Young martyr a symbol of hope for Mexico’s priests, official says

ROME (CNS) — The heroism of Mexico’s newest saint, St. José Sánchez del Río, should embolden the nation’s priests to continue their ministry with trust in God, said the vice postulator of the young saint’s cause.

For priests in Mexico, especially those who denounce the activity of drug traffickers and find themselves targeted for attacks, the life of St. José is a call to place their “full trust in God,” Antonio Berumen, the vice postulator, told Catholic News Service Oct. 14.

“There comes a time in which, evidently, we must live through difficult times, but in the end Jose’s message is ‘I trust in you,’” he said. “It is complete trust in God and having the assurance that there is someone who acts and continues to act in the lives of men and women.”

As Pope Francis declared seven new saints Oct. 16, one of the banners hanging on the facade of St. Peter’s Basilica showed a young boy dressed in blue jeans and a white shirt. In his hands, the 14-year-old St. José holds a rosary and a palm branch, symbols of his unshakable faith and martyrdom. A trail of blood is seen at his feet along with a single bullet, symbolic of the torture and the manner of death he endured at the hands of his captors.

The martyrdom of St. José Sánchez del Río, who died in 1928 during a government crackdown on Catholics, takes on a new meaning today amid violence in Mexico.

The recent death of Father José Alfredo López Guillen, a well-liked priest in Michoacán who was murdered in September, was the latest in a disturbing trend of attacks against priests throughout the country. According to the Catholic Multimedia Center, 15 priests have been murdered in Mexico in the last four years.

Although most people believe the murders were committed by drug traffickers who wanted to send out a message to those who oppose them, government officials are facing criticism not only for downplaying the seriousness and frequency of the attacks but also for their attempts to blame the victims for their own deaths.

The recent death of Father José Alfredo López Guillen, a well-liked priest in Michoacán who was...
Emergency collection for those impacted by hurricane

Dear Friends in Christ,

Earlier this month, we saw in the news the devastating effects of Hurricane Matthew in Haiti, other countries in the Caribbean, and along the coast of the southeastern United States. The relief efforts of Catholic Relief Services in Haiti and the Caribbean and of Catholic Charities in the United States have helped tens of thousands of people affected by this disaster.

Since the road to restoration of these devastated communities will be long, support is needed for the Church’s efforts to assist so many of our needy brothers and sisters. Our diocese will participate in the national collection to support the work of CRS, Catholic Charities, and the USCCB (which is also providing help to the Church in these devastated areas). Parishes in our diocese will take up the special collection at Masses on the weekend of October 29-30.

The humanitarian aid being provided by our Catholic agencies includes the provision of clean water, food, shelter, and medical care. Besides emergency relief supplies, funds are needed to support the long-term efforts to rebuild and restore the devastated communities. As we approach the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, this collection is an opportunity to show mercy and love to so many suffering people.

I also ask for your continued prayers for the victims of Hurricane Matthew. We pray for the hundreds of people who were killed in the hurricane and its aftermath, as well as for the surviving families and loved ones. We also remember in prayer the tens of thousands of people whose homes were destroyed. The worst devastation occurred in Haiti, the poorest country in the western hemisphere. I remember my visit there with CRS this past January. The Haitians are a resilient people, strong in faith. May God bless them and all who are suffering as a result of this natural disaster.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and prayers!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Pope sends emergency funding to hurricane victims in Haiti

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As a sign of his closeness and concern, Pope Francis sent aid money to hurricane-stricken Haiti.

An initial donation of $100,000 was sent through the Pontifical Council Cor Unum to be distributed through the hardest-hit dioceses to assist flood victims, the council said in a communiqué Oct. 14.

The first round of funding was meant to be a “concrete expression of Pope Francis’ feelings of spiritual closeness and fatherly support for the people and places” that have been affected, it said.

The papal contribution is part of the church’s network of humanitarian aid, which includes help from different bishops’ conferences and numerous Catholic charities, it said.

Caritas Haiti, with the umbrella organization Caritas Internationalis, launched its first appeal for emergency food aid and sanitation kits for 15,500 people, as well as for providing counseling and education in preventing diseases like cholera, which commonly affect areas lacking sanitation and clean water.

The number of deaths reportedly reached 1,000 on Oct. 9, according to a tally by Reuters based on conversations with local officials.

A Catholic Relief Services distribution of food, blankets, hygiene kits, cooking pots, tarps and ropes takes place at the home of the town priest in Roche-a-Bateau. Roche-a-Bateau, a town roughly 30 miles south of Les Anglais, where the eye of Hurricane Matthew struck, has very few homes standing.

Photo by Robyn Fieser/Catholic Relief Services

A man carries some of his belongings from his home in Lumberton, N.C., as floodwaters rise Oct. 9 in the wake of Hurricane Matthew. The powerful storm killed at least 1,000 people in Haiti and at least 33 in the U.S.

Photo by Bahare Khodabande, EPA

CNS photo/Jonathan Shaw, U.S. Army National Guard handout via Reuters

Victims of Hurricane Matthew walk towards an open area where an aid helicopter landed Oct. 10 in Tiburon, Haiti. As a sign of his closeness and concern, Pope Francis sent aid money to hurricane-stricken Haiti, to be distributed through the hardest-hit dioceses to assist flood victims.

CNS photo/Bahare Khodabande, EPA

Pope sends emergency funding to hurricane victims in Haiti
Cardinal-designate Tobin urges Americans to welcome refugees

BY MOLLY GETTINGER

In 2015, the United States of America accepted 70,000 refugees into the country. Among them was one particular young family: a mother, a father and two small children. The family fled their homeland of Syria in 2012 and spent three years living in a refugee camp. During that time, surrounded by dismal conditions, they underwent the rigorous scrutiny mandated for those seeking refuge status in the United States, including security screening by the National Counterterrorism Center/Intelligence Community, the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, and the State Department.

The family’s story was told by Cardinal-designate Joseph W. Tobin, CSSR, of Indianapolis, when he spoke at the University of Notre Dame on Oct. 14, less than one week after he was named a cardinal by Pope Francis. In a talk titled “Welcoming the Stranger while Challenging the Fear,” Cardinal-designate Tobin discussed the history and current state of refugee resettlement in the United States, emphasizing the moral imperative that Americans welcome these neighbors as human beings and combat the prevalent fear, anxiety and hostility shown particularly towards individuals from the Middle East.

This family mentioned above, Cardinal-designate Tobin shared, was scheduled to be welcomed by Catholic Charities of Indianapolis on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2015. Following Gov. Mike Pence’s Nov. 16, 2015, statement that he would prevent refugees from settling in Indiana until the federal government could ensure property security measures were in place, however, Cardinal-designate Tobin was asked by the governor not to permit resettlement.

“Pence,” Cardinal-designate Tobin said, invited “me to pray and seek God’s guidance, which I gladly did.” The family was welcomed by the diocese and Catholic Charities, and is now living in Indianapolis.

This story is just one of the many ways Cardinal-designate Tobin has fought for refugee resettlement in the United States. Contemporary American society, he said, is imbued with a fear of welcoming refugees, a fear that rooted in three things.

The first is “found in the well-publicized threats of terrorist groups, particularly the Islamic State. There are people who make bad choices in every culture, including our own, and your chances of being killed by a foreign war terrorist in the United States is one in over 4 billion.”

Second, this fear is perpetuated by the national media. “News programs use a hierarchy now in determining what stories to place before the public conscience. And, put rather vulgarly, ‘if it bleeds, it leads.’ News is a for-profit industry, and I would argue, one that doesn’t always strive to report the facts accurately. … Fear-based news stories prey on the anxieties we all have. … This attitude is particularly true in reporting facts from the Middle East.”

The third factor that contributes to this fear, Cardinal-designate Tobin said, “is what I would term boundary maintenance: globalization, or a reaction of globalization that generates fear of the other.” The movement of refugees and migrants, the most embodied form of globalization, is restricted: Disembodied forms, such as trade and finance, are the most deregulated.

Cardinal-designate Tobin asked the question, “How do we, speaking as a Catholic community, react to this fear?” Quoting Archbishop Joseph Kurtz of Louisville, Ky., Cardinal-designate Tobin invited “all Catholics in the United States and others of good will to express openness and welcoming to these refugees, who are escaping desperate situations in order to survive. Regardless of their religious affiliation or national origin, these refugees are all human persons — made in the image of God, bearing inherent dignity, and deserving our respect and care and protection by law from persecution.”

He shared that, while the federal government is responsible for immigration and refugee admissions to the United States, governors ought to welcome refugees. “We need to encourage governors to continue to play their important welcoming role.”

The initial needs of refugees “are many, as you can imagine: food, shelter, employment, [in this country] English as a second language and orientation to a new culture,” Cardinal-designate Tobin said. He encouraged the audience to reach out to a local refugee resettlement agency, saying that the work performed by Catholic Charities would be impossible without volunteers.

To find out how to help with refugee resettlement, visit the website for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend: www.ccfwsb.org.

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St. Peter’s Square hangs banners in preparation for the Oct. 16 canonization of five new saints, including Salomone Leclercq, Manuel González García, Lodovico Pavoni, José Sánchez del Río and Elizabeth of the Trinity.

DEL RIO

Continued from Page 1

abducted and found a week later with five gunshot wounds to the stomach, brought attention to the ferocity of drug traffickers willing to murder members of the clergy who spoke out against them.

However, Gov. Silvano Aureoles Conejo of Michoacán claimed the priest was spotted in a surveillance video at a local hotel with a young boy, implying that he may have been a pedophile and died because of his actions.

But, calling the governor “irresponsible,” the mother of the child on the video immediately filed a complaint, stating that the video shows her son with his father, not with the priest. The attempt to discredit the priest’s reputation also drew the ire of local church officials who demanded an apology from the governor.

Father López’s parishioners in Janamuato also rushed to the late priest’s defense and said he devoted his priestly life to helping youths in the town overcome drug and alcohol addiction, an action that most likely angered local drug traffickers.

