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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Volume 91 No. 19

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Serving God's people for 150 years

BY JENNIFER MILLER



Jerry Kessens

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades speaks to parishioners at a vesper service held on the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker at St. Joseph Church in Roanoke.

What began as a small gathering of immigrant German and Irish Catholics in the Indiana frontier in the 1840s has grown and remained faithful to God's call, developing into a close-knit parish. St. Joseph Catholic Parish of Roanoke celebrated its 150th anniversary on Monday, May 1.

"Our parish is vibrant. For the 4 p.m. vigil Mass on Saturday, they show up at 3 p.m. for a seat! It is nice and full," said pastor Father Dale Bauman. He describes his parish as a "small, country parish, with a good, active population."

A highlight of the parish for Father Bauman is the faith community that has formed at St. Joseph. Although parishioners are of a variety of cultural backgrounds — German, Polish, Irish and African-American — they are all one body in their Catholic home.

Some of the active lay groups in the parish are a Right to Life group; Meals for Seniors; a Men's Club and Ladies Club; as well as liturgical groups serving at Mass, such as the lectors. Ministers at St. Joseph offer a variety of church music, on organ and piano. They follow the liturgical seasons and, during Lent, include Latin hymns in the celebration of the Mass.

The parish initially grew out

ST. JOSEPH, page 10

Father Hire passes away at Lake Wawasee

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is mourning the loss of Father Richard Hire, 72, who died Thursday, May 4, at his residence on Lake Wawasee, Syracuse.

In his 47 years as a priest in the Diocese of Fort-Wayne South Bend, Father Hire served at many parishes as well as in the position of diocesan director of religious education. Most recently he was pastor at St. Martin de Porres Church, Syracuse, from which he retired last year.

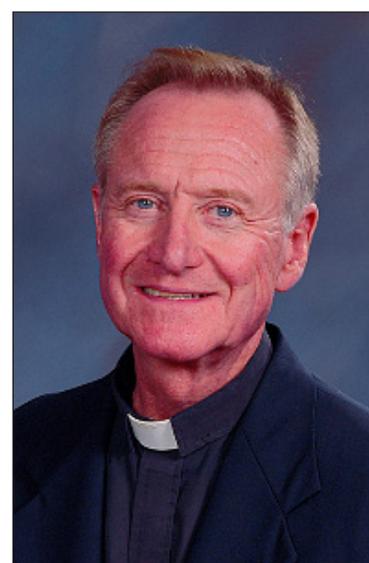
Father Hire was born July 1, 1944, to Richard J. and Lucille A. Ueber in Fort Wayne. He attended St. Peter and Sacred Heart parishes in Fort Wayne.

After attending Our Lady of

the Lake Seminary in Syracuse and Mount St. Mary's in Norwood, Ohio, Father Hire was ordained to the priesthood on May 30, 1970, by Bishop Leo A. Pursley. He was appointed to St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne.

Father Bill Sullivan, pastor of St. John the Baptist parish, New Haven, had a friendship with Father Hire that went back to their seminary days at Mount St. Mary's: Later, the two shared quarters at St. Joseph Parish in Fort Wayne. At the time, Father Sullivan was pastor and Father Hire was diocesan director of religious education and helped at St. Joseph on weekends.

"He was brilliant," said



FATHER RICHARD HIRE

Father Sullivan. "Even in grade school, he was a bright student: spelling bee champion in the seventh and eighth grades at Sacred Heart. In the seminary, as he worked on his masters in theology he also pursued, by correspondence, a master's in English from Purdue."

Writing was one of Father Hire's many gifts. Readers of *Today's Catholic* may fondly recall Father Hire's column, *That's A Good Question*, in which he answered readers' inquiries about religion. His answers had a particular flavor because he was a seasoned world traveler

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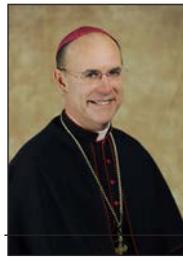
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IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

The following is the text of the homily of Bishop Rhoades at the Baccalaureate Mass for the University of Saint Francis on May 6, 2017:

Dear graduates, you will rightfully receive many words of congratulations this weekend. I add my word of congratulations to you on your graduation from the University of Saint Francis. You celebrate your accomplishments this weekend with your family and friends. You have studied and worked hard to obtain your diplomas. You have grown in knowledge. You are now ready to go forth and to use the knowledge you have acquired. We are proud of you and we pray for you.

This morning, at this Mass, we are really not gathering to celebrate your accomplishments. We gather to celebrate a much greater accomplishment — God's accomplishment: the salvation of humanity, the redemption of the world. How did He accomplish this? He became one of us. He humbled Himself in the Incarnation — He became a man. And not only that, in an act of the greatest humility, the Son of God died on the cross for us. He loved us to the end. This love of God, revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus has changed the course of human history. And this is what we celebrate at this and every Mass. We celebrate the victory of God's love over sin and even over death. This is the core of our faith.

The God who loves us, who has conquered sin and death, still humbles Himself. He becomes present in our midst under the humble forms of bread and wine. We have come to this Baccalaureate Mass to give thanks to God and to pray for our graduates. This graduation weekend would not be complete, would not be the celebration it should be, if we were to forget the One who is the source of our life and salvation, the One from whom our graduates received their talents, the One who gives our life meaning and purpose.

In the Gospel today, we heard about the many people who heard Jesus' astounding teaching that He was giving us His flesh to eat and His blood to drink and found His teaching too hard to accept. They found Our Lord's words about the Eucharist shocking, and they stopped following Him. The Gospel says that "many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer walked with him." Of course, this still happens today. How many people in this culture have walked away from the faith for any number of reasons? Some do so quite consciously — like the people in the Gospel. They find Christ's teaching, the teaching of His Church, just too hard to accept. Other walk away because they are seduced by other things that they think will bring them happiness. As a result, many eventually find themselves miserable and their lives empty, boring and mediocre.

But you graduates, who have come for this Baccalaureate Mass, made a conscious choice to worship God on your graduation



Provided by the University of Saint Francis

Bishop Rhoades greets graduates of the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, following a Baccalaureate Mass on Saturday, May 6. During his homily the bishop encouraged the graduates to "go forth with the faith of Peter."

weekend. You came here for a reason — to celebrate your faith, not just your accomplishments, but the source of your accomplishments. You know that you are pilgrims in this world and that you are on a journey to the city of God. You desire to live your lives with the passion and purpose that come from faith. You know that your true happiness is connected to something greater than yourselves and your accomplishments. You recognize that your life is a gift and that the way to happiness in this world and the next is the way of Jesus of Nazareth and the pursuit of truth, beauty and goodness.

When so many disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer walked with Jesus, the twelve apostles stayed with Jesus. Our Lord asked them a penetrating question: "Do you also want to leave?" It's a question that confronts many young people today. Many do in fact choose to leave Christ and separate from His Body, the Church. This is a big challenge for me and for the Church today. At the same time, there are many who don't leave. They decide to live their lives as disciples of Jesus Christ and active members of His Body, the Church. This gives me much joy and hope for the Church.

You, graduates, give me much joy and hope, that you are here this morning as young men and women who want to walk the journey of your life with Jesus Christ. It is beautiful to see your faith, the faith expressed by St. Peter in answer to Jesus' question: "Do you also want to leave?" Peter said: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." Wow — what a response! It's the response of faith. I pray that you, graduates, will go forth with the faith of Peter, with the conviction that Jesus has the words of eternal life and that He is the Holy One of God, that He is indeed the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

I pray that, like this university's patron, St. Francis of Assisi, you will live your lives not superficially, but profoundly in Christ. St. Francis lived his life superficially until his conversion, when he discovered that following Christ offered him so much more than the party life, the passing pleasures, he had been experiencing. And he found happiness, real joy, in what seemed crazy in his culture — in poverty, in chastity, and in obedience. He found joy in prayer, in being in communion with the Lord.

Many people today are fooled by our

culture, for example, by the entertainment industry and its crazy fixation on sex, and by a consumer-focused and materialistic culture, fooled by false promises of happiness. Graduates, don't be fooled by those who see you as mere objects of their gratification or as just another consumer in a market of undifferentiated possibilities. Don't be fooled by those who present freedom and choice as the ultimate good or by a culture in which novelty usurps beauty and subjective experience displaces truth. Christ offers you so much more! He offers you truth and real beauty and lasting joy.

I know that you are yearning for something more than a life of mediocrity. Certainly you want a good job, a successful career. Maybe some of you are a bit anxious in this regard. Maybe some of you are already set with a job. Whatever your personal situation, there is in your hearts a yearning for something greater, because God created you for something greater. He created you for infinity, for eternal life with Him. I encourage you to live your life with passion for this ultimate end. This is what will give you the strength to face the difficulties of daily life. Your journey of life is not an uncertain one. It's true that there will be surprises on the way, but your destination is not uncertain. It is heaven. It's amazing when we live our lives with the focus on that destination, when, like St. Peter, we follow the One who has the words of eternal life.

I would like to end this homily with some of my favorite words from our Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI, words that he said in a homily back in 2005 when he became pope. I can't think of any better advice for our graduates. Pope Benedict said: "If we let Christ into our lives, we lose nothing, absolutely nothing of what makes life free, beautiful and great. Only in this friendship are the doors of life opened wide. Only in this friendship is the great potential of human existence truly revealed. Only in this friendship do we experience beauty and liberation." So, graduates, may you live your lives in this great friendship! If you do, you will find happiness and joy. Your life will be beautiful, like St. Francis' life. It will be an adventure, an adventure of love and a journey of holiness!

May the Lord be with you on this journey with His abundant love and grace! May your friendship with Him grow each day! Like St. Francis, may your joy in that friendship be a witness to others of the truth and beauty of the Gospel!

Collection set for May 20-21 to support national shrine's dome project

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A special, one-time national collection will be taken in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend on May 20-21 (in other U.S. parishes, at Masses on May 13-14), to support the mosaic ornamentation of the Trinity Dome, the “crowning jewel” of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

The mosaic will depict the Trinity, Mary and 13 saints associated with the United States or the national shrine, the four evangelists and words from the Nicene Creed.

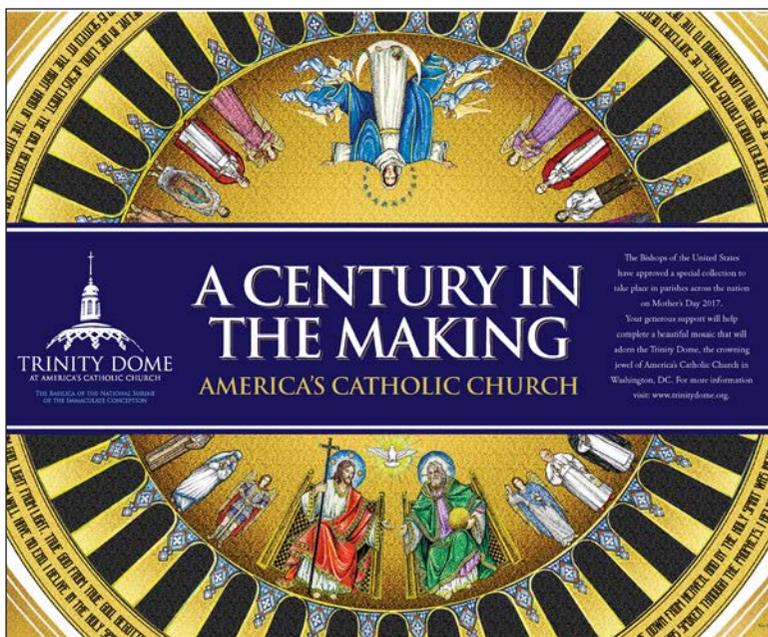
The finished dome also will mark the completion of the national shrine, according to the original architectural plans for the church set to mark its centennial in 2020 — the 100th anniversary of the placement of its foundational stone.

The U.S. Catholic bishops approved the special collection in November 2015 during their annual fall general assembly. The last time a national collection was done for the shrine was in 1953.

Construction of the shrine began in 1920. In a 2011 column in *Today's Catholic* newspaper, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend said the crypt was completed in 1927, but construction on the great upper church was postponed due to lack of funds. With the Great Depression in 1929 and the 1930s, followed by World War II, the National Shrine remained incomplete. After the war, in 1946, Archbishop John F. Noll, the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, chaired the bishops' committee to raise \$7 million to complete the great church.

“In our own diocese, Bishop Noll had a diocesan collection that raised the largest amount ever raised in a collection in our diocese up to that time: \$104,486 for the National Shrine. Incidentally, it was in 1953 that Pope Pius XII raised Bishop Noll to the personal rank of ‘archbishop’ due to his outstanding service to the Church.”

Last October, during the bless-



CNS photo/Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

This poster is part of materials sent out to U.S. parishes for a special national collection for the Trinity Dome project at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. At their general fall assembly in November 2015, the U.S. bishops approved the one-time collection to be taken this year.

ing of the workspace where the new mosaic will be installed, Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl said the work of art “will be a wonder to behold.” It is expected to be completed at the end of 2017.

The mosaic work is being done at the Trivisanutto Giovanni mosaic company in Spilimbergo, Italy, and is being shipped to the national shrine in 30,000 sections weighing 24 tons and composed of more than 14 million pieces of glass.

Builders, church leaders, choir members and journalists gathered atop eight floors of scaffolding — 159 feet high — in the national shrine for the blessing.

