Corpus Christi with Elkhart-area faithful

BY DENISE FEDOROW

Rather than spend the afternoon at a barbecue, many dads and their families spent Father’s Day walking with Jesus in a Corpus Christi eucharistic procession from St. Thomas the Apostle Church to St. Vincent de Paul Church in Elkhart.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades led the procession, which has been taking place for over 20 years. Both parishes had been holding small Corpus Christi processions, but the shared procession came out of something known as the “E Team” – The Elkhart County Evangelization Team—which included both Elkhart parishes, St. John the Evangelist in Goshen and St. Mary of the Annunciation in Bristol.

Renee Campanello, parish secretary at St. Thomas, was a member of that evangelization team and said Lisa Kloska Moreno came up with the idea of joining the two parishes and processing from one to the other.

The Most Holy Eucharist is carried by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during a Corpus Christi procession Sunday afternoon, June 18, as it leaves St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Elkhart. The procession traveled approximately two miles, through the city’s downtown, to St. Vincent de Paul Church, with a stop for prayer at the Women’s Care Center.

Provided by Saint Joseph High School

The Saint Joseph High School baseball team members are class 3A state champions

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

History was made at Saint Joseph High School on Saturday, June 17, with the achievement of a state title by the Saint Joseph baseball team.

Saint Joseph is the first South Bend team to win a baseball title since 1970 and it is the first time in program history for Saint Joseph High School.

“It feels amazing. I am just so proud of these guys,” said coach John Gumpf.

Senior player Tony Carmola has played several different sports at Saint Joseph and is proud of the success of the baseball team.

“The bond between us was a lot different than any other team I have been on,” said Carmola.

“A lot of hard work, a lot of practicing, and a lot of teamwork” was the key to success, according to senior Tyler Kleva.

The Indians played Jasper High School in the state game, winning 4-0 at Victory Field in Indianapolis. The team’s overall record was 24-4, with a NIC record of 11-1. They were sectional, regional, semi-state and state champions.

Player Tony Carmola was NIC MVP and coach John Gumpf was named NIC Coach of the Year.

Players Michael Dunkelberger and Tony Carmola were named to the NIC 1st Team, Alex Voss and Patrick Farrisee were named to the NIC 2nd Team, and players Luke Houin and Kerry Zeese were awarded the NIC Honorable Mention.

It was an exciting year for the student-athletes at Saint Joseph High School. History was made with two state championships in an academic year — girls basketball and baseball.
Bishops’ voices called ‘vital’ to fight challenges to religious liberty

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — The U.S. bishops voted June 15 to make the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty a permanent standing committee.

The 132-55 vote came on the second day of the bishops’ spring assembly in Indianapolis. There were five abstentions. A simple majority was required for approval.

The bishops’ action came less than a week before the start of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ fifth annual Fortnight for Freedom June 21-July 4. It is a two-week period of prayer, advocacy and education on religious freedom.

Before the vote, Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the committee since its creation in 2011, spoke in favor of making it permanent, arguing the need for the body stretches beyond the specific legal and public policy issues challenging religious freedom that continue to emerge.

“Rather, the very idea of religious freedom and its roots in human nature is challenged,” he said, “along with the right of religious people and institutions to raise their voices in the public square and to perform ministries that serve the common good in accordance with their religious and moral convictions.”

Archbishop Lori also expressed his hope that the ad hoc committee would not only work to now, but in the future would help “plant the seeds of a movement for religious freedom, which will take years of watering and weeding in order for it to grow, to grow strong and to bear fruit.”

“In the face of these challenges, our voice is vital,” he said. “Debates about religious freedom in our country are often, sadly, polarizing. In our tumultuous political culture, Catholic laity must be equipped to participate in conversations about the future direction of our country.”

Archbishop Lori will celebrate the fortnight’s opening Mass the evening of June 21 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore. The archbishop will celebrate a special closing Mass July 4 in Orlando, Fla., during the Convocation of Catholic Leaders.

In the discussion that followed Archbishop Lori’s presentation, some bishops spoke in favor of establishing a standing committee on religious freedom. Among them was Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl.

“The challenge to religious liberty is a growing one,” he said. “The dominant culture increasingly now finds that it’s not just a matter of disagreeing with religious principles and positions. But there’s a certain level of hostility becoming more and more evident. … This problem is not going to go away.”

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, who was USCBB president when the ad hoc committee was created, also spoke in favor of making it permanent.