Auxiliary Bishop Jaime Calderón Calderón of Zamora in Michoacán told journalists in Rome Oct. 14 that the death of priests like Father López continued the legacy of St. José Sánchez del Río, who in the face of certain death continued to announce the truth of the Gospel.

“The murder of our priests shows that they are there, they are there with the community, they are there with those who suffer,” he said. “And for us this is also a sign and a witness that violence will not be overcome by more violence.”

With ever greater conviction, I see in the behavior of our priests that what we bring can forge new relationships that will build a more peaceful Mexico with justice, truth, righteousness, but above all, with love,” Bishop Calderón said.
“Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike,” wrote the 19th-century naturalist and philosopher in his book “Yosemite.”

During the 100th year of the National Park Service, Catholic News Service traveled to a few of the nation’s most popular parks and discovered sites of spiritual refuge beside some of America’s most beautiful landscapes.

Though the U.S. government is charged with the conservation of our most beautiful landscapes, the guidelines of separation ensure that religious institutions are a part of the nation’s story. Religious men and women often use nature’s bounty as a backdrop for spiritual connection.

Archbishop Paul D. Etienne, an anger and outdoorsman, said he understands people’s longing for nature. Newly named to head the Archdiocese of Anchorage, Alaska, he has for the last seven years overseen the Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyoming, which includes Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

“Nature stirs something in the human soul that helps to reveal the Creator to us,” he said. “Through creation we come to know the Creator.” He called national parks a “true treasure of this nation” and nature “God’s first book.”

“A man climbs a rock outcrop on the south rim of the Grand Canyon in Arizona Aug. 20. The nation’s national parks are sites of awe and beauty, making them appropriate places for spiritual reflection.”

“To set aside the natural beauty of this country is very important,” he said. “It helps us to understand the nature of humanity.”

Yellowstone, the first national park, was established by Congress in 1872. Today, 412 parks covering more than 84 million acres in the U.S. and its territories are managed by the National Park Service.

Each year, more than 300 million people venture into the parks for recreation, relaxation and renewal.

President Woodrow Wilson created the National Park Service in 1916 to protect and regulate all federal parks and monuments. Under the Department of the Interior, the Park Service was charged with the conservation of scenery, wildlife and natural and historic objects and to “provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

To meet the needs of Catholic visitors, Catholic clergy and laypeople lead weekend liturgical services inside some of the largest parks — Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Teton, Grand Canyon, Zion and Glacier — during the busy summer season.

Two Catholic chapels, Sacred Heart in Grand Teton and El Cristo Rey at the south rim of the Grand Canyon, not only offer Mass but are open daily for visits and prayer.

Parishes in park gateway communities, such as St. Mary’s in Gardnburg, Tennessee, also cater to throngs of national park visitors.

A majority of those attending Mass at St. Mary’s are visitors of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, the most visited of the national parks with an estimated 10.7 million people annually, said Carmelite Father Antony Punnackal, pastor of the parish.

“We call this parish ‘the parish of the Smokies,’ because it’s basically for the visiting parishioners,” Father Punnackal told CNS. Though the church has about 200 registered families who live within the parish boundaries, an average of 700 people attend Mass each weekend from the spring through fall, he said.

Ed Willis of Delaware, Ohio, said his trip through the Great Smoky Mountain National Park offered him a spiritual experience while witnessing “the creation of God,” a vision that stayed with him as he worshipped at St. Mary’s after leaving the park for the day.

“Having this park and church within reach has deepened my relationship with God,” he told CNS after attending a Saturday evening Mass in August.

The National Park Service not only preserves America’s top wilderness areas, but its cultural and historical places as well, including such sites as the Washington Monument, the White House, the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and Independence Hall.

“Most of the national parks are cultural sites,” said Kathy Kupper, spokeswoman for the Park Service. “They tell the story of who we are collectively as a people and as a society.”

That story includes the role of Catholicism in the building of the nation.

“There are many connections between the National Park Service and the Catholic Church,” Kupper told CNS. “Perhaps the most famous Catholic church association is at the San Antonio Missions.”

Established as a national historical park in 1978, it includes Concepcion, San Jose, San Juan and Espada missions and represents a unique collaboration between the park service and the church. The Park Service maintains mission buildings, landscapes and visitor centers, while the Archdiocese of San Antonio cares for the mission churches and oversees religious services.

Visitors can learn about Spanish Colonial Texas and also attend Mass in the still active missions.

Msgr. Pius N. Ilechukwu, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, offered a special blessing for pets and animals Sunday morning, Oct. 9. The Bluffton pastor said the blessing was in recognition of the Oct. 4 feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of God’s creatures. Msgr. Ilechukwu had invited parishioners to bring in their pets for the blessing. “We thank God for the gift of pets,” he said.
Living the Year of Mercy

Counsel the Doubtful

BY ANDREW MENTOCK

Counseling the doubtful is one of the most difficult spiritual works of mercy to comprehend. However, in today’s society, it is also one of the most relevant. Everyday, people are turning away from God as they disrespect the dignity of the human being and condone the destruction of innocent lives.

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops “everyone has moments of doubt in their faith journey. Nevertheless, we should always remember that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life and turn to him along our way.”

Some advice from the USCCB to help one adhere to this is to “orient your response to Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life,” and to “follow Christ with the witness of your life so that others may see God’s love revealed in your actions.”

An exemplary instance of this takes place at Women’s Care Center locations. “This is where our center comes in,” said Jenny Hunsberger, vice-president of the South Bend/Mishawaka Plymouth Women’s Care Center. “With our medical-grade pregnancy tests and ultrasounds, our counselor is often the first person to know for sure a woman is pregnant. And with gentleness and compassion, our counselor not only gives a young woman the facts, but gives something far more valuable: Hope.”

This knowledge and hope helps to provide women with the perspective to choose life, as opposed to a narrow-minded view from loneliness, which typically results in the belief that they have limited and often- destructive options.

Over the previous 12 months, 10,681 babies were saved thanks to the Women’s Care Center — 4,235 of them in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

For all of the work the Women’s Care Center has accomplished, the staff credits their local community with much of the success — knowing that family and friends are often an integral part of the support system for pregnant women.

“Locally, 57 percent of our abortion-minded clients come to Women’s Care Center because they were referred by a friend,” said Hunsberger. “They know that we offer concrete help with- out judgment. Our counselors offer a safe place to talk about your doubts and fears. It is essentially a place where fear and doubt is transformed into joyful hope.”

Nevertheless, the Women’s Care Center knows that a community’s ability to help them counsel the doubtful goes much deeper than referrals. “It is community support that keeps our doors open to serve 364 women every day,” said Hunsberger. “From 8-year-olds who ask friends to bring diapers instead of birthday gifts, to high school students who babysit for parenting classes, to sustain- ing partners who make major financial gifts, the Fort Wayne- South Bend diocesan community celebrates life through Women’s Care Center.”

Food for thought

In a May 2015 blog post for the Archdiocese of Washington, Msgr. Charles Pope writes that counseling the doubtful, as a spiritual work of mercy, is not concerned with “mere expediency,” but it’s about helping someone with “what is moral, upright and holy.”

He said that “it is that work which helps the undecided … come to a good and upright decision rooted in the call to holiness and the goal of attaining heaven by God’s grace.”

It is helpful, he says, for the person doing to counseling to be “prayerful and attentive and docile to divine teaching.” And in that sense what Christians are called to do, to live an existence of “prayer, study and life experiences” is “not only for our own sake, but for that of others as well.”

When we, as Christians, decide to help a person who needs counsel, it is a gift to them but also to the one who does the counseling, says Msgr. Pope. “We help others, but we also help ourselves,” he says “to become more deeply rooted in the decision to follow Jesus, to choose the Lord and the things awaiting in heaven, to leave behind double-minded ways and duplicity, to decide for what is right, good, noble and holy.”

— Catholic News Service

Parishioners pray the rosary in the courtyard of Sacred Heart Parish in the Segundo Barrio of El Paso, Texas, Feb. 14. Prayerful attention to the struggles of others can assist them in removing the seeds of doubt and conflict in their lives.

Where doubt becomes hope

By Andrew Mentock

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Pope canonizes seven saints who ‘fought the good fight of faith’

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The seven new saints of the Church were holy not because of their own efforts but because of “the Lord who triumphs in them and with them,” Pope Francis said. Each one “struggled to the very end with all their strength,” which they received through perseverance and prayer, the pope said Oct. 16 at a canonization Mass in St. Peter’s Square. “They remained firm in faith, with a generous and steadfast heart. Through their example and their intercession, may God also enable us to be men and women of prayer,” the pope told the estimated 80,000 people present at the Mass. Seven large tapestries bearing the portraits of the new saints decorated the facade of St. Peter’s Basilica, some representing specific aspects of their lives that exemplified their holiness.

Middle East Christians called key witnesses of mercy, forgiveness

NEW YORK (CNS) — Protecting Christianity and religious pluralism in the Middle East and respecting the rights of all would open the path to peace in the region, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said at a dinner in New York Oct. 12. “True peace is possible only when the fundamental rights and dignity of every person are respected. We continue to believe that fundamental human rights must include the freedom of conscience, the free exercise of religion, and equality under the law,” Anderson said. He gave the remarks in accepting the Path to Peace Award, sponsored by the Faith to Peace Foundation. As president of the foundation, Archbishop Bernardino Auza, the Vatican’s permanent observer to the United Nations, presented the award to Anderson and the Knights of Columbus, the international fraternal organization’s life-saving work in the Middle East and “humanitarian work throughout the world.” The dinner marked the 25th anniversary of the foundation, established to support the work of the Vatican’s U.N. mission.