Cardinal Wuerl, who is chairman of the shrine's board of trustees, offered prayers during the blessing for the success of the project and the safety of the workers involved. He said the shrine puts into “image form” the message of the Gospel and does so “in a way that everyone can bask in its beauty.”

He said the finished dome, with its particular emphasis on American saints, will remind people of the “face of who we are and the face of God.” He also said it will reflect “living images of God and living images of everything we are capable of being.”

In introductory remarks, Msgr. Walter Rossi, rector of the national shrine, stressed the parallels between the mosaic design on the dome and the very character of the shrine itself — often described as America's Catholic church — representing a mosaic of Catholic parishioners from every corner of the globe.

Both Cardinal Wuerl and Msgr. Rossi noted that the scaffolding itself, allowing the workers to complete the work on the dome, was an engineering feat. Work on the scaffolding began early in 2016.

Editor's note: This article was altered to reflect a local change of date for the collection and to add information about Bishop Noll's involvement.

Appreciation for Retirement Fund for Religious collection

Dear Bishop Rhoades:

On behalf of the nearly 33,000 senior religious who benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious, I share sincere thanks for your diocesan check of \$150,774.03 in support of the 2016 appeal. Since the collection began, generous parishioners in your diocese have donated a total of \$3,874,727.95 to help religious communities care for senior members.

In addition to helping religious communities provide for day-to-day eldercare needs, proceeds from the Retirement Fund for Religious collection

also underwrite programming and resources that promote long-term retirement planning. This combination of educational and financial support has assisted many religious communities in addressing critical deficits in retirement funding. By stabilizing the retirement outlook, religious communities ensure quality care for older members while enabling younger members to continue the good works begun by their elders.

Despite this progress, however, hundreds of religious communities still struggle to provide for aging members. Thus, we

are profoundly grateful for the decision by the body of bishops to renew the Retirement Fund for Religious collection for an additional 10 years. Energized by this meaningful expression of support, we remain committed to advancing our mission to provide a modest, safe retirement for all our nation's elderly religious. Our grateful, daily prayer goes to all those whose loving generosity sustains this mission.

May God continue to bless you and your parishioners. With gratitude,

Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM
Executive Director



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Sunday, May 14: 3 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Patrick Church, Ligonier
- Monday, May 15: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Church, Garrett
- Tuesday, May 16: 8 a.m. — Mass with Investiture of Franciscan Friars Minor Novices, St. Andrew Church, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, May 16: 3 p.m. — Meeting of Indiana Bishops, Indianapolis
- Wednesday, May 17: 9 a.m. — Meeting of Indiana Catholic Conference, Indianapolis
- Wednesday, May 17: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Bernard Church, Wabash
- Thursday, May 18: 11:30 a.m. — Blessing of Saint Anne Communities Victory Noll Building, Huntington
- Thursday, May 18: 12:30 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Saint Anne Communities, Victory Noll, Huntington
- Thursday, May 18: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Mary Church, Huntington
- Friday, May 19: 10:30 a.m. — Meeting of Hispanic Apostolate, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Warsaw
- Friday, May 19: 4 p.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame
- Saturday, May 20: 11 a.m. — Diaconate Ordination, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 20: 5 p.m. — Baccalaureate Mass for University of Notre Dame, Joyce Center, University of Notre Dame

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Pope advances sainthood causes of U.S. priest, Vietnamese cardinal

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis advanced the sainthood causes of Wisconsin-born Capuchin Father Solanus Casey, five religious, four laypeople and two cardinals, including Vietnamese Cardinal Francois Nguyen Van Thuan.

The pope approved the decrees during an audience May 4 with Cardinal Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes.

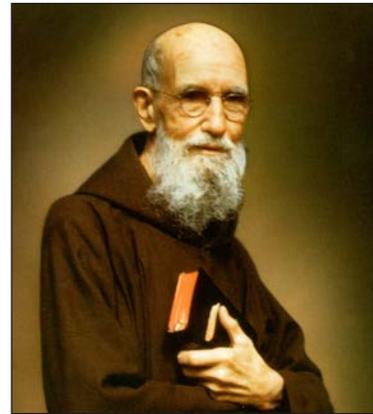
Father Casey (1870-1957) was known for his great faith, humility and compassion and for his ministry as spiritual counselor. He gained a popular following during his lifetime, with healings attributed to his intercession both before and after his death.

He was the sixth of 16 children of Irish immigrant parents. He was born on a farm near Oak Grove, Wis., and as a young man worked as a logger, a hospital orderly, a streetcar operator and a prison guard before entering the Capuchins at age 26.

He was ordained in 1904 as a "simplex priest," one who is unable to hear confessions or preach dogmatic sermons because he had not performed very well in his studies. He carried out humble tasks in the monastery and, while serving in Yonkers, N.Y., Father Casey was assigned to be the friary's porter, or doorkeeper, a ministry he would carry out for the rest of his life.

He was known to be gentle, approachable and genuinely concerned for people as he had unique insight into people's needs and how they fit into God's plans.

He was declared venerable in 1995 and Pope Francis' approval



CNS photo

The sainthood cause of Wisconsin-born Father Solanus Casey (1870-1957), a Capuchin priest and doorkeeper at Franciscan friaries in New York and Detroit, has advanced to the beatification stage after Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to his intercession.

of a miracle attributed to his intercession was the next step needed for his beatification. Another miracle, after his beatification, would be needed for him to advance to sainthood.

Among the other decrees May 4, Pope Francis recognized the heroic virtues of Cardinal Nguyen Van Thuan, who served as president of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace from 1998 to 2002 — the year he died.

Born in 1928, Vietnam's communist regime jailed him in 1975 when he was the newly named coadjutor bishop of Saigon, later renamed Ho Chi Minh City. He was never tried or sentenced and spent nine of his 13 years of detention in solitary confinement. His uncle was South Vietnam's first president, Ngo Dinh Diem, a Catholic who was assassinated in 1963.

Also May 4, the pope recog-



CNS photo/L'Osservatore Romano via EPA

Vietnamese Cardinal Francois Nguyen Van Thuan is pictured at the Vatican in this 2001 file photo. Pope Francis advanced the sainthood cause of the cardinal, who spent 13 years in solitary confinement during his country's communist regime.

nized miracles that advanced the causes of three religious women toward beatification and the martyrdom of Lucien Botovasoa, a married man with eight children, who was also a Third Order Franciscan, teacher and a catechist at his parish in Vohipeno, Madagascar.

As the African island went from being a colonial outpost to an independent nation, Botovasoa was blacklisted as an enemy of the cause for independence and was killed in 1947 out of hatred of the faith.

Years later a village elder admitted on his deathbed to a local missionary that he ordered the murder of Botovasoa even though Botovasoa had told him he would be by his side to help him whenever he was in need. The elder told the missionary he felt Botovasoa's presence and asked to be baptized.

HIRE

Continued from Page 1

and church historian, and in many cases, he had followed the footsteps of, for example, the apostles and Martin Luther.

Liz List, St. Martin de Porres parish secretary and bookkeeper, fondly remembered: "Father Hire was a very personable man. He loved his history and all his travels, and was very proud to share that with anyone any chance he had. Over nine years of working with Father Hire, and especially the last few years when his health was challenging him, he showed me the grace of God through his words and actions — right up to the day he celebrated his last Mass at St. Martin."

Eric Sundberg, former music director at St. John the Baptist, New Haven, remembered Father Hire as gifted and well-rounded in the arts, travel and history

— and profoundly spiritual. "He had a unique way of dramatizing homilies, particularly for the kids' Masses," he said. It was improvised all the way. Father would call up several boys and girls, give them costumes, casting them on the spot as Jesus, Mary and Joseph. While Sundberg vamped background music on the piano, Father Hire whispered lines to the actors, which they repeated into a microphone. The scenes could be everywhere from heaven to the Holy Land: Everyone seemed to love it.

Father Hire's many appointments throughout the years included St. Mary Church in Huntington and principal of Huntington Catholic High School (1971), assistant director of religious education for the diocese (1973), pastor of St. Peter Church in Fort Wayne (1973), diocesan director of religious education (1974), assistant pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort Wayne (1976), St. Adalbert in South Bend (1979), St John

the Baptist in Fort Wayne (1979), St. Patrick Church in Fort Wayne (1983), St. Thomas the Apostle in Elkhart (1991), St. John the Baptist in New Haven (1999), Queen of Peace in Mishawaka (2003) and St. Martin de Porres in Syracuse (2007).

Father Andrew Nazareth, pastor at St. Martin de Porres, Syracuse, shared: "Father Richard Hire was a great example as a pastor of this parish for me, especially when his health started to deteriorate. He showed pastoral zeal in respecting and honoring the calling that he had as pastor for the care of his people. On behalf of the faith community of St. Martin de Porres, I thank him and his family immensely and ask the good Lord to give him eternal rest."

Father Hire was laid to rest on Tuesday, May 9.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Father Hire was officiated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at St. Peter Catholic Church, Fort Wayne. He is buried in Catholic Cemetery.

Church leaders view religious freedom order as positive step

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Many religious leaders viewed President Donald Trump's executive order on religious freedom, which he signed in a White House Rose Garden ceremony May 4, as a step in the right direction.

In a ceremony for the National Day of Prayer prior to signing the executive order, Trump told the assembled religious leaders: "We're taking big steps to protect religious liberty" and he assured them the government "won't stand for religious discrimination."

Three religious leaders, including Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl, offered prayers during the ceremony. Just prior to the event, Cardinal Wuerl and Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, met with Trump about the order.

In an interview with Catholic News Service at Reagan National Airport just after the White House ceremony, Cardinal DiNardo said the meeting with the president was brief but productive.

Earlier, in a statement, the cardinal said the executive order "begins the process of alleviating the serious burden of the HHS mandate," referring to the mandate issued by the federal Department of Health and Human Services requiring most religious employers to provide coverage of artificial birth control for their employees even if they morally oppose it.

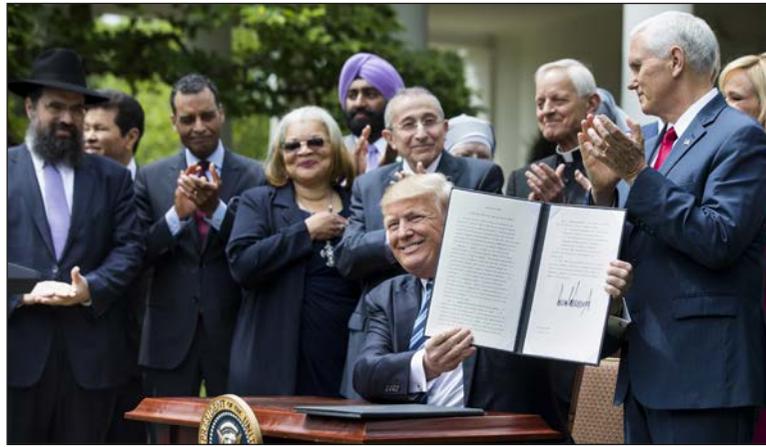
But Cardinal DiNardo also stressed that the U.S. bishops will "have to review the details of any regulatory proposals."

The text of the order, "Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty," states that cabinet offices "shall consider issuing amended regulations, consistent with applicable law, to address conscience-based objections to the preventive-care mandate."

During the White House ceremony, Trump told some of the Little Sisters of the Poor in the crowd: "Your long ordeal will soon be over." The sisters are just one of the groups that challenged the federal contraceptive mandate all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mother Loraine Marie Maguire, superior of the Little Sisters' Baltimore province, said in a statement that the sisters are "grateful for the president's order and look forward to the agencies giving us an exemption so that we can continue caring for the elderly poor and dying" without fear of government punishment.

Another aspect of the order is a weakening of what Trump



CNS photo/Jim Lo Scalzo, EPA

President Donald Trump shows his signed Executive Order on Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty during a National Day of Prayer event at the White House in Washington May 4.

called the "unfair" Johnson Amendment during the May 4 event. The 1954 amendment bans churches and nonprofit organizations of all types from participating in partisan political activity at the risk of losing their tax-exempt status.

Trump told the religious leaders that the order's attempt to lessen restrictions of the amendment will be "giving our churches their voices back."

The order states the Treasury Department shall ensure and "respect and protect the freedom of persons and organizations to engage in religious and political speech."

It also calls for department officials to "not take any adverse action against any individual, house of worship, or other religious organization" for speaking about "moral or political issues from a religious perspective."

Regarding religious liberty, the order is not very specific. It states: "In order to guide all agencies in complying with relevant federal law, the attorney general shall, as appropriate, issue guidance interpreting religious liberty protections in federal law."

Cardinal DiNardo, in his statement, stressed that in recent years, "people of faith have experienced pressing restrictions on religious freedom from both the federal government and state governments that receive federal funding."

He noted that church agencies have specifically experienced such a restriction in adoption, education, health care and other social services, where he said "widely held moral and religious beliefs, especially regarding the protection of human life as well as preserving marriage and family, have been maligned in recent years as bigotry or hostility."

"But disagreement on moral and religious issues is not discrimination; instead, it is the inevitable and desirable fruit of a free, civil society marked by genuine religious diversity," he added.

Cardinal DiNardo told CNS

that the executive order emphasizes that there should "not be an overly intrusive federal government" involved when a person or group is exercising one's faith.