He noted that bishops around the world “look to us in the United States (as) real quarterbacks when it comes to the defense of religious freedom” and added that he hears from “our ecumenical partners how deeply they cherish our leadership on this issue.”

“I think it’s enhanced the cause of interreligious and ecumenical dialogue, because we’re not the only ones concerned,” Cardinal Dolan said. “So, we need some permanence. We need some stability. And I think this is the way to go.”

Some bishops felt the ad hoc committee did not need to become permanent because they felt religious liberty could be addressed by existing standing committees.

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, N.J., noted that it was “very unfortunate” that the vote on the committee was taking place a day after the bishops allowed its working group on immigration to cease to exist.

However, after the vote on the committee, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo announced he would allow the working group to continue its efforts, prompting applause from the bishops.

In a news conference after the meeting session, Archbishop Lori said he was grateful “it was not a pro forma discussion, but rather an opportunity for bishops in a wonderfully respectful and dialogic way, to express their views about religious liberty.

“It’s a big step to establish a standing committee,” he said. “And so no one would expect it to be a walk in the park.”

Peter’s Pence Collection

Be a Witness of Charity

June, 2017

“A little mercy makes the world less cold and more just.”

—Pope Francis, Angelus, March 17, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Soon our diocese will take up the Peter’s Pence Collection. Our participation supports the charitable work of Pope Francis as he reaches out to those who are marginalized and suffering around the globe. By supporting this collection, you join the Holy Father in bringing a little more mercy into the world.

Pope Francis called to us in his 2016 Urbi et Orbi address, “May efforts be made everywhere to promote the culture of encounter, justice and reciprocal respect, which alone can guarantee the spiritual and material welfare of all people.” We are taking up this collection to be part of the Church’s effort to promote a culture of encounter and justice. Your support makes it possible for the Holy Father to carry out his charitable works around the world, to help victims of war, natural disasters, and other difficult situations.

Let us join with our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe to help Pope Francis reach the marginalized in our world. Please prayerfully consider how you can best support the collection this year. For more information about the collection, please visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

Thank you, and may God bless you abundantly.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Kevin C. Rhoades

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend
Bishops approve revisions to guidelines on sacraments for the disabled

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops overwhelmingly approved revisions to the guidelines for the Celebration of Sacraments with Persons with Disabilities that were adopted in 1995.

The guidelines were developed as a tool to improve access to the sacraments by persons with disabilities and reduce inconsistencies in pastoral practice. The document followed the Pastoral Statement of U.S. Catholic Bishops on Persons with Disabilities in 1978 and a 1989 revision.

The 1995 document was the first issued by the bishops on the topic at a national level. Bishop leaders at the time said the document would allow the church to better minister to and ministered to by people with disabilities.

Among the issues the document addresses is physical access to worship by people with disabilities “full, active and conscious participation, according to their capacity.” It also promotes a welcoming attitude in parishes and the inclusion of qualified people with disabilities in liturgical and pastoral ministries; catechetical and sacramental preparation programs to prepare people with mental disabilities for those sacraments, to which they have a right; and consultation with those with disabilities to help determine their needs regarding parish facilities, programs, policies and ministries.

The guidelines cover each of the sacraments individually. In other votes, the bishops voted to adopt a new translation of the “Order of Blessing the Oil of Catechumens and of the Sick and of Consecrating the Chrism,” 178-5. The ritual is used each year at diocesan Chrism Masses.

It will be sent to the Vatican’s Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments for its “reconsideration,” or final approval. However, the bishops’ approval of a collection of blessings in Spanish for use in the United States that complement English texts included in the “Book of Blessings” fell one vote short of reaching the threshold necessary to send it to the Vatican congregation for the recognition.

The vote on the “Benedictional: Sexta Parte” (Part VI) was 171-2, with two abstentions. Voting will be completed by mail ballot with the Latin-rite bishops who did not attending the assembly.

Dewane: Church ‘committed to ensuring fundamental right’ to health care

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — As the country awaits the U.S. Senate’s plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act in the coming weeks, the U.S. bishops made it clear June 15 during their annual spring assembly in Indianapolis that their efforts are focused on “ensuring the fundamental right of medical care” for all people.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops also reinforced its stand that the American Health Care Act passed by the U.S. House May 4 needs major reform — to provide quality health care for the “voiceless,” especially children, the elderly, the poor, immigrants and the seriously ill. “We feel the lives in a time marked by a deep sense of urgency and gravity,” said Bishop George L. Thomas of Helena, Mont., in his remarks to his four fellow bishops.