By laughing at ourselves, we grow, change for better, says actress-writer

NEW YORK (CNS) — Laughing at ourselves and being open to sharing our failures and flaws within and beyond the community of faith is a powerful means to dispel the myth that Catholics are ignorant or judgmental or exclusive in any way, actress Jeanie Gaffigan told an audience in New York Oct. 14. The comedy writer and producer of “The Jim Gaffigan Show” accepted the inaugural Elloquentia Perfecta Award from Paulist Press and the Fordham University Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education. The actress, who is the wife of comedian Jim Gaffigan and mother of their five pre-teenage children, said her Catholic faith and Jesuit education inform and inspire the scripts she co-writes and his series on the TV Land cable network. She said the couple tries, “in our own imperfect way, to present a household of faith in one of the most culturally diverse places in our country.” The television show is loosely based on their experiences working in the comedy field and raising children in a two-bedroom apartment in New York. “The show invites its audience on a journey through familiar conflicts in faith, family and career and attempts to bring the entire community together in showing ourselves as flawed characters that must rebound with resilience from the hardships we all face in life,” Gaffigan said. “When we laugh at ourselves, we can grow and change for the better,” she said.

Conference focuses on fostering church leadership roles for laywomen

FERNANDIN, Ind. (CNS) — When Pope Francis called for “a more incisive female presence” in the church in his 2013 apostolic exhortation, “The Joy of the Gospel,” women in the church took notice. And a handful of women in southern Indiana took action. They began organizing a conference focused on female leadership in the church and brought it to fruition Oct. 7 to 9. About 250 women and a handful of men gathered for the “Women of the Church” conference at Monastery Immaculate Conception Church in Ferdinand. The event was sponsored by the Benedictine Sisters of Ferdinand and St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad. While participants were interested in fostering female leadership in the church, the focus of the weekend steered clear of female ordination. Instead, the conference buzzed with the notion that leadership in the church flows from baptism.

Bishop visits horse racing industry migrants

Chicago Auxiliary Bishop John R. Manz talks with a youth during a visit with workers and their families at High Pointe Farms in La Grange, Ky. Bishop Manz made a pastoral visit to migrant workers in Kentucky in September on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on the Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers. He makes recommendations to the local dioceses and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops on how the church can better minister to these often-invisible groups.

Confessing the faults of the human heart is key to victory, pope says

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Nobody’s story is cut and dried, as longtime immigration reporter Daniel Connolly learned when doing reporting for his book, “The Book of Isaias.” Connolly tracked the Mexican-born teenager throughout his senior year of high school in Memphis, Tenn, and followed up at critical junctures in his life afterward. Isaias’ story has its share of contradictions. While born in Mexico, he migrated with his family to the United States without documents. The family settled in Memphis, not the first city one thinks of as an immigrant hotspot. Although Isaias identifies as atheist, Connolly noted that he read a Bible regularly to see what teachings matched his emerging philosophy. And, for a brief time, Isaias attended an evangelical Christian college in Memphis. Then there’s also the home-sickness Isaias’ parents felt for their native Mexico, but they had to wrestle with what to do about Isaias’ little brother, who was born in the U.S. Isaias is a U.S. citizen, since the likelihood of the parents’ ability to return north would be quite low.

Catholic groups urge physicians to support AMA on assisted suicide

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Two Catholic organizations are calling on physicians to urge the American Medical Association to maintain its current stance against physician-assisted suicide. The call comes from the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the National Catholic Bioethics Center comes as the AMA’s Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs gathers information to “outline the current landscape” on physician-assisted suicide. Representatives of the Catholic organizations are concerned that this effort by the AMA is a first step toward taking a neutral stance on assisted suicide, thus opening the door to such a practice becoming more widely accepted. The organizations are urging physicians to address their concerns during the AMA’s intermeeting Nov. 12-15 in Orlando, Fla.

Christian, but do these things, I’m living like a Christian,” he said. “You cannot be a Christian without practicing the Beatitudes. You cannot be a Christian without doing what Jesus teaches us in Matthew 25,” which is to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and welcome the stranger. “It’s hypocrisy to call yourself a Christian and chase away a refugee or someone seeking help, someone who is hungry or thirsty, turns out someone who is in need of my help,” he said. “If I say I am Christian, but do these things, I’m a hypocrite.”

Longtime immigration reporter focuses on one teen in ‘Book of Isaias’
Around the Diocese

Interfaith remembrance of violence victims

Holy Cross Associates held an interfaith service in remembrance of the innocent victims of violence. The “Together for Peace” service was held at Holy Cross College and attended by Catholics, other Christians, Jews and Muslims. A choir sang songs of peace and there were several readings on the subject. A letter of solidarity from Msgr. Walter Erbi of the Apostolic Nunciature of the United States was shared with everyone present.

Calligrapher to kick off St. John’s Bible exhibit

NOTRE DAME — Donald Jackson, a Welsh calligrapher and artistic director of the illuminated St. John’s Bible, will speak at the University of Notre Dame on Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. The lecture kicks off “A Year with the St. John’s Bible,” a series of lectures and interactive events coinciding with an exhibition of the St. John’s Bible Heritage Edition in the Hesburgh Library.

The St. John’s Bible is a hand-written text featuring more than 160 inspired images that illuminate the deepest mysteries of God’s Word. Jackson collaborated with Benedictine monks at St. John’s Abbey and University in Collegeville, Minn., and numerous scribes and artists to produce the seven-volume manuscript. During his lecture “Ancient Texts in a Modern World,” Jackson will explore the Bible’s sacred text and art and discuss the project’s history. The lecture will be held in Andrews Auditorium in Geddes Hall.

“The Scriptures are not just any text. Rather, through the Bible, we come to encounter the Incarnate Word dwelling even now in the church,” said John Cavadini, McGrath-Cavadini Director of the McGrath Institute for Church Life. “The St. John’s Bible nourishes the imagination of the modern world to see the Scriptures once again as an encounter with the person of Jesus Christ.”

Students, faculty, staff and the public are welcome to attend Jackson’s lecture.

For information contact Brett Robinson, Director of Communications, McGrath Institute for Church Life, 574-651-6109, brebins@nd.edu.

Liturgical day held at Our Lady of Guadalupe

WARSAW — A Liturgical workshop shop day for proclaimers and extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion was sponsored by the Office for Hispanic Ministry at Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw, on Saturday Oct. 8. Approximately 140 participants either began or renewed their commitment to ministry during the day of reflection. St. Dominic, Bremen; St. Michael, Plymouth; St. John the Evangelist, Goshen; St. Joseph, LaGrange; St. Patrick, Ligonier; Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend; St. Vincent, Elkhart; and Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw; were among the parishes represented.

St. Vincent de Paul’s adopt-a-family work seeks volunteers

SOUTH BEND — The annual Christmas Program of St. Vincent de Paul provides food and toys to hundreds of people in the community. To adopt a family, visit www.svdp.org by December 5. Christmas program families in need of toys and food this holiday season sign-ups will be held October 24-28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 520 Crescent Ave.

USF Catholic Political Responsibilities lecture

FORT WAYNE — The St. Thomas More Society of Fort Wayne, in partnership with the Department of Philosophy and Theology and the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of St. Francis, invites the public to a free public lecture, “Catholic Political Responsibilities,” as part of the 2016-17 USF Philosophy and Theology lecture series. The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, bishop of the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocese, will speak about the political responsibility of Catholics, including the duty to vote according to a well-formed conscience. He will speak about faithful citizenship in light of the social doctrine of the Church, highlighting Church teaching and principles for prudential decisions in voting as well as Catholic engagement in the civic order. The lecture will take place Wednesday, Oct. 26, at 7 p.m. on the campus of the University of St. Francis, North Campus Auditorium, 2702 Spring Street, Fort Wayne. For additional information contact Angie Springer at 260-399-7700 x8100 or aspringer@sf.edu.

ALPHA for Catholics

Is your parish looking for ways to attract those outside the Church or on the fringes of faith and lapsed Catholics? Does your parish want to build a stronger faith community? ALPHA is a program being used by thousands of Catholic parishes around the world as a primary tool of evangelization and endorsed by the USCCB. Father John Riccardo, host of “Christ is the Answer” on Redeemer Radio brought ALPHA to his parish in Plymouth, Mich., with the goal to lead as many people in the parish as possible into an encounter with Jesus and into deeper friendships with each other. He says of ALPHA “hands down, I have never seen any program have as far reaching an impact as ALPHA.”

To learn more an informational meeting hosted by the Office of Evangelization will be Wednesday, Nov. 9, from 6:30-8 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Diocesan Center in Mishawaka or on Wednesday, Nov. 16, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Archbishop Noll Center in Fort Wayne. For information, contact Allison at 260-399-1452 or asturnm@diocesefwsb.org.

Shroud of Turin presentation offered

GOSHEN — The St. John the Evangelist welcoming committee sponsored a presentation on the Shroud of Turin on Sunday, Oct. 9. The presentation was sponsored by Elkhart County resident Brian Cray, a parishioner at St. Mary of the Assumption, Bristol.

For several years studying all the research about the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin and had a life-size replica made so he could better explain the different marks on the cloth. He pointed out the suffering Christ endured in His passion by means of what is exhibited on the shroud. Cray’s display also included replicas of the crown of thorns and weapons used in the scourging, and a picture of the Sudarium of Oviedo, believed to be the face cloth that covered Christ’s face after his crucifixion.

The 90-minute presentation included time for questions and answers.
Grandparents/VIP Day at St. Joseph

St. Joseph School in Decatur recently celebrated Grandparent/VIP Day during which students invited grandparents or another very important person to join them at school. The morning started with Mass and special performances from the St. Joe Sensations and the middle school choir. The classrooms organized special activities that the students and grandparents/VIPs could do together, and the hallways and classrooms were filled to capacity.

An Encounter with the Beloved: A Retreat for Married Couples

An Encounter with the Beloved: A Retreat for Married Couples takes place Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 5-6, at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center in Donaldson.

Fred and Lisa Everett, co-directors of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, will facilitate the event. Married for 30 years, they will help the married couples reflect upon both their relationship with each other and with God — where they’ve been, where they are now, and where the Lord is leading them to go. It will be a time to delight in their relationships, heal from any past disappointments and be refreshed to continue anew.

According to Fred, “Couples often feel that they do not have time to get away, especially in a busy household with children. Even so, it is especially important for busy couples to take time every five years or so to make a retreat that will give them the enthusiasm to tackle life’s challenges. If you think about it, the two most important relationships that a Christian married couple have is with God and their spouse. Investing a day and a half in strengthening and renewing those relationships is well worth the time.”