He also said the president seems to be putting some of these religious liberty issues directly in the hands of federal departments and the attorney general, which he called "an important dimension" and a "good way to have this unpacked."

The White House did not release the full text of the order prior to its signing. A draft of an earlier version of the order, which included stronger language, was leaked and published Feb. 1 in *The Nation* magazine.

Regarding the new order, Cardinal DiNardo said in his statement that the bishops will "continue to advocate for permanent relief from Congress on issues of critical importance to people of faith," noting that religious freedom is "a fundamental right that should be upheld by all branches of government and not subject to political whims."

Richard Garnett, professor of law at the University of Notre Dame, said in an email to Catholic News Service that the order will likely be viewed as a commitment from the administration that it wants to protect religious liberty. "In terms of specifics, however, the order does very little and does not address a number of pressing and important questions."

Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA, also welcomed the order and said the organization "looks forward to reviewing the details" of it with the hope that applying it will "allow Catholic Charities agencies to continue to serve all their clients in accordance with their inherent dignity while at the same time preserving the freedom of these agencies to serve in conformity with our beliefs."

Contributing to this story was Chaz Muth.

Devil, not invaders, biggest enemy at hand, pope tells Swiss Guard

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Be ready with the spiritual weapon of faith, because the biggest battle facing the Swiss Guard today is fighting the devil and worldly vices, Pope Francis told the guard's members. The Swiss Guards' colorful and valuable presence at the service of the pope and Vatican City State "is an occasion to grow as courageous 'soldiers of Christ'" and be witnesses of holiness to countless tourists and visitors, he said. The pope held a private audience with the Swiss Guard, including 40 new recruits and their family members, the morning of May 6, the day of the guard's annual swearing-in ceremony. New recruits pledge to "faithfully, loyally and honorably" serve and protect the pontiff and, if necessary, sacrifice their lives for him. The colorful induction ceremony is held May 6 every year to mark the date in 1527 when 147 Swiss Guards lost their lives defending Pope Clement VII in the Sack of Rome. Only 42 guards survived. Holding the ceremony on the anniversary is meant to remind new guards of the seriousness of their commitment.

Head of French bishops welcomes Macron's election

PARIS (CNS) — The head of the French bishops' conference welcomed the election of President-elect Emmanuel Macron, and said he hoped June legislative elections would not place the country "in an ungovernable situation." Archbishop Georges Pontier of Marseille, president of the French bishops' conference, told Vatican Radio May 8 that French Catholics had also been left "divided like the rest of French society" and said he counted on Macron and his new government "being able to function. Macron has been elected in an important manner — we must hope he succeeds for the good of our country, otherwise it will be catastrophic," said Archbishop Pontier. "Priorities for his new five-year term must include struggling against unemployment, which is so destructive for families, for prospects and for projects, as well as the necessity of staying in Europe — and giving this Europe the means of retaining the respect of every people." Macron won the second-round presidential ballot with 66.1 percent of votes against 33.9 percent taken by Marine Le Pen, head of France's National Front. Macron ran on a pro-market platform that included support for the European Union and cuts to public administration, as well as lower corporation taxes and measures to defend secular values.

Pope encourages Venezuela's bishops to stay close to suffering people

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While violent protests continue to break out in the streets of Venezuela, Pope Francis urged the country's bishops to remain close to the poor and needy. "My dear brothers, I encourage you to not allow the beloved children of Venezuela to be overcome by mistrust or despair, for these are the evils that penetrate people's hearts when they do not see prospects for the future," the pope wrote in a letter May 5 to the country's bishops. Venezuela has descended into chaos after years of food shortages and economic turmoil under embattled President Nicolas Maduro's government. Despite expressing a willingness to negotiate with the opposition, he has been accused of tightening his grip on power and suppressing any threat to his rule. Protests began after March 29, when the Venezuelan Supreme Court ruled to dissolve the country's parliament, in which the opposition had a two-thirds majority following the 2015 elections. The unprecedented ruling transferred legislative powers to the Supreme Court, which is comprised of judges nominated by Maduro.

Vatican conference unites science and religion's search for truth

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Science and religion are not at odds but are united in the continuing search for truth in unlocking the mysteries of the cosmos. The scientific conference titled, "Black Holes, Gravitational Waves and Space-Time Singularities," is an opportunity to show that "the church supports good science," said Jesuit Brother Guy Consolmagno, director of the Vatican Observatory. "We are hoping that this meeting will also be an encounter of people with very different opinions but very close friendships that come from having the same common desire to understand the truth of the universe and how we can understand that truth," he told journalists May 8. Renowned experts from around the world were to meet at Vatican Observatory in Castel Gandolfo for the May 9-12 conference, which seeks to bring together science and religion in the continuing search for truth in understanding the mysteries of the universe, he said. The 2016 discovery of the existence of gravitational waves, predicted nearly 100 years ago by Albert Einstein in his general theory of relativity, was to be one of the topics of discussion. The discovery could open a new chapter in understanding celestial events and black hole regions in the universe, something that previously could only be hypothesized.

Pope, Myanmar leader meet, launch diplomatic relations

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Shortly after Pope Francis met privately with Myanmar's de facto leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, the Holy See and Myanmar announced they were establishing full diplomatic relations. The Vatican announced May 4 that the pope would appoint a nuncio to the southeast Asian nation and that Myanmar would name an ambassador to the Vatican. The agreement brings to 183 the number of countries with which the Holy See has full diplomatic relations. Suu Kyi, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991, had spent almost 15 years of the period between 1989 and 2010 under house arrest. Her party, the National League for Democracy, won the general election in 2015 and she was named the de facto head of government in April 2016. Welcomed to the Vatican by Pope Francis, Suu Kyi took his hand and bowed her head. She and the pope met privately for more than 20 minutes before her entourage entered the papal library. She gave Pope Francis a small bas relief of a dove and Pope Francis gave her a new medallion illustrating a passage from the Book of Isaiah, "The wilderness will become a fruitful field."

Hungry, scared South Sudanese stay in cathedral compound for protection

WAU, South Sudan (CNS) — Rita Williams slept under a tree beside St. Mary Catholic Cathedral, her three hungry children beside her. Around them, as many as 16,000 other displaced people filled the cathedral compound, hoping the church would keep them safe as their country spirals into greater violence. "I've been here two weeks, since the soldiers chased us out of our house and burned it," she said April 26. "We have nothing, not even salt. Our clothes are dirty, and some days all we have to eat or drink is water. We're waiting. I don't know for what, but we're afraid to go back home." When civil war ripped apart South Sudan's fragile democracy in 2013, residents of this city in the country's northwest watched the violence from afar, seemingly unconcerned that the politically manipulated ethnic violence would spread here. And then it did, and the victims ran for the city's churches. "It wasn't safe anywhere, but people said that if they were going to be killed, they preferred to be killed in the church because this is the place that Jesus is present. They wanted to die in the church rather than die in their homes," said Father Germano Bernardo, a priest in Wau. Although tensions had been building for months, last June intense fighting broke out between soldiers of the Sudan

NEWS BRIEFS

Swiss Guard swears in new recruits



CNS/Paul Haring

Swiss Guard recruits attend the swearing-in ceremony for 40 new recruits at the Vatican May 6. New recruits are sworn in every year May 6, the date in 1527 when 147 Swiss soldiers died defending the pope.

People's Liberation Army, who are mostly members of the dominant Dinka tribe, and a mixture of local opposition groups and members of other ethnic communities.

Kenyan bishops warn against election violence, insecurity

NAIROBI, Kenya (CNS) — Kenyan Catholic bishops said they fear widespread violence in the next general elections. "If the violence, the allegation of bribery, suspicions, accusations and counter-accusations, rejection of results and general acrimony ... are anything to go by, then (we) have a reason to be very worried over the forthcoming general elections," Bishop Philip Anyolo, chairman of the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops, said at a news conference at the end of the bishops' general meeting in late April. The bishops said the nominations — announced in late April for Aug. 8 elections — had sounded the alarm, while sending worrying signs of another violent election in the making. Bishop Anyolo urged Kenyans to pay attention and address the situation as a matter of urgency and concern. He also delivered parts of the bishops' final statement, which addressed peaceful and credible elections, leaders' integrity, insecurity and drought. It cautioned youth against being used by aspirants to kill, maim or cause violence.

Pope Francis to meet Trump at Vatican May 24

WASHINGTON (CNS) — President Donald Trump will visit the Vatican and meet with Pope Francis May 24 as part of his first foreign trip as president. White House officials said the visit will be part of a trip that will include stops in Israel and Saudi Arabia before Trump attends a NATO meeting in Brussels May 25 and the G7 summit in Taormina on the island of Sicily May 26-27. The trip was an attempt to unite three of the world's leading religious faiths in the common cause of fighting terrorism, reining in Iran, and "unifying the world against intolerance," White House officials said May 4. The information was confirmed by Paloma Garcia Ovejero, vice director of the Vatican press office. The pope's meeting with Pope Francis was to take place in the Apostolic Palace and will include Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, and Archbishop Paul Gallagher, secretary for relations with states. Pope Francis, on his return flight from Egypt April 29, told reporters that he had not yet been informed by the Vatican secretary of state's office about a request for an audience from U.S. officials. But he added, "I receive every head of state who asks for an audience."

Puerto Rico bankruptcy: Archbishop's suggestion becomes forced reality

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (CNS) — Recent developments in Puerto Rico's financial turmoil have carried the island's government to a position that it tried to avoid, one the local highest Catholic leader has long suggested: bankruptcy. A U.S. territory, Puerto Rico has been spiraling into default on its \$72 billion debt in recent years. The situation led the U.S. Congress last year to pass the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act: Among its provisions, the law ordered the establishment of a Fiscal Supervision Board to manage the territory's finances. The board started its work in October and issued a six-month stay on several legal claims that were about to be filed by creditors. The stay expired April 30, with negotiation between creditors and government ending in a deadlock. While posing short-term difficulties for Puerto Ricans, the filing will protect vital social services, health care spending and school funding, LeCompte said. As a U.S. territory, Puerto Rico is unable to restructure its debt as a state would through Chapter 9 of the U.S. bankruptcy code.

U.S. bishops chairman calls on Senate to strip harmful proposals from house-passed health care bill

Editor's note: On May 4, the U.S. House of Representatives passed by a four-vote margin the American Health Care Act, to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. The final vote was 217-213. All Democrats and 20 Republicans in the House voted against the bill. The bill will now be considered by the U.S. Senate.

WASHINGTON — Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Fla., chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, called on the U.S. Senate to strip out the harmful provisions of the bill when the chamber takes it up for consideration.

"Even with efforts to improve the bill before passage, the American Health Care Act still contains major defects, particularly regarding changes to Medicaid that risk coverage and affordability for millions; it is deeply disappointing that the voices of those who will be most severely impacted were not heeded," said Bishop Dewane. "The AHCA does offer critical life protections, and our health care system desperately needs these safeguards. But still, vulnerable people must not be left in poor and worsening circumstances as Congress attempts to fix the current and impending problems with the Affordable Care Act."

Since discussions about repealing the Affordable Care Act began, the U.S. Bishops have repeatedly called for Congress to honor key moral principles in health care reform. Among them are: access for all people to comprehensive, quality health care that is truly affordable, including extra consideration for pre-existing conditions; respect for life by preventing the use of federal funds for abortion or to purchase health care plans that cover it; and conscience protections. Prior to Thursday's vote, Bishop Dewane urged House members to insist on changes, especially for the sake of those who are struggling.

"When the Senate takes up the AHCA, it must act decisively to remove the harmful proposals from the bill that will affect low-income people — including immigrants — as well as add vital conscience protections, or begin reform efforts anew. Our health care policy must honor all human life and dignity from conception to natural death, as well as defend the sincerely-held moral and religious beliefs of those who have any role in the health care system," said Bishop Dewane.

Franciscan sisters celebrate jubilees

FRANKFORT, Ill., — Several Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart, who at one time ministered within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, are celebrating a jubilee anniversary in 2017.

Sister Kathleen Hook, OSF, is celebrating a 60th jubilee. Sister Kathleen was born in Galion, Ohio. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she taught at St. Joseph School, Garrett, from 1966-68. She currently resides in New Lenox, Ill.

Sister Diane Martin, OSF, celebrates a 60th jubilee. Sister Diane was born in Los Angeles, Calif. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she taught at St. Mary School, Avilla, from 1960-65 and at St. Joseph School, Garrett, from 1984-87. She currently resides in Altadena, Calif.

Sister Ruth Agee, OSF, celebrates a 50-year jubilee. Sister Ruth was born in Lynwood, Calif. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she taught at St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne, from 1978-87. She currently resides in Altadena, Calif.

Sister Christina Fuller, OSF, celebrates a 50th jubilee. Sister Christina was born in Sturgis, Mich. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she taught at St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne, from 1974-77 and was religious education director from 1984-89. She taught at St. Joseph School, Hessen Cassel, from 1977-84. She currently resides in Evanston, Ill.

Sister Mary Shinnick, OSF, celebrates a 50-year jubilee. Sister Mary was born in Peru, Ill. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she taught at St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne, from 1970-74. She currently resides in New Lenox, Ill.

Sister Joyce Shanabarger, OSF, celebrates a 50th jubilee. Sister Joyce was born in Auburn, Ind. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she ministered at St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne, from 1974-83. Sister currently resides in New Lenox, Ill.