“Within two weeks, we may see a federal budgetary action with potentially catastrophic effects on the lives of our people, most especially children and the elderly, the seriously ill, the immigrant and our nation’s working poor,” referring to the House bill, known as AHCA, and its plan to eliminate $880 billion from Medicaid over the next decade, Bishop Thomas continued. “If left unchallenged or unmodulated, this budget will destabilize our own Catholic health care apostolates, take food from the mouths of school-aged children and the homebound, and deny already scarce medical resources to the nation’s neediest in every state across the land.”

Holy Cross priest presents reflection on immigration issues for bishops

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — Holy Cross Father Daniel Groody stood before the U.S. bishops June 14 and held up a chalice. It was not special in appearance, but rather in the story it told. The chalice was handcrafted primarily with wood from a refugee home that landed upon the beaches of Lampedusa, the Mediterranean island from which Pope Francis cast a wreath into the waters to remember the thousands of refugees who lost their lives there, attempting to flee persecution.

The base of the chalice was formed from mesquite, a common wood along the U.S.-Mexico border crossed by immigrants seeking better lives in America. Together, he said, the materials of the chalice speak to the plight of immigrants, a topic addressed during the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ spring assembly in Indianapolis. “Migration is an incredibly, incredibly complex issue, and those who don’t realize its complexity either aren’t listening, or they don’t understand,” said Father Groody, an associate professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame and director of immigration initiatives at the university’s Institute for Latino Studies.

And second, migration is an incredibly simple issue, and those who don’t realize its simplicity either aren’t listening, or they don’t understand,” he said.

Cavadini speaks at USCCB conference

John Cavadini, associate theology professor at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana and director of the school’s Institute for Church Life, speaks June 14 on the opening of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ annual spring assembly in Indianapolis.

Perspectives, listening essential for upcoming synod on youth, vocations

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — At a time when an estimated 50 percent of Catholics 30 and younger no longer identify with their religion, the U.S. bishops June 14 discussed the need to reverse that trend and why the consultation process for the October 2018 Synod of Bishops on youth and vocations is crucial to that effort.

On the first day of the bishops’ spring meeting in Indianapolis, Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, N.J., and Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia opened the discussion with a presentation on the consultations and questions for the bishops to consider in preparing for the synod. “The synod indeed comes at a critical time,” Cardinal Tobin told his fellow bishops in his opening remarks. “We know that there are both challenges and opportunities arising now in the United States and the world. The increased amount of disconnected millennials is certainly a concern for us, as is the decline and the delay of marriage among young people. Still there are various positive signs to build upon.” Those signs, he said, include “the high interest among millennials during the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent.”

U.S. bishops urged to be vigilant, never complacent, in stopping abuse

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — Francesco Cesareo, chairman of the National Review Board, urged U.S. bishops June 14 during their spring meeting in Indianapolis to continue to keep their commitment to stopping clergy sexual abuse and supporting victims of abuse “at the forefront” of their ministry. He said sexual abuse of minors by clergy is “not a thing of past” and stressed the bishops have to always be vigilant and to be sure not to let complacency set in in their efforts to stop it. The review board is a group working with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to address and prevent sexual abuse of minors in the U.S. by clergy and other church personnel. Cesareo pointed out there was still work to be done in this area but he also praised the bishops for what they’ve accomplished and stressed that dioceses in the United States are among the safest in the world and are also models for rest of the world. In his report to the bishops, he presented some of the key points of the recently issued 14th annual report on diocesan compliance with the U.S. Catholic Church’s “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.”

Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Sunday, June 25: 10 a.m. — Mass, St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, New Carlisle

Monday, June 26: 10 a.m. — Meeting of Our Sunday Visitor Advisory Committee, Detroit, Michigan

Thursday, June 29: 10 a.m. — Pre-Pastoral Visitative Conference benefiting Redeemer Radio, Home of Vince and Lois Tippmann, New Haven

Saturday, July 1-4: Meeting of Convocation of Catholic Leaders, Orlando, Florida

Priest appointment

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following appointment:

Reverend Levi Nkwocha to Parochial Vicar, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Elkhart, effective June 18, 2017.
Pope Francis names bishop of Evansville as archbishop of Indianapolis

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — Pope Francis has appointed Bishop Charles C. Thompson of Evansville as the seventh archbishop of Indianapolis.