Through presentations and activities, couples will reflect on ways to deepen communication with each other and with the Lord, to identify each other’s love languages, to examine themselves on 10 important virtues in married life, to discern more clearly their gifts and desires, and to make concrete resolutions for continuing to grow.

“As the Jubilee Year of Mercy draws to a close, we are excited to provide this opportunity for couples to come away and rest for a while to deepen their relationship with each other and with God,” said Lisa.

The Everetts have produced various programs and videos, authored articles and booklets on marriage and family life and served as advisors on marriage to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Both are graduates of the University of Notre Dame, and are the parents of seven children and grandparents to three. Fred is a candidate for ordination to the diaconate in 2018. Cost for the retreat is $195 per couple and includes lodging and meals. Please register by Oct. 28. Participants should bring a Bible, rosary and a journal. Although the retreat will be presented in a Catholic tradition, couples of all faiths are welcome to attend. Check-in begins at 9 a.m. Nov. 5, and the retreat concludes with Mass on Sunday at 2 p.m. For more information call 574-935-1780 or visit Lindenwood.org. Lindenwood is located at 9601 Union Road, Donaldson.

Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center is part of The Center at Donaldson, sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.
New chapel to be crowning jewel of USF campus

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

A new free-standing chapel, “the crowning jewel of the campus,” will soon be constructed at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, said Sister Elise Kriss, OSF, president. “It has been a long time in coming, and we hope that by this time next year it will be close to completion.”

“The free-standing chapel will, of course, be a more visible sign of the Catholic identity of the University of Saint Francis,” she continued. It will be located on the campus’ east side, between Pope John Paul Academic Center and Achatz Hall of Science.

When the city zoning board gives its approval, the 7,000-square foot structure will tower 90 feet above ground level.

Its size and location, with the cross at the top, will make it the highest point on the campus and the center of campus life, said Sister Elise. “It will represent in a very visible way the dialogue between faith and reason, so that it can be seen more profoundly how faith and reason bear harmonious witness to the unity of all truth” (Ex corde Ecclesiae, #17). In fact, the fundraising campaign for the chapel and the Achatz Hall expansion is appropriately called the Faith and Reason Campaign.

According to Dr. Matt Smith, vice-president of institutional advancement, the original campus plan included a free-standing chapel; but that part of the plan was never implemented. Now that project is finally underway and, upon university board approval, will begin next spring. The Faith and Reason Campaign hopes to raise $22 million, with $4 million slated for the chapel — the “faith” portion of the campaign — and $18 million intended to renovate and expand the Achatz science building, the “reason” portion of the campaign.

“We are in the design and fundraising stage,” said Smith. Currently, two volunteer committees are hard at work on the dual fundraising effort, and he noted that “significant progress has been made.” In addition, a chapel planning committee consisting of university and diocesan representatives, including Sister Angela Mellady, OSF, Provincial of the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka, is in discussion with Bill Heyer, liturgical architect with Design Collaborative, on design details for the chapel.

“It will allow us to do more for students in terms of their spiritual direction,” said Smith.

Sister Elise has high expectations for the proposed 250-seat chapel’s role in campus life as well. With its location on a path between two major academic buildings, and an attached adoration chapel that will be open longer hours than the main chapel, it is expected to draw students and staff to prayer. And with a newly instituted Sacred Time from 11:30 a.m. to noon on weekdays when no classes or meetings are scheduled on campus, visits to the chapel are expected to increase. Daily Mass will be offered there at 11:30 a.m. and Sunday Mass for students will be offered at 9 a.m.

The current chapel located in Trinity Hall seats only 100 and is filled to capacity, especially on Sunday evenings, so a new chapel will be a blessing in many ways. Additionally, the university will continue to originate the Sunday morning televised Mass for the broader Catholic community, an important service to those who are homebound and unable to attend their parish church. “We are grateful to partner with the diocese for this,” added Smith.

The president’s hope for the future is that more Catholic students will join the campus community. “We are still primarily a commuter campus, with about 350 resident students of our total enrollment of 2,200 students,” she pointed out. About 30 percent are Catholic, a general reflection of the religious traditions of the community at large. “We are also a campus that has a great opportunity for evangelization of all our students, no matter their religious preference or upbringing. The unmistakable presence of the new stand-alone chapel will help us fulfill our task as a Catholic university,” Sister Elise added.

Scott Opperman, director of campus visits, echoed her sentiments. “Given the visibility and location of the new chapel, I also think more students and employees will participate in Mass during Sacred Time on weekdays. We have already seen increases this year; it will greatly increase with the new chapel.”

Sister Anita Holzmer, assistant vice president for mission integration, concurred with Opperman.

“A new, larger campus chapel is part of the University of Saint Francis’ Faith and Reason Campaign. It will serve as the emblem of the school’s Catholic mission and identity.”

Provided by the University of Saint Francis
Respect Life Fair at St. Anthony of Padua parish

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Angola, held a Respect Life Fair on the weekend of Oct. 8-9. Members of the Human Life and Dignity Group, along with representatives of Project Rachel and of the Indiana State Council of the Knights of Columbus, were present.

The purpose of the parish Human Life and Dignity Group is to promote a culture of life within the community, in keeping with the U.S. Bishops’ Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities: A Campaign in Support of Life. This policy statement calls for a comprehensive vision of human dignity and a consistent ethic of life, including at the parish level.

Because the parishioners at St. Anthony’s want to focus on action, not meetings, they have organized their groups into a series of “action groups” or workgroups. Currently, they have eight action groups:

• Action Against Abortion
• Action Against Pornography
• Care of God’s Creation
• Dignity of Women
• Post Abortion Healing
• Prayer and Liturgy
• Pregnancy Care
• Prevention of Substance Abuse

Individual parishioners may become a part of as many or as few action groups as they choose. They may give as little as a half hour of their time each month, or they may make promotion of a culture of life the focus of their own life’s apostolate. The action groups combined have over 50 members, and each group is asked to plan “doable” actions or events each year. Taken together, this produces several dozen pro-life events at the parish each year.

A big focus of parish efforts is working with other groups in society. Different members cooperate with the Compassion Pregnancy Center in Angola, the Knights of Columbus, March for Life, the TLC women’s shelter, Angola Community Anti-Violence Alliance, Trine University’s anti-rape program, Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light, Women’s Care Center of Northeastern Indiana, March for Life, Project Rachel, Christ Child Society, Human Life Action Center and more.

 Twice a year, the parish’s Human Life and Dignity Group meets in a large assembly to coordinate actions and discuss principles. Nurturing a culture of life is an important duty of each Catholic parish and every Catholic individual. At St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Angola and St. Paul Chapel in Clear Lake, the people respond to this call with actions large and small.

“Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary.”

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

God, author of all life, bless, we pray, all unborn children, give them constant protection and grant them a healthy birth that is the sign of our rebirth one day into the eternal rejoicing of heaven.

Adapted from the rite of blessing of a child in the womb

Christ the King Catholic Church
52473 State Road 933
South Bend, Indiana 46637

Our parish is dedicated to
The Mother of Our Saviour
The Star of Hope
The Comfort of the Afflicted
And the one chosen to guide us through the sorrows of life, including the agony brought about by abortion.

Queen of Peace, be with us.

SAINT MARY PARISH - HUNTINGTON

“Caring for life from the beginning to the end. What a simple thing, what a beautiful thing. So, go forth and don’t be discouraged. Care for life. It’s worth it.”

~ from a homily to 7005 by Cardinal Bergoglio (Pope Francis) celebrating Aug. 31 feast of St. Raymond Nonnatus, patron saint of expectant mothers, newborns

RESPECT LIFE

“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

~ Pope Francis

St. Patrick Church
ARCOLA

Human Life is Precious from Conception until Death
Always Choose Life

St. Bavo Parish
Mishawaka

St. Anthony of Padua parishioners, Angola, attend a Respect Life Fair Oct. 8-9. The parish has formed a group and a comprehensive action plan, of which the fair is a component, to encourage respect for life in the parish and the larger community.
Poor prenatal diagnoses focus of new diocesan ministry

BY ANDREW MENTOCK

One of the most trying times a couple can go through are the days, weeks, and months that follow after receiving a poor prenatal diagnosis. The bad news can cause even the most joyous and faithful couples to feel vulnerable and exposed.

That’s why the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend introduced a powerful new ministry last month called Miriam’s Blessing. The ministry’s mission is to aid those who have received a poor prenatal diagnosis throughout their more difficult than usual journey as new parents.

“It’s so that they have the emotional and spiritual support that they need to carry their pregnancy to term,” said Lisa Everett, co-director of the Office for Family Life for the diocese, “and to cherish the time, however long or short, that they have with their child.”

According to Everett, without this support, about 80 percent of couples or single mothers who are in this situation will terminate the pregnancy. Tremendous pressure is imposed on them to do so, especially by the medical community.

The catalyst for the program is Mary O’Callaghan, who reached out to both the Office of Family Life and the Office of Evangelization in order to get the ministry started in the diocese.

“From both my professional background and personal experience as a mother of a child with a disability, I know that there is little support for carrying a child with a difficult diagnosis such as Down syndrome or other condition to term,” said O’Callaghan, who has a doctorate in developmental psychology from the University of Notre Dame. “On the other hand, I know that when given comprehensive support, most parents will choose life for their children.”

The ministry is based on the national nonprofit program Be Not Afraid. The name “Miriam’s Blessing” was chosen by the diocese for the local version of the ministry, after hearing the inspiring story of Gustavo and Lupita Jimenez — a couple who has volunteered their services as peer ministers for the program.

A few years ago, the couple received a poor prenatal diagnosis while pregnant with their daughter, Miriam. She had been diagnosed with anencephaly, a cephalic disorder where an absence of the brain, skull and scalp occurs during embryonic development.

In light of the diagnosis, the couple’s doctor scheduled an induction for them for the following week.

“We spoke to my brother who is a priest. He told us to go home and research what an induction is,” said Gustavo. “After Googling it, we discovered that we were essentially scheduled to have an abortion.”