Sister Ella Binz, OSF, celebrates a 40 year jubilee. Sister Ella was born in Elgin, Ill. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend she taught at St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne, from 1982-83. She currently resides in New Lenox, Ill.

Poor Handmaids elect new leadership

DONALDSON — Following a process of discernment and prayer, Poor Handmaids chapter delegates, during the Provincial Chapter of Elections April 28-30, elected a leadership team that will direct them during the next four years.

Sister Judith Diltz was re-elected as provincial and Sister Michele Dvorak was re-elected as first councilor. Sister Joetta Huelsmann and Sister Margaret Anne Henss were newly elected

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Plymouth community welcomes Bishop Rhoades



Curt Feece

Trinity United Methodist Church Pastor Bob Land, right, and Randy Danielson, parishioner at St. Michael Catholic Church, speak with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during a National Day of Prayer breakfast hosted in Plymouth on Thursday, May 4, by Mayor Mark Senter. Bishop Rhoades gave the keynote address at the event.

as councilors.

Sister Judith Diltz, a native of Mishawaka, took her first vows as a Poor Handmaid in 1969. Since that time, she has ministered in education and served the Poor Handmaid community. She taught English at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, Mater Dei High School and Kaskaskia College in Breese, Ill., and Marian High School in Mishawaka. She was the English and humanities professor/faculty assessment coordinator at Ancilla College in Donaldson. Sister Judith also served as the PHJC vocation director, postulant/affiliate director and director for development. She was provincial from 2013 to 2017.

Sister Michele Dvorak has ministered in education since 1976. She has been a teacher and principal in Indiana and Illinois and a professor at Calumet College of St. Joseph in Whiting, where she also held the position of vice president of academic and student affairs. For the past four years she served as first councilor of the Poor Handmaids. Sister Michele was born in Minneapolis, Minn., and took her first vows in 1976.

Sister Joetta Huelsmann has served in different ministries since taking her final vows in 1972. She was a teacher, parish minister, director of religious education, pastoral associate, retreat house staff and co-director and director of John XXIII Retreat Center in Hartford City. Sister Joetta previously served on

the Provincial Team as councilor from 1997 to 2005. She was born in Breese, Ill.

Sister Margaret Anne Henss, born in Trenton, Ill., has been an educator, controller and treasurer for the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ American Province. She has ministered at HealthVisions Midwest in Hammond since 2008 as financial assistant/special projects and as the director of Mission and Communications. Sister Margaret Anne took final vows in 1973.

Installation of the Provincial Leadership team will be held July 9 in the Ancilla Domini Chapel, Donaldson.

Students attend state STEM competition

MISHAWAKA — Thirteen students from Marian High School, St. Matthew Cathedral School and St. Anthony de Padua School qualified for and attended the Hoosier Science and Engineering Fair, or state science fair, April 1 at IUPUI. The fair is the highest level of science, technology, engineering and mathematics competition in the state of Indiana.

In the Senior Division, Julia Hunckler, a senior at Marian, won the award for Excellence in the Geosciences, the Leslie A. Willig Spirit of Science Award. She also took home the Purdue University Excellence in Agriculture First Place Award and the SAIC Award for Excellence in Science or

Engineering Research Focusing on Applied Science for her project, "Determining the Optimal Vegetation to Decrease Fertilizer Runoff." Junior Emma Kearns was awarded the U.S. Navy Award for Excellence for her project, "The Recognition and Diagnosis of Sports Induced Concussions in High School Athletes Using Speech as the Biomarker." Junior Taylor Kovacs received the U.S. Air Force Award for Excellence for his project, "How Educational Games Can Affect the Attention Span of Students in Class."

Another Marian Junior, Dennis Mammolenti, earned the Best Pharmacy-Related Project for his study, "Superior Anti-tumor Effect of Nanoparticle Albumin-bound Paclitaxel in Experimental Esophageal Adenocarcinoma." Senior Alex Kokot's project, "Analysis and Thermodynamics of U 4+ SO 4 Compounds," was given the Award for Excellence in the Use of the Metric System. Seniors Anthony Kramer and Sam Chippas competed with the team project "ALPHA — A Humanoid Robotic System with an Artificial Intelligence."

James Twaddle, also a senior, competed with "Optimization of Quartz Capillary Tubes in a Shashlik Electromagnetic Calorimeter for High Energy Physics Particle Detection and Calorimetry." Senior Chris Trippel competed with the project, "Extensively Low-Cost PCR Using an Automated Firmware-free Design." Kelly Skwarcan, a fresh-

man, competed with her project, "Are Antimicrobial Agents Present on Cellphones, Keyboards and Currency?"

Additionally, three middle school students competed in the Junior Division of the fair. Seventh-grader Maddie Cerney, St. Matthew Cathedral School, entered a project called "It's The Bomb! Using Bomb Calorimetry to Measure Calories." Eighth-grader Tyler Cybulski, St. Anthony DePadua School, entered "The Effects of Food and Density on Mosquito Development," and eighth-grader Maximillian Niebur, also from St. Anthony DePadua School, entered "Effects of Corrosion on the Strength of Metals."

Hunckler and Twaddle advanced to the National Junior Science and Humanities competition held in San Diego April 27-30.

Grant deadline July 1

HUNTINGTON — The deadline for applying for 2017 grants from the John Joseph Sigstein Foundation is July 1.

Since their order's founding in 1922 by Father John Joseph Sigstein, Our Lady of Victory missionary sisters have been dedicated to living the mission of Jesus. They proclaim the Word of God, foster justice, stand in solidarity with those living in poverty and oppression, and promote the development of leaders. The John Joseph Sigstein Foundation was created to offer grants to organizations that will extend their approach to mission.

Victory Noll sisters have served people in mission centers across the United States, and they continue to have a presence in these areas. The foundation was established to promote and sustain the mission of God according to the charism of Our Lady of Victory missionary sisters in solidarity with all persons, especially those living in poverty and oppression.

The grant process for 2017 is underway and applications are currently being accepted. Organizations applying for a grant must have 501(c)(3), or equivalent, status and be geared toward effecting systemic change.

Characteristics on which programs eligibility for funding will be judged include: promoting justice for those living in poverty and oppression; empowering persons to contribute to a more just and peaceful society; protecting and sustaining the environment, God's creation; and contributing to the well-being of families.

The foundation is not intended to fund such things as scholarships, building projects, medical programs, existing well-funded organizations, foreign organizations and direct service programs.

Grant applications are available for download at www.olvm.org/jjsfoundation. For more information, check the website or contact the foundation by email at jjsfoundation@olvm.org, or by regular mail at John Joseph Sigstein Foundation, P.O. Box 109, Huntington, IN 46750-0109.

The many ways Catholic Charities serves mothers, families

BY GLORIA WHITCRAFT

Editor's note: In honor of Mother's Day, we asked Catholic Charities about the many ways the church's social-service arm is serving mothers in our diocese.

As Bishop Kevin Rhoades reminds us, what is distinctive about Catholic Charities is that, "...we operate from the perspective of our Catholic faith, our beliefs and moral teachings. The work we do is a response to Christ's commandment to 'love one another.'"

Of the more than 18,000 people served by Catholic Charities last year, the majority are women, many of whom live below the poverty level. In fact, the single greatest predictor of poverty in America today is a single mother with children. In an effort to combat this, a number of Catholic Charities' core programs serve mothers and their families. Given the complex, long-term issues that many face, they often require years of professional support to achieve greater independence.

Listed below is a sampling of programs administered in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend that help improve outcomes for women and children.

1. Your Journey Together is a



Provided by Catholic Charities

The Catholic Charities ECHO program helps teen moms graduate from high school, so that they can parent successfully while they continue their education.

program in which moms learn techniques for supporting the social and emotional well-being of their children, including better managing conflict within the family. This highly successful program also allows mothers to grow in their understanding of the emotional and psychological needs of their children

2. ECHO (Education Creates Hope and Opportunity) is dedicated to helping teen moms complete their high-school diploma or the equivalent. This program has a more than 90 percent grad-

uation rate (compared to 40 percent nationally) and has served 985 participants since 1998. In addition to a better quality of life, each graduate saves taxpayers an estimated \$600,000 in government support services. Children see in their teen parents positive role models, a factor critical to helping them break the cycle of poverty.

3. Catholic Charities provides pro-life counseling for pregnant women who are unsure if they can successfully parent their unborn child. For these clients,

the organization provides free, professional services through its masters-level therapists. If she decides to parent, Catholic Charities will wrap her in services to ensure the safety and wellbeing of mother and child. If she chooses adoption, it is a licensed child-placing agency that can help her facilitate the entire process.

4. Catholic Charities' Youth Mentoring Program is designed to prevent delinquency, truancy, drug use, gang involvement, pregnancy and other high-risk activities while improving school performance. Targeted to at-risk youth between the ages of 9 and 17, the program pairs trained adult volunteers with young people to form nurturing relationships. The program is supplemented with group recreational activities as well as case management and other assistance provided by Catholic Charities' professional staff.

5. The organization's refugee services address those who have been persecuted and displaced from their homes. Many are tortured, falsely imprisoned or separated from family through no fault of their own. The same is true for the vast majority of those served in the Legal Immigration Services Division. The difference between the atrocities experienced by refugees

and immigrants is often related to who is inflicting the harm. Almost all refugees and immigrants are fleeing abject poverty on a scale most U.S. citizens have not experienced. More often than not, the victims of these cruelties are women and their children.

6. Parish priests and Catholic schools tell Catholic Charities that emotional and mental health counseling are badly needed services, so this program is being expanded throughout the diocese. Addressing the situation began with a licensed therapist in Catholic Charities' South Bend office; this therapist is now serving several Catholic schools, with more schools now expressing interest in the same support. Thus far the therapist has been asked to help children who are struggling in the classroom. Almost invariably, the therapist will conclude that involving the parent or parents in treatment is necessary. Single mothers head nearly half of the families referred to this program so far.

7. Senior Community Service Employment Program is for persons 55 and older with special emphasis given to veterans, people with disabilities or those leaving prison. SCSEP provides job training and coaching. Clients, who work for nonprofit host-agency partners, receive on-



ECHO HELPS TEEN MOMS AVOID POVERTY

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Usually only 40% of teen parents graduate from high school. Compare that with the 90+% graduation rate for our **ECHO (Education Creates Hope & Opportunity)** participants. This achievement greatly improves earning potential and keeps many above the poverty level, which in turn saves the taxpayer roughly \$600k per family.

Our goal is to provide support to young parents so they can stay in school, and create a better future for themselves and their children. We work



"CATHOLIC CHARITIES GAVE ME THE SUPPORT I NEEDED TO PROVIDE FOR MY SON AND THAT WAS LIFE-CHANGING."

-REYNA, ECHO MOM

support our efforts to help them keep those dreams alive.

in cooperation with area school systems to provide years-long support to teen moms who have made a pro-life decision to parent. ECHO is the only such program in the diocese to provide professional case-management services, dedicated to teen-parent education.

Many teen moms feel their dreams of college and a career vanish when they become pregnant. Please

Learn more at: <http://www.cfwsb.org/our-services/pregnancy-services/>

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the-job training and supervision while the host agency receives these services at no cost. After the training period, a professional case manager and job coach assists the client to find permanent employment. Some of the people served in SCSEP are motivated to go back to work, perhaps for the first time in their lives because they are caring for grandchildren when their adult child cannot.

8. Catholic Charities' Hispanic health advocates serve clients for whom English is a new language. A case manager helps women navigate the health care system, while health care providers also benefit by having a certified medical translator at no cost. Many people served in this program would otherwise have medical health needs, some of which are life-threatening, go untreated.

9. The Food Pantries and Resource and Referral programs predominantly serve mothers and children. They temporarily provide for basic needs such as food, rent, mortgage, utilities, clothing, hygiene products, transportation, childcare and other needs that are ongoing.

Gloria Whitcraft is CEO of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Shontel benefits from Catholic Charities' Your Journey Together program

In November of 2014, Shontel's life took a turn for the worse. She lost her job, got behind on her bills, and eventually she and her two sons found themselves homeless. With no car and an impending bankruptcy to compound matters, all the stress in their lives put them on edge.

"There was a lot of bickering and fighting," Shontel said. "It was a very ugly."

After a brief stint in a motel, the family went to the Vincent Village homeless shelter. Because of the turmoil that preceded their arrival, tensions grew between Shontel and her sons. The strain showed up at home with more conflict, and at school with more calls about her son's behavior.

The people at Vincent Village recommended a program called Your Journey Together. A service administered by professional case managers at Catholic Charities, YJT is a curriculum designed to promote the social and emotional resilience of children and their families.

"I wasn't sure about it at first," said Shontel. "But with my case manager's help, I've seen a complete change in my sons."

Resilience in children helps them cope with change and adversity, and, in the process, experience more positive outcomes in their lives. Through the YJT curriculum, Shontel learned the techniques that would enable her to be a better parent. The first task with YJT is to understand that all experience fits into a figurative suitcase. The contents of one's suitcase determine outcomes in life.

"Our experiences define us," says YJT Case Manager Megan



Provided by Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities' Your Journey Together program helped Shontel recoup a good relationship with her sons following a tough family situation.

Brendell. "Negative experiences produce negative outcomes, while positive experiences produce positive outcomes."

Through this course, Shontel learned techniques for better managing conflict as well as growing in the understanding of the emotional and psychological needs of her sons. In turn, this understanding helped her create a more positive environment for her kids so she could begin building resilience in them.