Archbishop Thompson, who has been Evansville’s bishop since 2011, succeeds Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, who was named to head the Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., last November.

The appointment was announced June 13 in Washington by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

That same day, Archbishop Thompson spoke to priests, deacons, religious and laity from across central and southern Indiana about his appointment during a news conference at the Catholic Center in Indianapolis on the eve of the start of the spring general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Indianapolis.

“I pledge to dedicate myself to you without hesitation or reservation,” said Archbishop Thompson, 56. “Together, we will build on the incredible foundation that already exists, striving to discern the times and make every effort to participate in framing the essential questions of faith and life, in order to promote a shared vision rooted in word, sacrament and service that enables us to respond rather than react to opportunities and challenges.”

He will be installed July 28 during a Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Prior to that, he will confirm 21 men as permanent deacons for the archdiocese June 24 at the cathedral.

The day after his installation, he will travel to Rome to participate in Pope Francis’ blessing of palliums for metropolitan archbishops appointed during the past year.

The blessing takes place June 29, the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul.

A pallium is a woolen band worn over the shoulders that symbolizes the archbishop’s pastoral care for the people of his archdiocese and his sharing with the pope of the shepherding of the universal church. Archbishop Thompson’s pallium will be placed on him during his July 28 installation Mass.

The new archbishop’s remarks during the news conference were at times marked by self-deprecating humor.

“I think when people think of me, they imagine a man of great counsel and advice, working together, collaborating. I don’t do this by myself. We do this together. Ultimately, it’s Christ’s church, not mine."

A native of Louisville, Ky., the archbishop was vicar general of the Louisville archdiocese from 2008 until he was named bishop of Evansville.

On the national level, he is a member of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Administrative Committee, the Committee on Priorities and Plans, and the Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations.

In the Indianapolis archdiocese, two people with whom Archbishop Thompson will work closely are chancellor Annette “Mickey” Lenz and Msgr. William F. Stumpf, who will continue to serve as archdiocesan administrator until the July 28 installation Mass.

“I was so thrilled when I knew that he was going to be our new archbishop,” Msgr. Stumpf told The Criterion, the archdiocesan newspaper. “He brings so many wonderful qualities. He’s an extremely humble man, very personable. He’s a very prayerful man, which is absolutely essential in that type of job. He brings a wide variety of pastoral experiences. I know we’re in good hands.”

During the news conference, Archbishop Thompson said that Msgr. Stumpf will serve as his vicar general.

Tobin appointed him under Cardinal Tobin, who was archbishop of Indianapolis from 2012 to 2016.

Lenz added that Archbishop Thompson’s continuity with previous leaders of the archdiocese going back to retired Indianapolis Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, who was president-rector of Saint Meinrad Archabbey when the new archbishop received his priestly formation there for the Archdiocese of Louisville.

“I’m hopeful,” Lenz said. “For me, it’s a continuation of what we had through Archbishop Emeritus Daniel and Cardinal Tobin. It’s an exciting time. He’s an awesome choice.

Although many spoke his praise after the news conference, during it Archbishop Thompson placed the focus on Christ when reflecting on his episcopal motto, “Christ the Cornerstone.”

“I try to keep before myself that which is most beautiful, to be Christ-centered,” he said, “not self-centered, ideology-centered, not to be driven by my agenda, but to be pointed towards Christ will, the mission of Jesus Christ and the grace of the Holy Spirit.”

Amy Johns appointed associate superintendent

BY DEB WAGNER

Director of Catholic Education Carl Loesch and Superintendent of Catholic Schools Marsha Jordan have selected Amy Johns as the new associate superintendent at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, to fill the role of associate superintendent for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The associate superintendent position is a re-established one, following a recommendation from a school accreditation team to increase the number of staff members in the Catholic Schools Office.

Johns is a graduate of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, Bishop Dwenger High School and St. Mary’s College, where she has a master’s degree in educational leadership from Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, and a master’s degree in educational administration as a teacher and administrator at both the elementary and secondary grade levels.

Johns has also served as a member of the religious education program at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, for many years.

“I am both excited and blessed to have Amy Johns join the Catholic Schools Office following her appointment as the new associate superintendent,” said Jordan.