When Lupita and Gustavo’s brother, Rev. Fernando Jimenez, who is currently a priest at St. John the Evangelist in Goshen, showed up to the scheduled appointment, they refused to go through with the procedure. Their doctor protested.

“We were told, ‘You will suffer.’ Then he went on to say, ‘You will only have 20 minutes with your child at most.’”

The couple stood by their decision, determined to do right by God and their child.

“For as long as God permits,” said Gustavo, “we want to be with our baby.”

They decided to switch to a more supportive doctor at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne, even though it increased the financial burden and they were already struggling.

On Sept 5, 2014, Miriam was born. They had plenty of time to have their daughter baptized and confirmed, as she lived for 40 hours.

“We had time to kiss her and hug her, and say goodbye,” said Gustavo. “We loved our time with our baby.”

Miriam continues to inspire the couple. In addition to volunteering their time as a peer ministers, Lupita, with her husband’s support, has enrolled at IPFW this fall to become a nurse. This way, she can provide medical care to others who receive a poor prenatal diagnosis.

By naming the program after Miriam, it’s hoped that her life and her parents’ strength will be an inspiration to others throughout the diocese.

“When they shared their stories they talked about their daughter Miriam, who has so profoundly impacted the lives of her parents and family,” said Mary Glowaski, director of evangelization for the diocese. “Now, she will continue to impact the lives of the families who will be served by this ministry.”

Provided by Gustavo and Lupita Jimenez

Gustavo and Lupita Jimenez are shown with their daughter, Miriam, during her final hours. A new ministry is named for little Miriam, whose parents carried her to term against medical advice.

For more information regarding Miriam’s Blessing, please contact Everett at lisaanneverett@sbcglobal.net or 574-234-0687; or Glowaski at myglowaski@dioscesefwsb.org or 260-422-4611.
Interfaith leaders call on president and Congress to reject biased religious liberty report

WASHINGTON — Archbishop William E. Lori, Chairman of the USCCB’s Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty, and Bishop Gregory J. Mansour of the Eparchy of Saint Maron of Brooklyn, joined leaders from diverse faiths in writing to President Barack Obama, Senate President Pro Tempore Orrin Hatch, and House Speaker Paul Ryan Oct. 12, concerning a report released last month by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. The letter calls upon these political leaders “to renounce publicly the Commission’s report.”

The letter continues: “We understand that people of good faith can disagree about the relationship between religious liberty and antidiscrimination laws in our country, and how that relationship should best be structured. ... At the same time, we are one in demanding that no American citizen or institution be labeled by their government as bigoted because of their religious views, and dismissed from the political life of our nation for holding those views. And yet that is precisely what the Civil Rights Commission report does.”

The interfaith leaders’ letter states, in part: “We wish to express our deep concern that the Commission has issued a report, Peaceful Coexistence: Reconciling Non-Discrimination Principles with Civil Liberties, that stigmatizes tens of millions of religious Americans, their communities, and their faith-based institutions, and threatens the religious freedom of all our citizens.”

The letter continues: “We believe in the equality of all Americans before the law, regardless of creed or community. But we are both determined and unafraid to speak the truth about beliefs we have held for millennia. A robust and respectful debate over ideas is not something harmful to be demonized. Rather, debate is good for our democracy, and should be encouraged. Slanderous ideas and arguments with which one disagrees as ‘racism’ or ‘phobia’...only cheapens the meaning of those words.”

The signatories of the letter include Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Bahai, Mormon, African Methodist Episcopal, Southern Baptist, and Evangelical leaders as well as leaders of non-religious organizations.

The full text of the letter is available at: www.usccb.org

Respecting ALL LIFE through our ministries including the elderly, children, refugee, homeless, poor, sick and underserved.

Dignity and Respect for All – a Core Value of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ

www.poorhandmaids.org • facebook.poorhandmaids.org

LET US SAY ‘YES’ TO LIFE AND ‘NO’ TO DEATH.

National March for Life in Washington, D.C. bus trip registration now open

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has organized a bus trip for youth and their chaperones to the annual March for Life, scheduled to take place Jan. 28 in Washington, D.C.

Busses will leave from Fort Wayne and South Bend, on the evening of Thursday, Jan. 26. In Washington D.C., the group’s activities will include Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, dinner with participating seminarians, the March for Life and Mass at the Verizon Center. Overnight accommodations will be at host parishes. The group will return the morning of Sunday, Jan. 29. The cost to participate is $135 per student, $50 per chaperone. Financial aid is available by contacting Janice Martin, diocesan Office of Catechesis, at jmartin@diocesefwb.org or 260-422-4611 ext. 3318. To register, and for further information, go to www.fwsbym.com/marchforlife.

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Parishioners: St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne
Statement from Cardinal Dolan on Respect Life Month

‘Moved by Mercy’
Respect Life Month

October 2016
My dear friends in Christ:

This summer, I traveled to Poland for World Youth Day, where millions of young Catholics gathered. A theme chosen by Pope Francis that I addressed in a talk I gave to young people was, “Now is the time for mercy.” It’s timely, isn’t it? Yet, as in a story I shared about Pope Saint John Paul II, it’s also timeless. For years, Poland had been oppressed, with no freedom of religion. Human rights had been trampled, and the sacredness of human life violated. Then Pope John Paul II visited in 1979 with a message that changed the world. He spoke about God, about faith, about human dignity, truth and the sacredness of human life. He spoke about Jesus and the Church. And what do you think happened? Over a million people responded, chanting over and over, “We want God! We want God!” Mikhail Gorbachev said it was Pope John Paul II’s nine-day visit that led to the fall of communism. After my talk concluded, history repeated itself. Youth from all over the world chanted, “We want God! We want God!” The Lord was moving hearts with his mercy. God offers his gift of mercy to each and every one of us, no matter what. But we have to decide to receive that gift—whether or not to turn away from sin and turn, instead, toward him. We have to decide whether we want God. The theme of the 2016-17 Respect Life Program is “Moved by Mercy” (usccb.org/respectlife). When we let our hearts be moved by God’s mercy, it shapes everything. As Pope Francis said, “We are called to show mercy because mercy has first been shown to us” (Misericordiae Vultus). God made each of us in his own image and likeness. He desires to be united with us forever in a loving relationship. God loves us, treats us with respect and asks us to do the same with others. Every person is sacred and must be treated with the dignity they deserve. No one should ever be treated callously or carelessly — everyone should be cherished and protected! From each tiny child waiting to be born, to individuals nearing death, all are precious and deserve our care and protection. Women and men suffering after abortion, individuals tempted to end their lives, couples longing to conceive a child, people pushed to the margins of society by a “throwaway culture,” expectant mothers facing challenging pregnancies, and every other person — each “has a place in God’s heart from all eternity” (Amoris Laetitia, 168). Let’s ask God to make us channels of his loving mercy: Lord, help us to receive your mercy and turn to you each moment. And please guide us in extending your mercy to others today. Now is the time for mercy.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Timothy Cardinal Dolan
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

Prayers of remembrance

St. Joseph Hessen Cassel school students processed to a memorial for the unborn on Oct. 11, after an all-school Mass, to pray with Father Bill Kummer for aborted babies. Jaidan Jordan, head of liturgy on the student council and an altar server, recited the Prayer for Life, and the students, staff and Father Kummer sang songs to offer up for the innocent lives lost.

St. Mary of the Assumption DECATUR and St. Joseph School

It was you who created
My inmost self; and put
Me together in my
Mother’s womb; for all
These mysteries I thank you,
For the wonder of myself, for
The wonder of your works.
Psalm 139, 13-14

Corpus Christi Catholic Community SOUTH BEND

Since 1973, over 58 million babies have died by abortion. It’s time to stop the violence!
Pray to end abortion... and begin emotional and spiritual healing.

St. John the Evangelist Parish - Goshen
Rev. Tony Steinacker, Pastor

St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish - Bristol
Rev. Robert Van Kempen, Pastor

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish - Elkhart
Rev. Jason Freiburger, Pastor

St. Vincent de Paul Parish - Elkhart
Rev. Matthew Coonan, Pastor

“Caring for life from the beginning to the end. What a simple thing, what a beautiful thing... Care for life. It’s worth it.”

-from a homily in 2005 by then Cardinal Bergoglio, now Pope Francis, celebrating Aug. 31 feast of St. Raymond Nonnatus, patron saint of expectant mothers, newborns.
Members of the Northern Indiana Area of the Order of Malta represented the order’s annual Lourdes pilgrimage at Tanglewood Trace Assisted Living Center and Golden Living Center-Fountainview in Mishawaka in early October. Residents and family members washed in Lourdes water brought from France and received the anointing of the sick from Holy Cross priests Father Richard Laurick, Father Edward Krauss and Father Peter Rocca during a Mass and rosary.

The grotto at St. Elizabeth Church Ann Seton, Fort Wayne, is a memorial dedicated to prayers to end abortion. Each cross represents 1 million of the unborn babies killed since 1973. There are 60 crosses.

Join us, the Apostolate of Divine Mercy in Service of Life, Marriage, and the Family for ADORATION for our country, the election & our resolve to confront the encroaching culture of death.

Three Fridays of 24 hour adoration

Begins each Friday at 8:30 a.m.
Ends the next Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m.

October 21
October 28
November 4

Rosary at 9:00 a.m.
Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 p.m.
‘From Grief to Grace’ inspires

BY THERESA THOMAS

What I expected from Jeannie Ewing’s new book, “From Grief to Grace,” was either a simple accounting of her personal suffering or a “how-to” handbook on dealing with grief. Instead I found an expertly woven substantive offering that was simultaneously thought-provoking and helpful, even to a casual reader. I started reading “From Grief to Grace” on a plane ride and found I couldn’t put it down. Before I knew it, the plane had landed and I was feeling edified and inspired from having spent my time in the pages of this book. Let me share with you a little about what I found.

Jeannie Ewing’s family struggled with bipolar disorder and depression. But it was when her daughter Sarah was born with a genetic disorder that caused her to fuse together prematurely that Ewing was thrust into the deepest throes of grief and sorrow. She struggled to accept the reality that her child could die at any moment, or live with great struggles and sufferings of her own. This caused Ewing to question herself, her life, and God.