"To be resilient, kids need to have confidence," said Megan. "This program gave Shontel the tools to build confidence in her children."

YJT teaches parents how to create a positive environment

by giving kids structure, well-defined expectations, and affirmation of their strengths. The program also teaches parents how to set boundaries and diffuse tensions when they arise.

Thanks to YJT, Shontel is now better able to help her sons cope with challenges and set backs so they can reach their full potential. All of this works in service of her main goal, which is to be a loving mother, who is raising her sons to be successful.

"Even though we are still homeless," says Shontel, "I'm thankful because I've got the most important thing — a better relationship with my kids."

— Provided by Catholic Charities

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* OPEN TO GIRLS AGES 9 AND UP. ALL GIRLS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT. THANK YOU!

'WHATEVER YOU DO, WORK AT St. Joseph Parish, Roanoke,



St. Joseph Church in Roanoke celebrates the 150th anniversary of the parish.

Photos by Jerry Kessens

Mary stands on the cornerstone of the original St. Joseph Church, and

ST. JOSEPH

Continued from Page 1

of necessity, as German and Irish immigrants moved west following development in the 1830s of the Wabash-Erie Canal and St. Louis Railroad. Missionary priests who traveled between Fort Wayne and Lafayette first met their spiritual needs. Father Julian Benoit was one of the priests who would celebrate Mass in private homes.

The need to pastor the faithful grew, and by the 1850s a small frame church had been built on the southeast corner of 4th and Main streets in Roanoke, with the help of Father Fuchs. Fire later destroyed the building. It was rebuilt but in 1867, a few years after the end of the Civil War. The young diocese then bought a brick building at the corner of 6th and Main streets that had been built by the Presbyterian Church. It was in this building that the parish was formally established.

Father William Woeste became the first resident pastor of Roanoke in 1870; in 1873, a parish cemetery was purchased.

In 1882 and for the next 40 years, the parish was a mission parish of St. Catherine's. In 1907, Bishop Herman Aldering rededicated the church after a choir loft and new stained glass windows were added.

Slowly but surely, it grew. A brick rectory was added in 1924 so that a priest could live in Roanoke, with St. Catherine

Church as his mission. During the Depression years, the Sunday collection basket would yield as little as 18 cents.

Major church repairs took place in the early 1940s, including the church tower, which had been struck by lightning. In May of 1944, Bishop John F. Noll celebrated the parish's diamond jubilee.

Ground was broken in May of 1969 for a new brick church, located behind the old one. The first Mass was held on Palm Sunday of 1970. Bishop Leo A. Pursley later consecrated it, on June 21, 1970. At the time, there were 132 families in the parish.

Additional property was purchased, and the old rectory converted for parish and office use. As of 1986, 380 families called St. Joseph their parish home. In 1992, Bishop John D'Arcy celebrated the church's 125th anniversary at the top of the hill in Roanoke. The parish then had about 240 families, a decrease from 1986 attributed to the establishment of nearby St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

To mark the occasion of its 150th anniversary, on the May 1 feast day of St. Joseph the Worker, members of the parish and Father Bauman prayed the Divine Office and vespers with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. There was a light supper following. The Franciscan Friars Minor, of the St. Felix Friary in Huntington, also joined the faithful in giving thanks to God for their dear parish.

During remarks given that evening, Bishop Rhoades reflected: "It is a day to remember the humble carpenter of Nazareth, your patron saint, the earthly father of Our Lord. St. Joseph not only cared for and watched over Jesus, he

also taught him his trade of carpentry. We can contemplate in our imagination St. Joseph in his workshop at Nazareth, teaching Jesus, sharing with him his craftsmanship, and also his faith in God.

"Today is (also) the first day of the month of May, the month of Mary. So today, as we celebrate St. Joseph the Worker, we also think of his beloved wife, the holy Mother of God. St. Joseph and the Blessed Virgin Mary shared a single common center of attention: Jesus. With commitment and tenderness, they watched over Jesus.

"As good and holy parents, they taught him and they nurtured his growth. It's amazing to consider their vocation: to accompany and nurture the growth of the Son of God made man," the bishop continued. "They did so with deep faith and profound love. They prayed with him. Imagine that! They prayed the psalms with Jesus, like we prayed the psalms this evening. Prayer together is such an important and precious task of the Christian family. It strengthens families and family life. How important it is that parents teach their children to pray, to start and end the day with a prayer. Imitating Mary and Joseph, parents teach their children to know and to feel the friendship and the love of God.

"One hundred and fifty years ago, the first parishioners of St. Joseph Parish, with deep faith in Jesus and with devotion to St. Joseph and the Blessed Mother, gathered in prayer," he recounted. "They worked hard to build this parish here in Roanoke. It was then, in 1867 that this parish, St. Joseph in Roanoke, was established. The 1860s were a time of

incredible growth all over the diocese, new parishes and churches throughout the whole diocese. Religious communities also came from Germany to serve here, joining the French Congregation of Holy Cross that had come here in the 1840s. It's also important to remember that the 1860s were the years of the Civil War and many men entered military service from Indiana. It was in this pioneer period of our diocese's history that St. Joseph Parish began.

"As we remember the past with gratitude, we also look to the present and the future. The words of St. Paul to the Colossians in our reading this evening give us good advice. St. Paul writes: "Whatever you do, work at it with your whole being. Do it for the Lord rather than for men, since you know full well you will receive and inheritance from him as your reward. Be slaves of Christ the Lord." As you look to the future, may you be inspired by these words, words that were lived by the pioneers of this parish: to work with your whole being for the Lord, believing in the promise of an inheritance from him.

"When we think of work, we can think of St. Joseph the Worker," the bishop concluded. "With St. Joseph as your example and guide, I pray that you will indeed work hard for the good of this parish, especially in your mission of evangelization, spreading the faith, and reaching out to this community with works of mercy. May St. Joseph, along with our Blessed Mother, inspire you to walk in the way of holiness, to serve the Lord with all your strength, and to generously support this parish with your stewardship. May all you do be for the glory of God!"

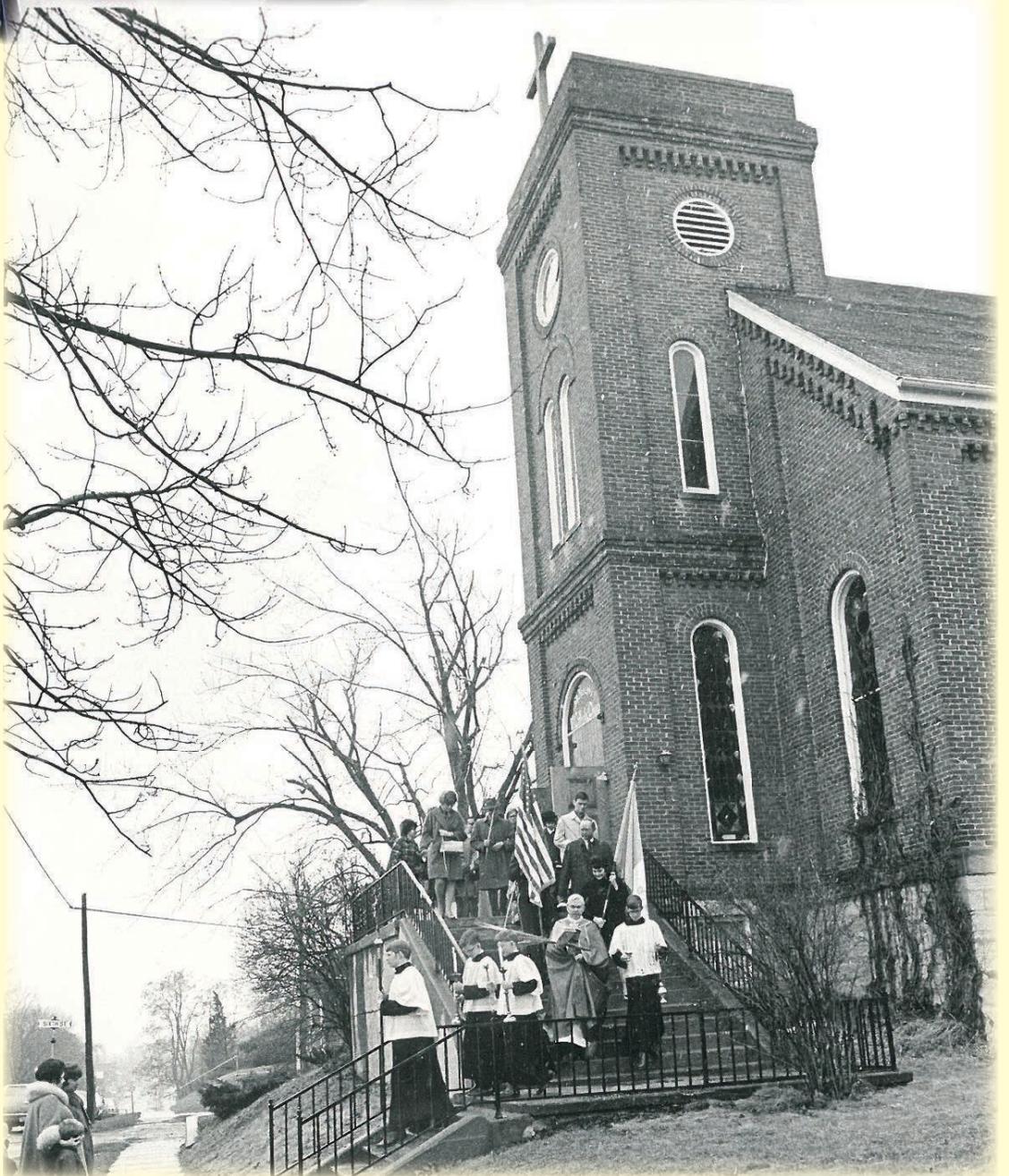
LET IT WITH YOUR WHOLE BEING' celebrates 150 years of faith



id flowers planted in her honor.



St. Joseph cooks Rene Gase, Deb Osterholt and Laurie Coburn prepared chili, potato soup, sandwiches and dessert that were enjoyed by 140 parishioners and guests at a supper following the anniversary vesper service.



The former St. Joseph Church building was demolished in 1969 by crane operator and St. Joseph parishioner Leroy Smart, who is now a choir member.

Today's Catholic archive photo



Father Dale Bauman, left, and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades prayed with the faithful of St. Joseph Parish on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the church.

Five prepare for ordination to the diaconate

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate the Mass of ordination at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 20

Four Dwenger classmates await same ordination dates

BY DEB WAGNER

Four of the five seminarians who, with the blessing of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, will become deacons on May 20, have an unusual connection: Thomas Zehr, David Huneck, Nathan Maskal and Patrick Hake all graduated from Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, in the same year, 2009. Something even more providential, according to Zehr's father, was that even though each man took time off at some point during his religious journey, and then resumed the path, it worked out so that they will still share the same ordination dates.

Speaking to the not-often-seen convergence of four calls to the priesthood from the same class of students, Principal Jason Schiffler said: "You will know them by their fruits.' (Matthew 7:16-20). The four Dwenger alum who will take their vows into the diaconate were friends, and were heavily involved as high school students. They were well-liked. They were student leaders, making great impressions on their peers and underclassmen. They have each left us with fond memories and indelible marks of achievement for those to aspire and to emulate."

The connection among the four began long before high school, and as early as grade school.



Hake, Huneck and Zehr were in the same Life Teen program at St. Vincent's/Our Lady of Good Hope, where they became good friends. Hake and Huneck had gone to grade school together, and Maskal and Hake were both in concert band. Maskal explained: "Patrick sat right behind me in almost every band class, and I quickly became close friends with him. He also began to attend the weekly rosary at the abortion clinic, so we began to pray together as well." Maskal continued, "This is where I say Patrick's zeal for his faith shined: a zeal for catechesis and teaching people about his faith that he continues to share today. Patrick and I also began a rosary-making group to make knotted rosaries: initially black corded rosaries to donate to the

military, but later for various other needs as well. Today we still use rosaries that we made ourselves.

"I probably first met David in Scrabble club. We were about the same skill level, so we would constantly be challenging each other to Scrabble matches."

The call to enter the seminary and discern the priesthood came at different times for the four. "The thought of priesthood had been in the back of my mind for most of my life," said Zehr. "But I think a key event was during a Life Teen retreat in high school where I was helping Father Mark Gurtner with adoration and benediction. Being at his side as he was doing a beautiful priestly act was very moving, and made me want to look deeper into what priesthood is."

Hake and Maskal thought that they were being called during their sophomore year, while Huneck first began to think about seminary when he was a junior.

Although they were setting out on the same journey, the friends say they did not really discuss their calling with the others. "I knew this was my calling. Every now and then I would doubt, but ultimately I never abandoned that path," said Zehr.

Hake was initially less prepared to accept God's whisper. "I didn't want to be different in high school, so I ignored that first call and didn't even talk to a priest about it," he said. "I ended up going to college, where after trying to find happiness my own way and not finding it, I went back to those first thoughts of being a priest. I told God I'd go

for only one year and if I wasn't happy I'd leave. So one year passed and I was happy, so I told God I'd stay for only one more year and if I'm not happy I'd leave. And so on and so, on until I am on the verge of receiving holy orders."

Maskal recounted: "Throughout the last year or two at Dwenger, Thomas Zehr and I were fairly actively discerning a call to the priesthood. Although we did not share every new development with each other, we were quite supportive of each other."