“Johns brings to the position a great love and passion for education, but more specifically for Catholic education. Her love of the Catholic faith is ever present in her actions and words. She demonstrates kindness and respect to others, and always with a positive, joyful heart,” Jordan said.

Johns is people-oriented, Jordan said, and in her duties has demonstrated a desire to help students achieve and teachers grow professionally.

“Often it is focused on how to best help in any given situation, and is willing to work diligently on a task until it’s accomplished to the best of her abilities.”

Additionally, Amy takes advantage of every opportunity to learn and develop her own skills, Jordan said.

“I am looking forward to working closely under Marsha Jordan and Carl Loesch to continue to work in the best interest of all 43 of our diocesan schools,” she added. “I look to support both of them in their endeavor to push our diocesan schools to be the best they can be, and to work on the internal accreditation process with each of our schools as well. I am very excited to get into our schools for visits and to meet the administrators, teachers and students. Each school provides such fantastic services in educating our students in the faith and in each curricular area within the community they serve.”

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

June 25, 2017
100 adults receive confirmation in Fort Wayne, South Bend

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

The Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, celebrated Mass on June 11 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and confirmed 49 adult Catholics from parishes in the Fort Wayne area. On Saturday, June 17, he confirmed a similar number at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. Although older children, usually eighth-grade students, are confirmed at Masses throughout the year, and adults who lack two or all three of the sacraments of initiation receive them at the Easter Vigil, these Masses of confirmation were for adult Catholics who were both baptized and had received first Communion, but who were not confirmed and now wished to receive that sacrament.

The adults arrived at this time in their sacramental lives for various reasons. At the Fort Wayne Mass, Tyler Hartman, parishioners at St. Louis Besancon, now in their early 20s, had missed being confirmed earlier due to their family’s relocation. “This is something I wanted to do,” Tyler said, as his brother nodded in agreement. St. Vincent de Paul parishioner Leah Meyer said that, while her mom is Catholic, her dad is Lutheran and she was initially confirmed in his church. “But I’ve always felt more comfortable coming to the Catholic Church,” she said, and she wanted to receive the sacrament here. Wes Anderson, from Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, also said he had wished to receive the sacrament for a long time, and with his marriage approaching this seemed to be the right time for it to finally happen.

Confirmation is the sacrament by which Catholics receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which gives them the strength to practice their Catholic faith in every aspect of their lives and to witness to Christ in every situation. The sacrament confers seven gifts: wisdom, knowledge, counsel, understanding, fortitude, piety and fear of the Lord. It deepens and strengthens the grace received at baptism. It unites the person more firmly to Christ and his church.

Bishop Rhoades told the candidates, “You will be infused with the gifts of the Holy Spirit... which give us the power to live our faith with conviction.”

Persons interested in receiving the sacrament must attend several weeks of preparatory classes. While the course of study for adults follows strict diocesan guidelines, it is more concentrated than that for junior high students, said Dorothy Scheurman, pastoral assistant at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, who personally trained the parish’s seven candidates in the program. She noted that her students “came at things with interest and questions.” At the end of the classes, she added, the pastor must attest to their readiness before they receive the sacrament.

Megan Urbaniaik, director of adult formation at Christ the King Parish in South Bend, worked one-on-one with Jim Deren. Raised Catholic but never confirmed, “He was already living the life of the Spirit,” said Urbaniaik. “(Confirmation) was a natural fit.” Again, there’s not just one narrative, she noted. Each person has a different story.

Bishop Rhoades prayed over the candidates: “Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who brought these your servants to new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin: send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety; fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.”

During the Rite of Confirmation, the candidates stood before Bishop Rhoades for Presentation of the Candidates. Then, each one came forward with his or her sponsor, a person who served as their mentor and example of a faith-filled life. Bishop addressed them by their chosen saints’ names and said, “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit,” while anointing them with the sacred chrism, thus completing the essential rite of the sacrament.

At the end of Mass, Bishop Rhoades congratulated the newly confirmed and thanked their sponsors for being witnesses to the faith.
Deportation feared as program protecting parents of citizen children ends

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Advocates for immigrants expressed concern that millions of illegal alien parents of U.S. citizens and other permanent legal residents will be subject to deportation after Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly rescinded a memo that protected them. Kelly’s action June 15 revokes DAPA, or Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents, a 2014 memo from President Barack Obama that protected law-abiding parents who are in the country illegally from deportation. It also follows through on a campaign promise by President Donald Trump to overturn two Obama-era memos on illegal immigration. The DAPA memo was never implemented after it was challenged in federal court in Texas by 26 states that argued the program was illegal. The U.S. Supreme Court voted 4-4 last June after the lower court ruling was appealed, leaving that ruling in place. A judge in the case set June 15 as the deadline to resolve the case. In response, Kelly rescinded the memo, saying there is “no credible path forward” in court.