The result of Ewing’s struggle is a beautiful and honest look at the meaning of deep sorrow and how it can lead to grace. Early on in the book, Ewing explains to her readers the five stages of grief, then shares how these stages did not appear in an orderly way when she was faced with the biggest grief of her life. Ewing’s transformation after grappling with her greatest grief is inspiring, and will undoubtedly help those who seek to find meaning in life’s tragedies and sorrows.


She offers three appendices for the reader to explore the topic of grief from different angles: a man’s perspective (her husband’s), meditations on some sorrowful devotions and teachings of our Catholic faith, and a commentary on issues pertaining to the end of life and the will to live.

This book is comprehensive and honest, in some places downright raw. “…Shame became an unwanted guest, as I was faced with the reality that I wanted to hide Sarah from the world so that people would not whisper and stare at us…” that is refreshing for a serious reader hoping to find frankness in truth. In other places the book is sublime and inspiring, such as when Ewing offers quotes from the saints about suffering, or when she explains how holy indifference is a way in which we can learn how to surrender each moment of anxiety or a prolonged instance of suffering. Probably some of the best parts about “From Grief to Grace” are the little insights Ewing sprinkles about the chapters. For example, she writes: “Do we ponder our life’s end? At times, during prayer, this thought can put into perspective the ways in which we utilize the brevity of time we have been allotted, how we have prioritized our relationships and whether we are truly living what we claim to believe as Catholics. This is not a morose preoccupation with death, but is a point for personal reflection, and often, growth…” My favorite chapter was “The Grace of Redemptive Suffering.” In it, Ewing offers six spiritual principles that will aid the reader in navigating grief: humility, abandonment to divine providence, holy indifference, understanding, patience, and comprehensive sorrow. These principles are explained in detail and with examples to which the reader can easily relate.

In all, “From Grief to Grace” is a book that will cause readers to think deeply and challenge themselves to surrender to God’s will even in the worst of suffering. As Ewing writes, “Grief is the catalyst that ignites the spark of zeal in our hearts and sets ablaze the yearning, that pining to love God…” This book is a treasure for those who grapple with grief. They will find renewed hope and inspiration waiting for them in its pages.

God’s logic is far more just than that of man

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 18:9-14

The Book of Sirach, one of those books classified by scholars collectively as the Wisdom Literature, provides us with this weekend’s first Scriptural reading.

Since the pagan world was which they lived had Greek origins, and therefore human reasoning was elevated almost to the status of the divine, the authors of this book sought to persuade audiences that the Hebrew religion in itself was the summit of human logic.

Even with this overall pattern, each of the Wisdom books was composed in its own time and in the face of its own circumstances. Thus, it is important always to know the context in which a book was written, despite the fact that a similar purpose was the common concern.

The Book of Sirach was composed when, in the midst of those living around the Jews, Greek mythology was the accepted way of thought. This mythology presented gods and goddesses who, on occasion, were selfish, petty and outright cruel; powerful, certainly, but hardly endearing.

By contrast, Sirach offers a picture of the God of Hebrew revelation as far above the tawdry shortcomings and schemes of humans. God did not bargain. He is supremely just. God could be nothing else than be perfectly just.

The Second Epistle to Timothy provides the second reading. Timothy was one of Paul’s disciples. Paul taught him the deep meaning of the Gospel and guided him in the process of spiritual development. Paul also ordained him a bishop.

In this reading, Paul encourages Timothy to be true to the Lord. The great apostle offers himself as an example. He has been imprisoned and mistreated for Christ. His way has been rocky and uphill; however, he always has remained loyal.

St. Luke’s Gospel supplies the final reading. Jesus presents the smug and boastful as being without God’s favor. By contrast, a humble and unassuming man is the model of true devotion.

The reading makes two points. First, it teaches that those who have heartfelt love for God will endure. Gaudy, outward appearances mean nothing. Good works are to be praised, but good works must rise from sincere faith and love.

Second, the reading echoes what already has been said in the first reading: that God is perfectly just.

Human nature blurs our vision. We may see in our good words more than they are. To be truly good, they must spring from a humble faith, prompted by the knowledge that we are good only because God guides us and strengthens us.

Anyone who seeks an end other than God, as the Pharisee sought others in the story told by Luke, chase after phantoms. The humble man in the Gospel story was truly wise. His wisdom caused him to be humbled. He received the reward. He succeeded. He achieved.

Reflection

The Book of Sirach suggests an age and a condition very long ago, but in reality quite similar to the circumstances met in life today or in any day. Humans always exaggerate their ability. It is a byproduct of original sin. Despite these exaggerations, the fact remains that God alone is almighty and truly wise. God alone is the model of perfection. God alone provides the only reward. God is everything.

Humility is an essential Christian virtue. It is not a denial of who and what we are. Rather, it expresses the deepest insight of who and what we are. It sees us as we are, but its very frankness unsettles us so often.

READINGS

Sunday: Sr 31:12-14, 16-18 Ps 342-3, 17-19, 23:2 Tm 46-8, 16-18 Lk 18:19-14
Monday: Eph 4:32—5:8 Ps 11:1-4, 6 Lk 13:10-17
Thursday: Eph 6:10-20 Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10k Lk 13:31-35
Friday: Eph 219-22 Ps 192-5 Lk 612-16
Saturday: Phil 1:18a-26 Ps 422-3, Scof Lk 141, 7-11
Leaving our values at the door of the strip club

I was recently talking to a Massachusetts family with a 21-year-old son on the autism spectrum. Because of the Asperger syndrome and obsessive-compulsive disorder that have affected him since childhood, he is only about 13 or 14 in his understanding and behaviors. Jimmy (not his real name) has been in and out of mental institutions and recently had to be placed into a group home because his single Mom could no longer manage him at home.

Jimmy came from a good family, conscientious and Catholic, raised in a clean environment by his mother and grandmother, who hoped to see him cared for in a protected and secure setting at the group home. Soon they saw, however, that there were issues. The residents had unlimited TV access in their private rooms, there seemed to be high worker turnover and some of the tattooed staff were not only heavy smokers, but used foul language.

Things took an unexpected turn as Jimmy prepared to celebrate his 21st birthday. Others at the group home started pushing him to visit the strip club in a nearby town, now that he was “going to be an adult.” Always guileless, and never hesitant to talk openly about whatever was going on around him, Jimmy blurted out to his grandmother that the group home staff were going to drive him the next weekend to the Foxy Lady Club. A series of phone calls ensued. When the grandmother spoke with a staff member at the home, she was informed there was nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely nothing she could do to prevent it, that the group home routinely.

Finally, the grandmother called the Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services, which had contracted with the company running the group home, and spoke to the woman in charge of Jimmy’s case. She noted that Jimmy was not only within his legal rights, but it was, she asserted, a matter of basic human rights to allow him go to visit the strip club. His grandmother replied it would be a failure to care for persons with mental disabilities if caretakers facilitated sexually addictive practices in which such persons were prone to engage in anyway — often struggling with self-control and compulsatory behaviors — and this might set them up for a trip back to the mental hospital. When she continued to protest that visiting such a club was not a good or moral activity, the official replied, “Well, if you’re concerned about values, I leave my values at the door every time I go to work in order to get my job done.”

Cases like Jimmy’s serve as a disappointing reminder of how low the bar has come to be set in certain segments of our society. The misappropriation of public tax money by state agencies to subsidize damaging behaviors in a vulnerable patient population is also regrettable and fundamentally unjust. The family’s struggles further highlight an astonishing cultural misunderstanding around the idea of “human rights.” To suggest that the activity of loering lecherously at the bodies of naked women is a “basic human right” is itself a profound perversion, and represents a lamentable instance of outright moral bankruptcy.

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

Probably the most striking element of a case like Jimmy’s is the remarkable well-honed ability of some who serve in positions of authority and leadership while professing to be “good” or even “religious” people — to jettison their values and beliefs the moment they are called upon to stand up and defend what is right.

Because individuals like Jimmy are consistently unable to make good decisions on their own behalf, it goes without saying that they require a guardian to attend to their interests and protect them. Yet legal guardians like Jimmy’s grandmother are finding themselves in the unenviable position of being ignored on certain issues by those entrusted with the care of institutionalized residents, apparently determined to bypass the guardian’s will whenever specific sexual agendas or views about “rights” need to be duly imposed. Good parents never drive their children to strip clubs, and neither should any institution entrusted with a protective parental role. On the contrary, such institutions should erect appropriate boundaries and limits on harmful behaviors so their residents can grow and flourish, contribute positively to society and perhaps one day become good and mature moral agents themselves.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.

serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

John of Capistrano

This Italian studied law in Perugia, where he married the daughter of a leading family and became governor of the city in 1412. Imprisoned during a civil war, he had a vision of St. Francis, followed by a spiritual conversion. Dispensed from his marriage vows, John joined the Friars Minor in 1416 and was ordained four years later. Going barefoot and wearing a hair shirt, he became a great preacher, worked diligently to reform the Franciscan orders, served as the friars’ vicar general and was named papal legate in a number of places in Europe and Palestine. He also led a wing of the Christian army in a victory against the Turks who besieged Belgrade in 1456. John is the patron of jurists and military chaplains.