Huneck, like Hake, went on to college. "While in high school, I thought about entering after graduation but instead went to Ball State for two years. What caused me to apply was, I couldn't get the thought of being a priest out of my head. I had to give it a shot."

The men's decisions to say "yes" to God's calling them to ultimately serve the church as a priest developed over time, through the influence of many-priest and laity alike. The calling did not strike like a lightning bolt; rather, it grew over time as their relationship grew with God. Hake advised: "If you think there is a 5 percent chance God is calling you to the seminary, talk to your pastor and the vocations director, Father Andrew Budzinski, about it. What's the worst that can happen? You go to seminary, grow closer to God, and ultimately become a better man."



David Huneck and Patrick Hake will be ordained to the diaconate on May 20, 2017

With God's help, you will continue to succeed in your leadership and in your duties, because Our Lord's work is accomplished not so much by the multitude of workers as by the fidelity of the small number whom He calls.

-St. Vincent de Paul

Two parish sons who make us proud and for whom we wish a diaconate filled with much joy and peace.

**FATHER DANIEL SCHEIDT
FATHER JONATHAN NORTON
FATHER POLYCARP FERNANDO
AND THE ENTIRE**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FORT WAYNE PARISH FAMILY

Maskal brings willing spirit, positive attitude to diaconate

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

Nathan Maskal has been a parishioner at St. Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Wayne, since childhood. The oldest of three sons of Michael and Susan Maskal, he remembers attending daily Mass as a very young child and being asked by then-pastor Msgr. Edward Hession if he planned to become a priest. In later years, said Nathan, "that came back to me," and set him on the path to discernment.

Nathan attended St. Charles School and then Bishop Dwenger High School, where he began to explore his faith in earnest. He participated in the March for Life in Washington, D.C., joined others in prayer outside a local abortion clinic and took leadership roles in the parish youth group as he became ever more involved in his faith. Finally, he said, "God called me."

His parents first knew of his intentions after he met with vocation director Father Bernard Galic during his senior year. "Nathan came home and told us he was going to apply to the seminary," said his mother, Susan. "Family and friends were all supportive and proud of his decision to discern a vocation to the priesthood," she added. After high school graduation he began studies at Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona, Wis., then continued his work at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., where he will earn a master's degree.

Father Tom Shoemaker, pastor at St. Charles Borromeo, noted that Nathan was a great help to him in setting up and organizing Holy Week liturgies during his time on vacation from the seminary. "He has a good, positive attitude and is willing to help whenever he can," he said.

Nathan also spent a pastoral year at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Decatur. Former pastor Father David Voors said of that assignment, "I was impressed by the energy and enthusiasm of Nathan, and this enthusiasm wasn't



NATHAN MASKAL

just focused on 'churchy' things that center around the Mass or liturgy, but also with parishioners, sports, friendships and the needs of others." Father Voors pointed out that his protégé was at the door of the parish school each morning

to greet students and to visit their classrooms. He quickly became involved in all aspects of parish life, and had a great influence on many parishioners. "As his ordination draws near, I am thankful to have worked with Nathan at St. Mary of the Assumption in Decatur, and was truly blessed by his presence," he added.

As he nears ordination to the diaconate, Nathan reflected on his journey. "God presents many challenges along the way," but with the prayer and the support of family and friends he is ready for this next step on the path to the priesthood. Along with four others, Nathan will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacon by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Saturday morning, May 20, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne; then he will proclaim the Gospel and preach the homily at all Masses that weekend at St. Charles Borromeo Church. He has already looked at that week's Gospel and said he has "lots of ideas to share." People need to take something away from a homily, he pointed out, and he hopes his message will be inspirational.

Joyful priests influenced Zehr's discernment

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

Thomas Zehr, one of five seminarians preparing for ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacon, plans to go on retreat and spend time in prayer, then enjoy the company of family and friends after his May 5 graduation from Mount St. Mary's Seminary and before his ordination.

Zehr is the second oldest of eight children of David and Denice Zehr, and a long-time parishioner of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne. He was home-schooled during his elementary years and then attended Bishop Dwenger High School to round out his education. He admits he wasn't really sure about a vocation until his junior year, though he was open to the idea. Along the way, "I've been fortunate to be influenced by many joyful priests," he said, so when classmates began making college plans, "I decided to pull the trigger."

"We have spoken to all of our children about their vocation and asked them to be open to what the Lord has planned for them," his father said. "Thomas has always been kind, respectful and obedient: Being one of eight children has naturally taught him to be selfless and help others. All of these are great qualities to have for any vocation, especially the priesthood!"

"The family has been very supportive of Thomas' discernment of the priesthood," David added. "We were particularly moved when he informed us he was finished discerning and was certain God has called him to be a priest. We all pray



THOMAS ZEHR

for him daily." Father Mark Gurtner, pastor at Our Lady of Good Hope, said he first became aware that Thomas was discerning a vocation during his high school years. He encouraged him to pray and listen for God's voice in his heart and also to listen to

his own desires because "God speaks to us through our own desire to do what is good and true." He added, "It is a blessing for our parish to have a son of the parish ordained to the diaconate and, God willing, to the priesthood."

As a newly ordained deacon, Thomas will proclaim the Gospel and preach the homily at each of the weekend Masses at Our Lady of Good Hope on May 20 and 21. Right now, "I'm more excited than nervous," he said. "But I will be more so when the day comes."

David reflected on his and his wife's emotions. "It is no easy task to describe the joy we have, knowing the lives which will be touched by our son, through the sacraments." Speaking of his son's ordination class, he said: "It is staggering to think of the difference these young men will make to so many of God's children throughout their priestly lives!"

*God's Blessings upon Bishop Dwenger Alumni,
Patrick Hake '09, David Huneck '09,
Nathan Maskal '09, and Thomas Zehr '09,
as you enter the Order of the Diaconate
through the Sacrament of Holy Orders!*



Once a Saint, Always a Saint!

The **Father Solanus Casey Vocation Society** of Fort Wayne offers congratulations and prayerful best wishes to

Patrick Hake
Jay Horning
David Huneck
Nathan Maskal
Thomas Zehr

as they are ordained to the diaconate.

Fr. Solanus Casey

Huneck has faith in God's plan

BY RACHEL BATDORFF

"I was born and raised in Fort Wayne," said David Huneck, who is currently living in Emmitsburg, Md., while finishing his schooling at Mount St. Mary's Seminary. On Saturday, May 20, Huneck will be one of five ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacon in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

"When I initially entered seminary, it was because of the witness of many joyous priests — especially Father Jason Freiburger and Msgr. John Kuzmich."

Huneck has been a parishioner at St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne his entire life.

"I went to grade school at St. Vincent's, attending high school at Bishop Dwenger High School and graduating in 2009," Huneck said. "Then I went to Ball State for two years, initially studying broadcast journalism."

He then transferred into seminary at Mount St. Mary's, finishing his bachelor of arts degree in philosophy in 2013. He stayed to continue his theological studies, and plans to graduate with his master's in divinity in 2018.

"The seminary education

process has been challenging, because I am over 500 miles away from home," Huneck stated. "I have stayed committed by praying every day and keeping in touch with my family and friends back in Indiana."

One key precept Huneck has learned is to never doubt God's plan.

"There will be difficulties, but He will give you the



DAVID HUNECK

grace to persevere," he said. "I have grown in my love for Christ and his church. Also, I have grown in brotherhood with the great seminarians of our diocese."

After being ordained as a deacon, Huneck will preach his first homily that evening during Mass. "I will also baptize my nephew, Henry," he said.

This summer, Huneck will assist a parish to which he will soon be assigned.

"I would encourage any man who thinks they are being called to priesthood to talk to their local parish priest," Huneck said in reference to those seeking future ordination. "Be not afraid, God will provide."

Huneck, the son of John and Becky Huneck, has an older sister Amanda, brother-in-law Robert, and a nephew, Henry. He also has a younger brother, Phillip, and sister-in-law Stacey.

Staying close to sacraments and prayer fortifies Horning

BY RACHEL BATDORFF

Jay Horning grew up in South Bend: but when he is home from seminary, he currently attends at St. Elizabeth Ann

Seton Church in Fort Wayne.

"I have been at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton for seven years," he said. "That's where I was baptized after I went through RCIA in college."

Horning attended Swanson

Elementary and Clay Middle and High School in South Bend. "I then attended the University of Saint Francis and have a bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in theology."

He didn't think about ordination, seminar, or the priesthood until a year after becoming Catholic.

"When I first started thinking about it, I was a youth director at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton on a mission trip with the high school students," he said. "My encounters with those students prompted me to start praying and discerning if this was something I should do for God and my life."

Horning said he feels as though the ordination process is both long and short.

"There are times when it feels like some things will go on



JAY HORNING

forever, but then, looking back, those times have flown by."

He stated that there are difficulties becoming adjusted to a new environment and new way of life — however, these experiences are extremely worthwhile. "Struggles are real, and if a man doesn't struggle then that would be more concerning."

He attributes his commitment to the Lord to staying close to the sacraments and prayer, relying on brother seminarians and recognizing that trials and tribulations are survivable if one follows God's desires.

"There are some things that you have no control over; there are some things you have to let go of," Horning said. He acknowledged that for most people, "there are some things that

you want to hold on to, some that are good and some that are bad."

In the end, he added, if you are truly giving yourself to the Lord and sacrificing in order to grow more in love with him, that's the most important thing to learn.

"I think that I have grown to become a man that loves the Lord first and desires to share that love with all the people I will have opportunities to encounter through my ministry." He seeks to continue to grow in his love for Jesus Christ and care of His people.

"As a deacon, my responsibilities are to the bishop and to the diocese, to proclaim the Gospel, preach and baptize," he said. "I hope to do all these things."

For those feeling called to ordination, Horning encourages, above all, prayer.

Horning's mother currently resides in Plymouth, along with a set of grandparents. He also has a grandmother living in South Bend.



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON
Catholic Church



The prayers and joy of everyone at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish are with our Son of Seton

Jay Horning

and his classmates

Patrick Hake

David Huneck

Nathan Maskal

Thomas Zehr

and their families,

on the occasion of their

Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacon



THANK YOU
to all our mothers who follow
Mary's example in faithfully giving
God their daily yes.

COMING UP

Join us at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception or tune in on May 20 @ 11am as we live broadcast the Diaconate Ordinations of Thomas Zehr, Patrick Hake, Jay Horning, David Huneck & Nathan Maskal

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God qualifies the called, believes Hake

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

Patrick "Pat" Hake initially became interested in discerning the priesthood in high school. His first distinct encounter with the idea occurred to him while in eucharistic adoration on a retreat.

But, wanting to be a "normal" high school student, he suppressed the thought of a vocation to the priesthood until college.

"I quickly ignored the call that I felt at that retreat," Hake recounted. "There was not much discernment in my high school days — I just sort of concentrated on other aspects of life."

Hake started college as a chemistry major at Butler University, but the sense of a calling reintroduced itself not

long after.

"While at Butler, I made lots of friends and enjoyed myself, but I didn't feel fulfilled. I felt like I was spinning my wheels," Hake explained. "I looked back to that moment during adoration on that Lifeteen retreat, and I decided to finally go to seminary."

After two years, Hake transitioned to Mount St.

Mary's Seminary in Maryland to enter the school's seminary and study theology. Since doing so, he has earned a deep sense of peace.



PATRICK HAKE

Despite discovering his calling and finding true fulfillment, Hake realizes that there are still obstacles to overcome to gain capability and confidence in one's vocation. When faced with challenges related to pursuing his calling, he remembers that through God he can do what seems impossible. He emphasized "really trusting in God, because he wants

the best for me" and relying on the Holy Spirit as keys to his ability to totally fulfill his vocation.

"God does not call the quali-

fied, he qualifies the called," Hake said.

The fourth in a family of six, two members of Hake's extended family are priests. He grew up in the Fort Wayne area and attended St. Vincent de Paul School and Bishop Dwenger High School.

Hake's parents were influential in Hake's discernment, he said. However, they ultimately give the credit to God.

"People ask me how to raise a son to become a priest, and I say, 'I gave him a lot of oatmeal,' meaning that it's all in God's hands, that everyone's journey is unique," Hake's dad, Tim, said.

Of his fellow seminarians at Mount St. Mary's, Hake said that they have taught him what true holiness means.

"Before coming out to the

Mount, my idea of holiness was abstract; but after meeting a ton of great guys, I see how it is obtainable for all walks of life," he commented.

Hake said that his vocational journey — and anyone's vocational journey — starts with recognizing God's presence and work. This acknowledgement is what launches pursuit of the calling.

"Encountering God. That's where it all starts," he said.

Hake will deliver the homily at the 5 p.m. Mass at St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, on May 20. That Mass occurs just hours after his ordination to the diaconate, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. His ordination to the priesthood is currently scheduled for June 2018.

Fort Wayne hosts annual Hesburgh Lecture Series

BY RON BUSCH

The Notre Dame Club of Fort Wayne and the Thomas More Society of Fort Wayne, in conjunction with the Alumni Association of the University of Notre Dame, hosted a brief lecture followed by a panel discussion on the topic of "Pope Francis' Vision for the Church," on Tuesday, April 25, 6 p.m., at the Allen County Public Library. The lecture has a nine-year history in Fort Wayne.

