesday of each month from 7-8 p.m. at the Mother Theodore Guerin chapel. For information, contact Christine Nix at cboha-noom-xi@dicoesf wsb.org.

SOUTH BEND St. Joseph County Right to Life dinner

FORT WAYNE — The 25th annual benefit dinner will be Thursday, Oct. 6, from 5-8:30 p.m. at the Century Center. 120 North St. Joseph St. keynote speaker will be Gianna Jessen, abortion survivor whose life inspired the movie October Baby. Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades and Governor Mike Pence will be awarded for their commitment to the pro-life cause.

An afternoon of prayerful remembrance and intercession planned

SOUTH BEND — Project Rachel Post-abortion Healing Ministry is offering a prayer service called “An Afternoon of Prayerful Remembrance and Intercession” on Sunday, Oct. 23, from 1-4 p.m. at St. Therese, Little Flower Parish. Talks, testimonials, intercessory prayer, Adoration, Mass, and opportunity for confession are planned. For information contact Allison at 260-399-1452 or asturm@dicoesfwsb.org.

Faithful Citizenship and the Message of Pope Francis

SOUTH BEND — A free lecture will be Monday, Sept. 19, at 7:30 p.m., in the Vander Vennet Theatre at Saint Mary’s College. John Carr, Director of Initiative for Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University, will speak. Carr served for more than 20 years as director of the U.S. Catholic Bishops’ Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development, providing guidance for the U.S. bishops’ public policy and advocacy initiatives. He founded the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life in 2013. Carr is also the Washington correspondent of America magazine.

AREA

Beat and fish fry benefit St. Patrick, Lagro

WABASH — Historic St. Patrick Church in Fort Wayne, will be at its fish fry Friday, Sept. 16, from 4:30-7 p.m. at Father Petit Hall at the Knights of Columbus, 505 St. Huntington St. Tickets are $8 in advance or $9 at the door. Children 6-12 $5. Call 260-563-1008 for information.

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