1386-1456

Feast: October 23

Saint of the Week

Luke 18:9-14

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: two ways people might pray. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PARABLE
WENT UP
PHARISEE
I THANK YOU
TWICE
BEAT
SINNER

RIGHTHEOUS
TEMPLE
OTHER

TWO MEN
PRAY
TAXCOLLECTOR

EXALTED

PRAYING AT THE TEMPLE

I THANK YOU WURTHER
PARABLE MOTHER
H R M D E X A L T E D X
A J A N A P I F A S T C
R B K Y O U G V J O E O
I R I G H T E O U S L L
S E A N A N L W K T L L
E A J O E E P I N H Y E
E S D M O W M J K O O C
D T O O T H E R E E U T
A W E E K T T W I C E O
T A E B C C S I N N E R

The CrossWord

October 23 and 30, 2016

Based on these readings: 2Tim 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14 and 2Thes 1:11-2:2; Lk 19:1-10

ACROSS

1 Doze
4 Drag
8 Hertz’ old name
11 ___ Father
12 Otherwise
13 Mope
14 Time period
15 As well as
16 Saint of Lemnos
17 Airport stop
19 Zachaeus offered to do
20 Apostles were 12 ___
21 Evangelist
22 Quaking tree
25 Feminine (abbr.)
26 Foot digit
29 French ___ reed
31 30th Testament title
31 Stitched
32 Hubub
33 African antelope
34 Two ___ (duplicitous)
35 Ice sheet
36 ___ (clay)
37 Can metal
38 Weave hair
40 Went back on promise
44 ___ type, print machine
45 Advice
46 Frozen water
47 Adam & Eve’s home

DOWN

1 Christmas time
2 Holy
3 Speak to God
4 Where God is
5 Type of key, wrench
6 Russia union
7 Popular papal name
8 Paul fought or ___
9 Wildcat
10 Aboite
13 Peep
18 Bad sign
19 Pirate drink
21 Moses ___ the people
22 Expression of surprise
23 Pegg
24 Treats irreverently
25 Contagious disease
27 To be in debt
28 Female
30 We believe in ___
31 Trigonometric function
33 Glorified ___
34 Tax collector felt he was one
36 ___ of Judah
37 _otta (clay)
38 ___ type of cheese
39 Removes
40 Paul ran a good one
41 Essence
42 Economics abbr.
43 Nick
45 Battle of nations

Software: Crossword Master®

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Answer Key can be found on page 19
Leaders dominate in CYO

BY RON BUSCH

FORT WAYNE — On Oct. 9, St. Vincent improved its record to 4-1 with a 34-6 victory over the improving Knights.

Due to an injury, the Knights started first-time quarterback Brody Glenn. The Knights held fast in the first quarter and kept St. Vincent out of the end zone, in spite of some stellar play that included a 25-yard pass by St. Vincent quarterback Carson Podschline to Andrew Leeper to end first quarter action. The first quarter was scoreless.

St. Vincent continued to build on Leeper’s catch. The Panthers attempted a 29-yard pass to the end zone, but it was incomplete. Eager to follow up with a good offense, the Panthers turned to their ground game. Luke Woenker scored on a 9-yard touchdown run. The points-after-kick was off line, giving St. Vincent a 6-0 lead.

Third quarter action was dominated by another Luke Woenker rushing score on a 1st and goal run that gave the Knights new life just 5 yards out. An errant points-after-kick left St. Vincent with a 12-0 lead after three quarters of action.

Down just 12-0, the Knights were unable to stem the tide. Ben Simcox punched in a 1st and goal run from the 2-yard line. The extra-points kick failed, and St. Vincent appeared to be pulling away at 18-0. The Knights responded at 1st and 10. An unsuccessful running play was followed by two incomplete passes, and on a 4th and 15 Panther Carson Podschline intercepted and ran the ball in for a touchdown, only to be called back by a St. Vincent penalty. The Panthers found themselves on the Knights’ 39-yard line.

The Knights put up a good defensive stand, getting the ball back with time left. On a 3rd and 16, St. Vincent’s Carson Podschline again came through with an interception, and this time, a St. Vincent score. The points-after-kick was good, and with 2:23 left to play the Panthers held a hefty 26-0 lead. Immediately following on the kickoff return the Knights executed a reverse to Anthony Ventruella, who raced for the end zone and a score. The points-after-kick missed the mark, and the Knights were down 26-6.

The St. Vincent Panthers were not done, however: Adam Dumford executed a touchdown run and the final was 34-6 St. Vincent.

During 2 p.m. game action, St. Charles continued its winning ways and added to its consecutive win streak. Central Catholic fell victim to the St. Charles attack in a 46-0 impressive Cardinals win. Less than one minute into the contest Sam Pesa had a pick-6 interception that started the onslaught. Cardinal touchdowns were made by Devon Tippmann; Kaden Espy; Sam Pesa and Elliott Cornewell, who had an 18-yard touchdown run. Quarterback Brenden Lytle had 6 passes for 137 yards with a touchdown.

The Mass may be held outside at the Catholic Cemetery Altar if weather permits. For your comfort we ask that you bring a jacket.

You are invited to the All Souls Day Mass

In the Resurrection Mausoleum Chapel of the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne
3500 Lake Avenue
Wednesday, November 2, 2016 - Noon
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Celebrant

The Mass may be held outside at the Catholic Cemetery Altar if weather permits. For your comfort we ask that you bring a jacket.

St. Charles Cardinals: 26 wins and counting

BY RON BUSCH

FORT WAYNE — On Oct. 16, the string of good weather Sundays came to an end, but no matter the weather, the St. Charles Cardinals would not be denied in their string of 26 football victories. It was cool and damp, with a driving rain at times, but nothing seemed to phase St. Charles in its search for the regular season title.

Fans found shelter in the University of Saint Francis’ covered, south-end bleachers as the game began with a St. Vincent kickoff at 12:30 p.m. St. Vincent entered the contest with a 4-1 record and the only seventh- and eighth-grade Catholic Youth Organization team with a chance to bring down the mighty Cardinals. St. Charles’ record stood at 5-0. A St. Vincent victory could have meant control of the regular season at the top of the conference.

St. Vincent’s expectations were high as they lined up for the kickoff. The Cardinals’ Amir Drew took the opening kickoff at his own 32-yard line and immediately dashed down the field for a 6-yard touchdown. St. Charles took the momentum, and also “the wind out of the St. Vincent sails.” The extra-points kick was good, giving the Knights the lead 7-0. It should be noted that the Panthers started this game without solid performer Luke Woenker, who may be why the early kickoff run proved to be the only score of the entire first half. Both teams were successful in defensive standstill, reinforcing the importance of the game and their desire to hold the opposition offense in check. But the football proved to be a little slippery under the wet conditions, and both teams had fumbles. St. Charles fumbled near the end of the first quarter and the ball was recovered by St. Vincent, and the teams exchanged fumbles and recoveries near the end of the second quarter as well.

Any expectation that the wet conditions might prevent the pass attack proved to be false, as both teams made use of the air strike in moving the ball. St. Charles even appeared to score on a 60-yard pass play in the second quarter, only to have the long play brought back on a penalty. The St. Vincent defense held St. Charles to an 8-0 half-time score; but the St. Charles defense was once again strong as well, having allowed one touchdown all year.

The game seemed to be a tale of two halves, as St. Charles found another gear and unleashed some offense. With exactly five minutes to go in the third quarter, St. Charles’ quarterback Brenden Lytle passed to Devon Tippmann in a 1st and goal situation. This time the extra-points kick failed, and the Panthers fell behind 14-0. That was the score on the board as the fourth quarter action began. A St. Charles kick at the end of the third quarter pinned St. Vincent at its own 3-yard line, with little breathing room.

As the fourth quarter resumed, Devon Tippmann again made a stellar play by tackling a Panther in the end zone, forcing a safety and kicking the score up to 16-0. The Cardinals had grabbed the momentum. Two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter and what started as a nail-biter became another “W” for the mighty Cardinals. Fourth quarter scores came at 3:47 to go, with a Devon Tippmann running touchdown; an extra-points kick made it 24-0. Amir Drew joined the scoring column on a 61-yard running touchdown with 1:54 to go, running the score to 30-0 and sealing the victory for St. Charles, which again proved its dominance in the CYO football league.

St. Charles finishes the regular season with a perfect 6-0 record and positions itself as the upcoming tournament favorite. During 2 p.m. action, the 1-4 Central Catholic Irish tried to repeat a victory over the winless CYO Knights. This was a rematch of the week three showdown in which CC showed solid play in a 12-7 victory over the Knights. Star performer in this game was the Knights’ Anthony Ventruella, who had two touchdowns run early in the second and fourth quarters, including a fourth quarter scamper of 50 yards. The 1-4 final score gave the Knights their first victory of the season and included some improved performance at both ends of the field. The Knights were especially impressive, with a good drive in the late first quarter and early second period of action.

Regular season won-loss records for the four CYO teams places St. Charles on top at 6-0, St. Vincent at 4-2, and Central Catholic and the Knights both at 1-5. Tournament action begins next week at the University of Saint Francis.
Tournament opener favors Mishawaka Catholic

BY JOE KOZINSKI

A gloomy mist covered Father Bly Field at St. Joseph High School as the Inter-City Catholic League kicked off its end-of-season tournament on Sunday, Oct. 16.

The Mishawaka Catholic Saints — short on experience and their foe, the Westside Catholic Cardinals — lacking numbers — both had tumultuous regular seasons and were hoping all of the long practices would pay dividends in the playoffs.

The Saints would have the opportunity to strike first, as quarterback Quentin Nellist placed the ball in the bellies of his go-to backs Zack Bryan and Xander Marin, promptly marching 48 yards down the field until the ball rested at the 3-yard line.

With the Cardinals back on their heels, Bryan scampered the last three yards to pay dirt, giving the Saints the first blemish on the scoreboard between the two teams in more than 35 minutes of play, Alex Markley’s kick was true, making the margin 8-0.

The Cardinals did not have the luxury of good field position as they started their opening drive in the shadows of the goal posts at the 25. But the long field would not deter the Scarlet-clad squad, as it used a combination of pitches, handoffs, passes and sneaks from their quarterback and team leader Brydon Zielinski, who orchestrated a 13-play drive. On the receiving end of Zielinski’s opus were Zachary Lannoo, Jack Duddleson and a newfound diamond in the rough, Connor Litka.

The heroic drive was stopped short of the goal line as a crucial penalty was followed by the Saint defense battling over the ball. Would receiver Lannoo squeezed the pigskin at the end zone on a 4th and 15 play.

The long field would now be in the Saints to-do list; however, huge chunks of yards were eaten up by the likes of Nellist, Marien and Bryan, and the 11-play drive culminated in Marien falling into the end zone from the 5, making the score 14-0.