The Hesburgh Lecture Series is named for Father Theodore Hesburgh, CSC, the 15th president of Notre Dame, serving from 1952 to 1987, the longest tenure to date.

While the Notre Dame Club of Fort Wayne and the Alumni Association of Notre Dame promote a number of activities The Thomas More Society has a more focused purpose. The society is a not-for-profit, national public interest group providing high-

quality, pro bono legal services for life, family and religious liberty from local trial courts all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

This year the event featured a topical lecture by Dr. J. Matthew Ashley of the University of Notre Dame. Ashley is an associate professor of systematic theology and the chair of the department of theology at Notre Dame. His presentation focused on Pope Francis, his remarks, and stands taken on various issues. He emphasized the pope's welcoming of differing viewpoints, and his favor for a continuing "discernment" of issues facing the Catholic Church today.

He commented on the recently ended Year of Mercy, and how the pope believes that God's mercy knows no bounds. He noted comments from the pope that were directed particularly at the European and Western cultures, including "We are a society which has forgotten how to

weep, how to experience compassion and suffering with others."

Ashley's remarks concluded with a summarization of his three-point emphasis on the pope's vision for the church. This included the His Holiness' desire for a de-centered church that goes to the ends of the earth, a church that enables people to encounter the mercy of Christ, and an ongoing, "discerning" church.

This "discerning" church is one which welcomes disagreement in an effort to hear all people as well as all viewpoints. The church must deal with issues by turning outward rather

than always looking inward. Pope Francis' vision is ultimately of a church "that enables people to encounter Jesus Christ, who is the face of the Father's mercy."

The lecture was followed by a panel discussion including Dr. Adam DeVille from the University of Saint Francis and Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort Wayne.

Deville is the chairman of philosophy and theology department at USF. His most recent book is "Orthodoxy and the Roman Papacy: Ut Unum Sint and the Prospects of East-West Unity." Father Gurtner, is also

the judicial vicar of the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocese.

After Dr. Ashley's lecture DeVille and Gurtner each presented a few brief remarks on the evening's topic. The panelists demonstrated a depth of understanding with their individual observations of Pope Francis and his papacy. The panel then fielded questions from the audience. The evening concluded with general agreement that understanding Pope Francis' actions and motives can be complicated, but that he has a genuine love for all humanity, as well as the Catholic community that he has been called to serve.

MARK FORREST
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Thoughts on individualism and secularism

Two intellectual offspring of the Enlightenment include radical individualism and secularism. Their origins and causes are complex, but their reality is something that we live with day in and day out, as we are all affected deeply, but unreflectively, by their influence. And both are inimical to the Gospel of Christ.

By radical individualism, I mean the notion that our identity is something constructed and maintained from within, by our own freedom and simply by our own definition. It's the notion that I am responsible to no one and for no one but myself, and that all other relationships are a matter of my personal choice. I create and decide who I am. However, as Catholics we recognize rather that our existence and our identity are first a gift, something received, and that we are called into being by the goodness and love of God. We exist first and foremost in a relationship with God, and as a gift to others as well.

One of the effects of sin is division. (The term devil, "diabolos" in Greek, means divider.) Setting ourselves up over and against others is itself an effect of original sin – viewing all others, including God, as competitors and as impeding my own freedom and self-expression. And self-assertion and self-promotion are the primal orientation of sin.

Christ's coming reveals that the proper mode of being — in creation before the fall, and restored in the order of grace — is self-donation or self-gift. To be "for" others, rather than in competition with them or over

them (think of how much envy, insecurity and grudge-holding are rooted in such a disposition) is the mark of the new creation begun by Christ and into which all the baptized are incorporated.

Further, recall how, in the Scriptures, people are named and known: "the sons of Zebedee;" "the wife of Clopas;" "the brother of Simon Peter." In the biblical imagination, persons are understood primarily in terms of their relationships: These are what are definitive. In an era when identity is more and more understood (quite dangerously) as something merely concocted by the individual, worked up simply from within, the Scriptures reveal that who we are is determined by our nexus of relationships, rather than merely our own self-assertion. To be is to be in relation (the persons of the Trinity, St. Thomas teaches, are defined as "subsistent relations"), and to flourish is to make a gift of ourselves and to view and receive others as gift as well.

Another piece of the fallout from the Enlightenment is secularism. By secularism I do not mean not merely the rejection of God or religion, though in some of its more virulent forms that is its explicit agenda. Rather, the more common form of secularism is much more insidious than an explicit rejection of the sacred or of religious faith. Secularism is the compartmentalization of faith and religion. One of the most dangerous misconceptions held by many believers is that their faith is the most important part of their life. This is both



THE HUMAN CONDITION

MSGR. MICHAEL HEINTZ

deeply mistaken and quite perilous. As Catholics, our faith is not and should not be the most important part of our life; it should not be a "part" of our life at all. Rather, it should be the reality that formats, shapes and directs our entire existence. Far from being a part of our life, the faith — our living relationship with the Lord Jesus, dead and risen — should in fact be the operating system of our entire life, not an icon on the screen of our life; not even the best, most used, or biggest icon on the screen of our life. Our faith should affect every thought, feeling, word, action, in fact every fiber of our being, body and soul; this is what St. Paul means when he suggests that there is nothing the believer does that is not spiritual, that is, which is not driven by a participation in the very spirit of Christ.

Secularism is the idea that my religious faith is very important, but that it is ultimately a private affair, reserved for religious moments and matters but generally far removed from my everyday life — certainly from my interactions with others.

HEINTZ, page 17

Single, but not alone

As Mother's Day approaches, fresh in my memory are recent encounters with two single mothers. First is my hairstylist, who works two jobs; in the morning as an elementary school aide and then at the salon. Her polite greeting could not hide her apparent fatigue.

Another is a recently widowed woman with a third child about to enter college. The family finances had been drained by the long illness of her beloved husband. She felt utterly alone.

Single mothers play a significant role in this country. Approximately half of all single mothers have never married while the others are separated, divorced or widowed. About 17 million children, or one in four, are raised by single mothers. Nearly half of these children live below the poverty line.

The context for single mothers is not easy. There are many obstacles blocking access to jobs, particularly those beyond minimum wage: postsecondary education, which is an essential driver of upward mobility; paid time off; and affordable child care.

While single mothers probably struggle everywhere, those in the U.S. are much worse off than our peer countries. For every single mother in the top 10 percent of income in the U.S., there are 20 in the bottom 10 percent. This number is 11 for France and eight for Italy.

Across the decades, the Catholic Church has provided much-needed services to single mothers toward keeping and giving birth to their babies. But the assistance beyond that point is thin and must rise to a level of commitment that comprises the



OUR GLOBAL FAMILY

CAROLYN WOO

core of the church's advocacy for life, children and families.

Showing the way are some inspiring efforts. At the College of Saint Mary in Omaha, Neb., I learned of its "Mothers Living & Learning" program, which provides child-friendly residences and meal plans for single moms and up to two children (six weeks to 10 years) at no extra cost. Grants make possible early education for toddlers.

Beyond physical needs, this structure establishes a community that offers understanding and help, encouragement and role models, as well as opportunities for autonomy and responsibility. The university also requires the "Single Parent Success" program for acquiring knowledge, skills and habits for success.

The Diocese of Rapid City, S.D., as I learned in my recent visit, created "Uplifting Parents Program" to empower single parent families, many of these headed by women. The goal is to enable these parents to gain their education and achieve professional training.

Assistance is tailored to the needs of the individuals and includes bridge funding to finish a degree, grants for evening child care, transportation for work,

WOO, page 17

The apostles' blueprint for forming faith communities



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Fifth Sunday of Easter John 14:1-12

Once again this season, the Acts of the Apostles provides the first reading. The early chapters of Acts graphically reveal to us the lives led by the early Christians. Very obvious in this glimpse into events so long ago is the primary place of the apostles, and the superior position among them of Peter.

The apostles led the community because the Christians recognized the apostles' special relationship with, and calling from, the Lord. Indeed, reverence for the apostles was so deep that the people placed their possessions at the apostles' feet,

allowing the apostles to control even the material assets of the community.

In Acts, this community was situated in Jerusalem. Although the very heart of Jewish life and a city supremely symbolic for Jews, Jerusalem was not Corinth. It was not Antioch. It most certainly was not Rome. In the total scheme of things, it was not a great city.

Even in Palestine, Caesarea, a seaport on the Mediterranean Sea, was more important. The Roman governor resided in Caesarea, and the Roman occupation had its headquarters there. Jerusalem was secondary.

(The ruins of Caesarea now are in the suburbs of modern Tel Aviv. It is interesting, incidentally, that the only relic of the administration of Pontius Pilate as governor is a stone carved with his name, and the stone was found at the site of ancient Caesarea.)

Very clear is the way of life for the first Christians. Care of the needy, and of widows who were very needy, was their prior-

ity. Evidently, the apostles directed such care. The apostles also taught the Gospel, with Peter as the spokesman.

To assist in providing this care, and to proclaim the Gospel, the apostles chose seven holy men to be deacons. Calling deacons was an exercise not just of organization, but also of the apostles' authority to act in the name of Jesus.

First Peter provides the second reading, centering Jesus as essential in salvation. The reading urges Christians to be true to Jesus.

St. John's Gospel supplies the last reading. Not a Resurrection narrative, it recalls the Lord's discourse with the apostles, telling them what to expect in the future. As it looks ahead and frankly suggests that obstacles await, it is an appropriate reading now as people contemplate Christian living amid modern troubles.

Reassuringly, Christ will be with us always. He is "the way, the truth, and the life" a description that belongs only to the Son of God.

Reflection

Almost a month has passed since Easter. For weeks, the church joyfully has told us of the Resurrection. He lives!

Before long, the season will end. We will return to life in 2017, with its burdens and rewards.

The church tells us that Jesus still is with us as savior, teacher and guide, our rock and our shield. We, today, compose the community of Christians: but to be authentic, our modern Christian community must mirror the community described in Acts.

Applying the picture in Acts to the present is interesting. Which Christian community actually reflects the gathering of Christians in Jerusalem long ago? It has to be the Roman Catholic Church, precisely because the church still relies upon the apostles, with Peter clearly and actually as its head.

The community in Acts showed profoundly was dedicated to the Lord, caring for the sick

and the needy. Ever since, care for others has been no charming sideline for Christians. It is of the essence of their religion.

Finally, the church tells us, as the Easter season concludes, that Christ is with us. In turn, we must draw ourselves into the community that the Lord created.

Being in the community is more than joining a club. We must give our hearts to the Lord freely, totally.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
1 Pt 2:4-9 Jn 14:1-12

Monday: Acts 14:5-18 Ps 115:1-5, 15-16
Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13ab, 21 Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-5
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21 Ps 96:1-3, 10
Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31 Ps 57:8-10, 12
Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1-3, 5
Jn 15:18-21

Tired of religious discrimination?

New U.S. Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch hit the ground running in April, taking part in oral arguments on what I see as this year's most important case.

At issue is a Missouri program for safer playgrounds for children. Helped by a tax on new automobile tires, Missouri recycled old tires into rubber surfacing to cover hard playground surfaces. Nonprofit institutions could apply for grants for the resurfacing — except religious institutions.

Trinity Lutheran Church in Columbia, Mo., filed suit, claiming the policy is unconstitutional discrimination against religious schools. Dismissed by a federal appeals court, the suit has made its way to our highest court.

At oral argument, Missouri's stance was sharply questioned by "liberal" as well as "conservative" justices. When the state's advocate said its policy doesn't forbid police and fire protection for churches, for example, Justice Stephen Breyer asked why it forbids protecting children from getting broken arms on their property.

The Supreme Court has long held that under the First Amendment, government generally cannot withhold public benefits from individuals or organizations merely because they are (or are not) religious. So Trinity Lutheran should prevail.

All believers should worry about policies that treat them as second-class citizens. For two reasons, Catholics should take a special interest.

First, Missouri's law is a state constitutional provision forbidding public support for "any

church, sect or denomination of religion." Similar provisions in more than 30 states are known as "Blaine amendments," after a failed amendment to the U.S. Constitution offered in the 1870s by Rep. James Blaine.

Blaine's effort to forbid public support for "sectarian" schools arose from fear of the growing population of Catholic immigrants. Public schools at the time taught a generic form of Protestantism, and "sectarian" was a code word for "Catholic." So Justice Samuel Alito asked during oral argument whether Missouri wants the court to uphold policies arising from "anti-Catholic bigotry."

Second, in many ways Catholic institutions provide more help for the poor and needy than other religious groups — often more than nonprofit groups of any kind. One-sixth of hospital patients in the U.S. are cared for in Catholic health facilities; in 2015, Catholic Charities provided over 9 million food services, supported 350,000 seniors and helped almost half a million people find housing.

These services are offered to people of any faith and no faith, because Catholics see all people without exception as children of God. Trinity Lutheran, as well, opens its playground to all local children outside of school hours. When people of faith are allowed to participate in programs for the public good, they serve all their fellow citizens and remove a burden from the government.

This argument is lost on organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union, which for years has claimed that allow-



A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

RICHARD DOERFLINGER

ing Catholic institutions to participate in public programs is an unconstitutional "establishment of religion."

Under such pressure — or because it agreed with the ACLU — the Obama administration in 2011 ended the leading role of the Catholic bishops' Migration and Refugee Services agency in serving victims of human trafficking. The government's chief contract went instead to two secular groups that could not help these vulnerable people as effectively.