Parish prays for congressman in critical condition after shooting

METAIRIE, La. (CNS) — More than 150 people attended a prayer service at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Metairie June 14 to pray for the recovery of House Majority Whip Steve Scalise, R-Louisiana, and other victims of a shooting in Alexandria, Va., early that morning. Scalise, his wife, Jennifer, and their two children are members of St. Catherine of Siena Parish. The congressman from the 1st District of Louisiana was gunned down by a lone gunman while practicing with other Republican members of the House and staffers for a charity baseball game. Scalise sustained a bullet to the hip that also caused serious internal bleeding. After surgery, he was listed in critical condition, and as of early June 15, he remained in critical condition. He has received multiple blood transfusions. Doctors said he would require additional surgeries. Father Ronald Calkins, pastor of St. Catherine of Siena, said the prayer service was for the “healing of victims, especially Scalise and his family.” Father Calkins said the parish has established a prayer chain for those who mourn for him. “We come here to pray to God, who is always with us and always supporting us and always helping us,” Father Calkins said. “We pray especially for those who were injured. Of course, we also come just to support each other.”

Vatican releases online questionnaire for youth

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — To involve young people in preparations for the Synod of Bishops on youth in 2018, the Vatican has released an online questionnaire to better understand the lives, attitudes and concerns of 16- to 29-year-olds around the world. The questionnaire — available in English, Spanish, French and Italian — can be found on the synod’s official site: youth.synod2018.va/content/synod2018/en/home.html and is open to any young person, regardless of faith or religious belief. The general secretariat of the synod launched the website June 14 to share information about the October 2018 synod on “Young people, faith and vocational discernment” and to link to an online, anonymous survey asking young people about their lives and expectations. The answers to the questionnaire, along with contributions from bishops’ conferences and other church bodies, “will provide the basis for the drafting of the ‘instrumentum laboris,’” or working document for the assembly, synod officials said in January.

DiNardo: Local officers shouldn’t be required to enforce immigration

HOUSTON (CNS) — Local law enforcement and local jurisdictions should not be required to enforce federal immigration law, said Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Local law enforcement officials “work long hours to protect our communities” and efforts to charge them with the responsibility of enforcing immigration law should be stopped, he said, because “this would fundamentally alter the relationship our local law enforcement officials maintain with local communities, especially immigrant communities.” Local police can work with federal law enforcement in dealing with “violent criminal aliens,” Cardinal DiNardo said, but the “burden” of enforcing federal immigration law would be “taking away from their efforts to ensure public safety” while they are “pursuing those who are otherwise law-abiding.” He added, “It also makes immigrant communities reluctant to report crimes and to cooperate with the police.” Cardinal DiNardo made his remarks June 9 in the opening address of a conference in Houston, “Mobilizing Coherent Community Responses to Changing Immigration Policies.”

Chaldean Catholic bishop calls ICE raid, arrests ‘painful’

SOUTHELD, Mich. (CNS) — When U.S. immigration agents rounded up and arrested Chaldean Christians in southeast Michigan June 11, it was “a very strange and painful day for our community in America,” said the head of the Chaldean Catholic Eparchy of St. Thomas the Apostle, based in Southfield.

The with the many Chaldeans that were awakened by Immigration Customs Enforcement agents and consequently picked up for deportation, there is a lot of confusion and anger,” Bishop Francis Y. Kalabat said in a statement posted on the eparchy’s website. News reports said about 40 people were arrested near or at their homes and were put on busses June 12 to be taken to a federal detention center in Youngstown, Ohio. The same day, a rally outside the Mother of God Chaldean Catholic Church in Southfield drew dozens of people, many of whom said the federal government’s actions had left them sad and frustrated. In his statement, Bishop Kalabat said his eparchy was “contacting and working with ‘many agencies to try to stop this bleeding,’ including the U.S. State Department, members of Congress, the Iraqi Embassy, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and ‘any agency that could file an injunction to keep anyone from being deported.’”