The Saints would get one more break before the half, as Zielinski’s errant pitch bounced on the turf and was gobbled up by Dylan Welter, giving them the ball at the 39 with just a minute left. After a run by Bryan, Nellist found tight end Will Christianson, Marien and Bryan, and the 11-play drive culminated in Marien falling into the end zone from the 5, making the score 14-0.

Both defenses would stiffen in the third quarter. The Saints and the Cardinals were unable to pierce the goal line, leaving one quarter for Westside to advance.

The Cardinals regrouped and found big yards in their combination of Zielinski’s precision passing and running. But on a counter from 8 yards out, Litka was able to finish the deal, making the score 22-6.

The Cardinals would make two more late runs at the Saints, only to fall a little short and give Mishawaka Catholic a much-needed win and a place in next week’s round of four.

“I just want to compliment Coach Tony Violi for being a class act in how he plays the game and develops his kids,” remarked Cardinal Coach Giles Violi. “I thought we played tremendous for a team of 14; they played together, handled adversity, played smart and, most importantly, matured during the season. I’m very proud of them.”

“Westside was well-coached, but they had some difficulties with numbers today,” explained Violi. “Three things really excited me about our squad today; the defense played great, Bryan developed into the solid back we knew he could be and the offensive line of Christianson, Jayden Semak, Andrew Geiger, Setefano Sete, Hunter Stevens and Cole Wojciechowski performed outstanding.”

The entire schedule can be located on the Inter-City Catholic League’s website at www.icclsports.org

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Mishawaka Catholic's Michael Murphy punches the ball out of Cardinal receiver Zachary Lannoo's grasp.
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.

St. Mary's Soup Kitchen ministries and Ave Maria House benefit

FORT WAYNE — A dance will be held on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 7:30-10:30 p.m. at St. Mary Mother of God Catholic Church, 1101 S. Lafayette St. Music will be provided by Chris Worth and Company. There will be food, beer and wine available for purchase. A live auction will be conducted by a Ness Bros. auctioneer. Tickets are $10 per person and can be purchased at the door, or at 260-340-5170. Proceeds will benefit the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen Ministries and the Ave Maria House — a day respite for the homeless.

Sts. Peter and Paul Parish plans fish fry

FORT WAYNE — A fish, chick- en and tenderloin dinner by Da's will be Friday, Nov. 18, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Rieder Auditorium. Menu includes green beans, applesauce, homemade cookie and beverage. Carry-out available. Tickets are adults $9, children 6-12 $5 and children 5 and under free.

Open house planned

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School will host an open house, Tuesday, Oct. 25, from 6:30-8 p.m. Explore all facets of the school. Students and parents will be able to meet with faculty, staff, coaches and moderators, in addition to touring the school with a current Bishop Dwenger student. Come see what it means to be a “Citizen of Two Worlds.”

Holiday craft BOOtzaar!

MISHAWAKA — St. Joseph Church, 217 W 3rd St., plans a holiday craft BOOtzaar Saturday, Oct. 29, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Over 75 booths of handmade crafts by local artisans, plus commercial vendors, holiday items, unique treasures and collectibles, lots of baked goods, kettle corn, hot cider, and lunch. Children may enjoy trick or treating in a safe family-friendly venue. Help the St. Vincent dePaul food pantry by donating a non-perishable food item and receive free entries for the mini raffle. For information contact stjoebootzaar@aol.com.

Holiday craft bazaar scheduled

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony de Padua Parish will have a holiday craft bazaar in the school, 2310 E. Jefferson Blvd., on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Knights host Sunday breakfast at Most Precious Blood

FORT WAYNE — The Knights of Columbus Council No. 11043 will be serving a breakfast Sunday, Oct. 23, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Queen of Angels Activities Center, 1500 W. State Blvd. Tickets are $8 for adults, $4 for children 6-12 and $20 per family. $5 carry-out will be available. All proceeds will benefit diocesan and Franciscan seminarians. For more information, visit www.kofc11043.org.

Program on divorce offered

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1502 E. Wallen Rd., will offer the program: The Catholic’s Divorce Survival Guide on Thursday, Nov. 3, from 7-9 p.m., in the parish library, for “Learning to Forgive.” This session discusses the relationship between the emotions, intellect, and will, and the power of forgiveness as a right response to injustices of divorce. For information visit www.saints.org and select the Community Life/Support link or call the St. Vincent de Paul church office at 260-489-3537 ext. 208.

Movie night

MISHAWAKA — St. Bavo Parish will show two movies in honor of St. Pope John Paul II in celebration of his Feast Day on Oct. 22. Showing on Friday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. in the parish center is part 1 of “Karol: A Man Who Became Pope.” The second part will be shown Sunday, Oct. 23, at 2 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Queen of Angels card party luncheon

FORT WAYNE — Queen of Angels Parish will have a 50+ fall luncheon and card party Friday, Oct. 21, from noon to 4 p.m., in the activities center. Cost is $8 per person. Cards of your choice, men and women both welcome. Attendance and table prizes will be awarded.

Diocesan seminarian benefit planned

SOUTH BEND — A buffet-style Polish wedding dinner to benefit seminarians of the diocese will be Sunday, Nov. 13, from noon-4 p.m. at the St. Hedwig Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St. Advanced ticket sales only by Nov. 7, are $12 for adults, $6 for children 10 and under. Food, music, raffles and cash bar will be offered.

Card party and euchre tournament

YODER — St. Aloysius’ Knights of Columbus will have a card party and euchre tournament Saturday, Nov. 5, in the school basement. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., $5 fee with food and beverages available for donation.

Fancy fair craft bazaar

ROME CITY — St. Gaspar del Bufalo, 10871 N. State Rd. 9, will host a Fancy Fair craft bazaar Saturday, Oct. 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch and crafts will be available.

Thanksgiving chili challenge

NEW HAVEN — St. John Parish will host a chili challenge between St. John’s Knights of Columbus vs the Holy Name Society Saturday, Nov. 12 from 3 to 7 p.m. More than a dozen Chili samples — pick your favorite and choose the winner. Hot dogs available also. All proceeds benefit the St. Vincent dePaul Society.

Volunteer opportunities at soup kitchen

FORT WAYNE — South Bend Catholic’s Divorce Survival Guide is for sale at the St. Hedwig Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St. Advanced ticket sales only by Nov. 7, are $12 for adults, $6 for children 10 and under. Food, music, raffles and cash bar will be offered.

Fancy fair craft bazaar

SOUTH BEND — The St. Augustine Parish soup kitchen is looking for volunteers. The soup kitchen is open each Monday, Wednesday and Friday (except holidays) from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Volunteers prepare items to be distributed to guests. Tasks include making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, dipping canned fruit into Styrofoam cups, bagging baked goods, dipping previously-made soup into Styrofoam cups, cleaning up after 12:30 p.m. Volunteer hours run from approximately 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Shorter time periods could be available. Opportunities exist for volunteers to work on a regular basis, or in a substitute, as-needed capacity. For more information call Peter Smith at 574-532-3720 or Brigid Duttle at 574-372-2204.

Rosary for poor souls to be prayed

MISHAWAKA — The annual rosary for the Poor Souls will be recited on Sunday, Oct. 30, in St. Joseph’s Cemetery at 2 p.m., rain or shine.

TUFFY WANTS YOU TO COME TO OPEN HOUSE

October 25, 2016 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Main Gym
Enter Doors 4 & 5
Come see what makes joining the Bishop Dwenger Family so special!

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The CrossWord
Oct. 23 and 30, 2016

October 23, 2016 TODAY’S CATHOLIC
"¡Viva Cristo Rey!" ("Long live Christ the King!")

That was the cry uttered by young José Sánchez del Río, a Mexican Cristero, as he was tortured and martyred by Mexican government officials for refusing to renounce his faith during his country's Cristero War of the 1920s.

The cry was repeated by over 4,000 youth at the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend All Schools Mass in South Bend on Oct. 10.

The Cristeros were citizens and believers who resisted the federal government's brutal suppression of the Catholic faith. José Sánchez del Río, or "Joselito," as he was called, was only 13 years old when he refused to apostatize his Catholic faith. He chose, instead, the alternative he was given: to have the bottoms of his feet cut, be forced to walk toward the cemetery and beaten with a machete as he stumbled through town.

All he had to do was announce "death to Christ the King" and he would have been spared. Instead, he shouted "¡Viva Cristo Rey!" Upon arriving in the cemetery, and moments after drawing a cross in the cemetery dirt, Joselito was shot and killed.

St. José Sánchez del Río was canonized a saint by Pope Francis on Sunday, Oct. 16.

"José Sánchez del Río was only 13!" Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, celebrant of the Mass, said during his homily, after telling Joselito's story. He asked all those present who were also 13 years old to raise their hands. In a booming voice, he announced: "You can be saints!"

"¡Viva Cristo Rey!" the over 4,000 students repeated after him, in unison. "¡Viva Cristo Rey!"

Filling the floor of Purcell Pavilion, the fourth-grade students in attendance each dressed up as their favorite saint. During his homily, Bishop Rhoades invited anyone dressed as St. Teresa of Calcutta to come to the stage and talk about her life.

He also shared information about St. José Sánchez del Río.

The entrance procession was led by two students bearing crosses. Behind them, a representative of each school brought food donations to be given to a local food pantry.

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Catholic school students give glory to God at the South Bend-area All-Schools Mass through a handbell choir that accompanied the vocal choir. The musicians came from schools across the region.

The central message of the Mass was that everyone can be a saint, and that we become saints through love. "Love God; Love your neighbor." Bishop Rhoades shared, echoing the words of Jesus in Luke 18.

The invitation to love God and love one's neighbor was present from the very beginning of Mass, when some students processed down the aisle carrying baskets of food to be donated to a local pantry.

The Mass also focused on the Year of Mercy, with Bishop Rhoades stating this year's All-Schools Mass was especially important because it took place within the Year of Mercy. During communion, the choir, comprised of students from across the region, sang the World Youth Day theme song: "Blest are the merciful/For it is mercy that shall be shown to those who show mercy"

"Saints," Bishop Rhoades reminded the youth, "were all men and women who were merciful. All my fourth grade students are dressed as saints here today: Now, go out and be saints!"