The immediate issue was that the Catholic agency would not refer victims needing health care solely to doctors providing abortions — though the anti-trafficking legislation, sponsored by pro-life leader Rep. Chris Smith (R-New Jersey), was never intended to promote abortion.

The Catholic Church has much to lose or gain from this case. So do the millions of people helped every year by faith-based organizations. It would not be unconstitutional to pray for wisdom on the part of our judges.

Richard Doerflinger worked for 36 years in the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. He writes from Washington state.

Great Lion of the tribe of Judah as a meek and mild house cat. Catholic faith is deeply personal, but personal does not mean private; for precisely as personal it informs an entire life, not merely its religious dimensions. (These are often defined and limited by the broader culture, keeping faith at a safe distance.) Catholic faith does not seek to impose itself on others, certainly not against their will, for doing so would only be to embrace the very self-assertion that informs every fallen impulse.

The most fruitful kind of evangelization is the witness of an entire life: not mere words and not simply behaviors, but

the coherence of a life that is lived not for itself, but for God and neighbor. Efforts to "win" others to the faith are noble, but we must always be on guard that in doing so we are not actually engaging in a form of self-promotion, which is at the very heart of sin. What we have received we offer to others, not to prove ourselves right and others wrong, but because we have fallen in love and desire to share that Divine Lover with others.

Msgr. Michael Heintz is on the faculty at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, Md.

someone believed in them, invested in them, saw something in them that they did not see in themselves. This often helped them cross a threshold, persevere through hardships and come to know themselves differently.

They also know that they are not alone. Inevitably, all of them want to make a better life for their children.

Pope Francis reached out to a single mother and praised her courage to keep and raise a child alone. He recognizes her

struggles. Implicitly, this is an invitation to us to stand with and assist her.

A church that embraces these single mothers gives hope, affirms the dignity of the person, recognizes the inherent sacrifices of parenthood, shares in their burdens and thereby makes God's presence real.

Carolyn Woo is distinguished president's fellow for global development at Purdue University.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for May 14, 2017

John 14:1-12

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Cycle A: A promise for our future eternity. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

BE TROUBLED DWELLING A PLACE WHERE I AM HOW CAN THE LIFE EXCEPT	IN ME PLACES FOR YOU MAY BE WE KNOW NO ONE THROUGH ME	MANY PREPARE TO MYSELF YOU KNOW TRUTH COMES KNOW ME
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DWELLING PLACES

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

Continued from Page 16

Catholics in the public sphere are susceptible to this kind of thinking, in relegating their religious convictions to "personal belief" with no possible contribution to the common good.

Catholic faith has little effect if it is compartmentalized, cordoned off to the realm of the "private;" in such a scheme it is not coherent, nor can it offer truly effective witness. Secularism is an attempt to domesticate the

WOO

Continued from Page 16

financial counseling, parenting classes, etc. Other Catholic Charities agencies around the country also offer such programs.

The comments from these mothers indicate their greatest gain is not just a degree, but an increased sense of worth because

Catholic Youth Summer Camp plans for seventh year of fun, faith

"To have a camp where you can pray, have a lot of fun, but also deepen your faith is a beautiful thing."

— Bishop Kevin Rhoades

Imagine this — a camp setting on a beautiful lake where young boys and girls from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, guided by enthusiastic, interested and kind adults, enjoy nature and engage in fun and meaningful outdoor activities such as archery, swimming, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, crafts, the famous obstacle course, climbing wall, zip line and campfires.

At Catholic Youth Summer Camp, these activities are integrated with daily Mass, Scripture memorization, prayer and journaling, adoration of the blessed sacrament, a deeper love for the Blessed Mother and the opportunity to experience the Lord's love in reconciliation.

This is the overnight camping adventure that awaits children in the diocese going into the fourth, fifth and sixth grades in the fall. CYSC is embarking on its seventh year, and previous campers are applying to become junior counselors.

Brenna, who plans on applying to CYSC to be a counselor said, "I want to serve at the Catholic Youth Summer Camp because I want to help younger kids continue to grow in their faith and help them understand



Provided by Jan Torma

Camper George Getty of St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, practices archery with Catholic Youth Summer Camp counselors Sam Moon and Jordan Smith-Moreland last year. Dave Torma, camp director is in the background.

that it is a major priority in every aspect of life and it should be applied every day. I think the camp allows many students from around the diocese to come together for a great learning experience."

Sponsored by St. Jude Parish, South Bend, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Lakeville and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, the camp will take place June 25-30 at Camp Lutherwald.

Reflecting on his experience at CYSC, Joseph Swick commented, "It was fun in a good way. I learned a lot about not hiding my light under a bushel basket. I really liked having Mass outside every day. I enjoyed the cabins, the obstacle course, the zip line and the climbing wall."

Meg Kloska attended CYSC last year and said, "What I liked

best was while checking in, I was nervous. But all the people there were so nice and welcoming that I immediately felt at home. I wish I could go again this year."

The theme of this year's CYSC is "Soul Praise" and Luke 1:46-47, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior." There will be an emphasis on the 100th anniversary of Mary's apparitions at Fatima.

Brochures are available at www.stjudeparish.net. There is room for 80 campers with a cost of \$425 per child. Additional sibling registration cost is \$400. The registration deadline is Wednesday, May 31.

For information, contact Dave and Jan Torma at 574-291-3381 or fisherofmendjt@msn.com.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send announcements at least two weeks prior to the event. View more Catholic events and submit new ones 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 the Today's Catholic advertising sales staff at 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

Aging with grace session offered

FORT WAYNE — Saint Anne Communities — Grace Pointe, 5610 Noll Ave., will offer tips on maintaining health, wellness and independence on Thursday, May 25, from 9 a.m. to noon. Complimentary breakfast is provided as speakers from Heart 2 Heart, HTS, Lifeline, D.O. McComb, Senior Relocation Specialists and the Fort Wayne Police Department present information. There is no cost to attend. RSVP to Rachel at 260-745-8674 or miccum@sah1900.com.

Father Carkenord celebrates 55 years as a priest with performance, reception

WATERLOO — St. Michael the Archangel Parish will have an evening performance of "Sermon on the Mount" by Frank Runyun in honor of pastor, Father David Carkenord celebrating his 55th anniversary to the priesthood. on Friday, May 26, at 7 p.m., in the church. A free will offering will be accepted. There will be a reception following the performance in the parish hall. The invitation is extended to

everyone who would like to help Father Carkenord celebrate.

Talent show offered during fundraiser

WARSAW — Our Lady of Guadalupe parish will have a talent show as part of the annual parish fundraiser Aug. 12. Contact Leo Patino by June 4, at leopatino@live.com. Food will be available for purchase as well as several other events scheduled throughout the day.

Interpreter to be at Mass

FORT WAYNE — An interpreter for the deaf and hard-of-hearing will be present for the 11:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 14, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, 1122 S. Clinton St. Cathedral parish and the Diocesan Office of Evangelization provide an interpreter every second Sunday of the month. For more about this ministry, contact Allison Sturm at 260-399-1452 or asturm@diocesefwsb.org.

'Catholic Night' at Tincaps game supports Catholic Charities

FORT WAYNE — Celebrate Catholic Night on Saturday, July 22, at the TinCaps baseball game at Parkview Field. Game time is at 7:05 p.m. with Father Tom Shoemaker, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church throwing out the first pitch. Order tickets by calling Vicki or Theresa at 260-422-5625 or by using the form found in parish bulletins. Only orders made through Catholic Charities will include a \$1 donation to Catholic Charities for every ticket sold. Tickets are \$8.

Job seekers: gain some new tools

FORT WAYNE — Do you know how to job search through LinkedIn? Do you have a professional photo? On Monday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m., guest speaker Lauren Caggiano will share how to harness the power of LinkedIn and other networks to optimize your job search. Dress your best for a free headshot and bring your resume to the St. Vincent de Paul Spiritual Center, 1502 E. Wallen Rd.

REST IN PEACE

Bristol

Jeannine V. Krause, 73, St. Mary of the Annunciation

Robert Baker, 88, St. Mary of the Annunciation

Columbia City

Betty M. Meehan, 90, St. Paul of the Cross

Decatur

Philip T. Wolpert, 60, St. Mary of the Assumption

Fort Wayne

Michaelene A. Evans, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Martha W. Quinn, 89, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Richard D. Kirk, 89, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Gloria Jean McCann, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Father Richard Hire, 72, St. Peter

Madeleine D. Thompson, 98, St. Charles Borromeo

Granger

Timothy E. Barry, 69, St. Pius X

Nix Settlement

Dianne L. Sheets, 66, St. Catherine of Alexandria

Notre Dame

Lydia S. Lee, 92, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Plymouth

Elizabeth M. Palbykin, 87, St. Michael

South Bend

Frank B. Flynn, 95, St. Anthony de Padua

Lorraine M. Maxwell, 86, Christ the King

Judith Ann Vavul, 62, Christ the King

Henrietta Irene Pajakowski, 94, St. Jude

Joventinio C. Naval, M.D., 95, St. Jude

Yoder

Alice M. Harber, 91, St. Aloysius

Submit obituaries to mweber@diocesefwsb.org

Bus trip to Cubs/Reds game announced

FORT WAYNE — The St. Therese Knights of Columbus Council No. 9460 is sponsoring a bus trip to Cincinnati on Saturday, July 1 for a 4:10 game between the the Chicago Cubs and the Cincinnati Reds. The \$75 cost includes game ticket and travel via Excursion Trailways coach bus. Contact Jim Conroy at 260-638-4189 or jconroykofc@yahoo.com for further information.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

SOUTH BEND — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, May 19, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$9, children 5-12 \$4.

Knights of Columbus plan fundraiser

PLYMOUTH — The Knights will have a fundraiser Saturday, May 13, with tribute artist Matt King at 6:30 p.m. EDT. Tickets \$15. For information call 574-952-2807.

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A Mother's Hope to provide refuge for homeless, pregnant women

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

A new nonprofit organization and ministry will help homeless and expectant mothers when they need it the most. A Mother's Hope was founded by Stasia Roth, executive director, and fellow Catholics who saw an unmet need in the community.

Expectant mothers in need of immediate shelter have historically been underserved. Roth explained the stark reality of the situation: In 2016 alone, she said, 81 pregnant women called the 2-1-1 referral hotline looking for shelter. While there are women's shelters in the area, they are often at capacity and therefore not options for women with an urgent need.

With this landscape in mind, A Mother's Hope began from a desire to do something for these mothers, while also providing opportunities for stability.

A Mother's Hope is in the fundraising stage now. The goal is to open its doors in March 2018.

Referrals will come from partner agencies. Roth said the house will be able to accommodate up to eight women and babies at a time, and mothers will be allowed to stay up to one year after giving birth. Staff will be on site 24/7 to cater to the needs of residents.

Roth understands those needs firsthand. A mother of three and previous social worker, she said helping others has always been second nature.

"I really enjoy helping someone see what could be and support them and try to figure out how to achieve it," she said. "It's amazing what they can do with support."



A Mother's Hope

A property has been secured that will serve as temporary housing for women who qualify. Roth said she wants the atmosphere to be welcoming and homelike. But A Mother's Hope will provide much more than shelter: It will be a community of physical, emotional and spiritual support.

Prenatal care, education and help with employment, transportation and life skills will be all part of the package. After all, she said, shelter is just one piece of the puzzle and other factors contribute to positive outcomes.

"Moms will come here looking for prenatal needs to be met, but we can help them make positive changes, especially while they are pregnant," she said.

Roth said the role of her staff will be one of an advocate. That means a hands-on approach.

"As a Christian organization, it's important that we give the mothers the right skills and walk alongside them," she said.

Still, that calls for account-

ability and personal responsibility on the part of the mothers. Residents will be expected to share in household chores, as well as have a faith goal to work on.

Roth said the board of directors is trying to raise awareness about the cause and inspire donations. They have already received financial backing from private foundations: The program is partially supported by a grant from the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation.

Roth encourages individuals to prayerfully consider pledging.

Volunteer support will also be essential to the ministry's success, she said. Those who feel called to step up can assist with fundraising right now as well as various tasks once the home is operational.

For more information about A Mother's Hope or to make a donation, visit www.amother-shopefw.org.

Hope and Success!

Although in the early stages, A Mother's Hope already has a success to report. In 2016, an African immigrant named Kristi (not her real name) escaped an abusive situation. She found herself in a new city, pregnant and completely alone. Determined to keep fighting for her own life and the life of her child, she found help and care through the local Women's Care Center. She was afraid to give birth alone, so for the next 36 hours A Mother's Hope volunteers stayed at Kristi's side, listening to her fears and offering support.

Her son Joshua was born prematurely and with many complications. It wasn't safe for him to have a sitter or to go to work with his mother, so Kristi had to stop working to take care of him. A Mother's Hope stepped in to help, along with the Women's Care Center and St. Mary's Church. Together, they pitched in to cover the mother and son's rent for two months, until Joshua was well enough for Kristi to return to work. Since then, A Mother's Hope has been with Kristi and her son every step of the way.

Eventually Kristi hopes to return to school, this time to study nursing. A Mother's Hope is offering her support and guidance as she seeks legal help to get her visa reinstated. Currently, she is pursuing a visa that will allow her to stay in the United States so Joshua can continue to receive the medical care he needs.

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