English cardinal: ‘Repudiate hatred and violence’

LONDON (CNS) — An English cardinal has condemned an attack against Muslims who had gathered close to a London mosque. Cardinal Vincent Nichols of Westminster issued a statement following the fourth terror attack in the United Kingdom in the past three months. At least one person was killed and 10 others were injured when the lone assailant drove a van into a crowd of Muslims gathered outside the Muslim Welfare House, near the Finsbury Park Mosque, where the victims had been offering Ramadan prayers. The incident occurred at 12:20 a.m. June 19. “Together with people all over this country, I am appalled at the deliberate attack on people leaving their late-night prayers,” as the end of their day of fasting, at the mosque in Finsbury Park, said Nichols in a June 19 statement. “I have assured the leadership of the mosque and the Muslim Welfare Centre of our prayers and support,” he said.

Pope urges Merkel to continue supporting Paris climate agreement

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — German Chancellor Angela Merkel said June 15 that Pope Francis encouraged her to support international agreements like the Paris climate accord as well as to break down walls that divide people. The German leader’s 40-minute private audience with Pope Francis at the Vatican June 17 was the sixth time the two leaders have met. The discussions — which included a separate meeting later with Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, and Archbishop Paul Gallagher, the Vatican foreign minister — focused on the G-20 meeting to be held in Hamburg July 7-8. The parties agreed on the need to dedicate special attention to the responsibility of the international community in combating poverty and hunger, the global threat of terrorism and climate change,” the Vatican said in a written statement. Merkel later told reporters that she told the pope about Germany’s agenda for the G-20 meeting, which “assumes that we are a world in which we want to work together multilaterally, a world in which we don’t want to build walls but bring down walls,” she said, according to the Associated Press.

Chaldean-American Lavrena Kenawa cries during a June 12 rally outside the Mother of God Chaldean Catholic Church in Southfield, Mich. Her uncle was among dozens of Chaldean Christians who were arrested by federal immigration officials over the weekend of June 10 and 11 in the Detroit metropolitan area, which members of the local church community said left them sad and frustrated.
Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration celebrate jubilees

MISHAWAKA — The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka honor six of their sisters who are celebrating jubilees of 60, 50, 40 and 25 years of religious life.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will celebrate a special Mass in honor of the jubilarians on June 24, at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka.

60-year jubilees

Sister Jane Marie Klein was born in Jasper and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis on Aug. 12, 1957, from St. Benedict Parish in Evansville. She has served in several hospitals staffed by the sisters as an accountant, comptroller, director of social work and administrator. Sister Jane Marie has been chairman of the Board of Directors of Franciscan Alliance since 1993 and resides at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka. She currently serves on the Diocesan Finance Council.

Sister M. Theresa Ann Long was born in Joliet, Ill. She entered the Sisters of St. Francis from St. Edward Parish in Lowell on Jan. 6, 1957. She worked in domestic housekeeping, as chapel sacristan in several hospitals of the community, and in the Pastoral Care Department for 20 years. Sister Theresa Ann presently resides at Our Lady of Angels in Mishawaka, where she is very faithful to her hours of eucharistic adoration.

Sister M. James Agnes Maroney was born in Fulton and was a member of St. Joseph Parish in Logansport. She entered the community on Jan. 20, 1957. She served as a nurse in institutions staffed by the sisters in the Eastern and Western provinces of the community, including Our Lady of Angels Convent in Mishawaka. Sister James Agnes retired to Our Lady of Angels Convent in 1999.

Sister M. Madonna Rougeau was born in Detroit, Mich., and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis from St. Michael Parish in Southfield, Mich., on Aug. 12, 1967. Sister Madonna served as a nurse in various health care facilities staffed by the sisters, and as vice-president of mission at St. James Hospital in Chicago Heights. Presently she is the superior at Our Lady of Angels Convent in Mishawaka.

Silver jubilee

Sister Marie Morgan was born in Lafayette and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration on Aug. 10, 1992, from St. Boniface Parish in Lafayette. Sister Marie has taught theology at Marian High School in Mishawaka since 2004 and currently serves as the chairman of the Theology Department. Sister Marie has also served as an organist and choir director at the convent since 2004.
Brothers of Holy Cross celebrate jubilees at Basilica of the Sacred Heart

60-year jubilees

Brother Michael Becker was born in Huntington, Ind., on March 22, 1937, graduated from Cathedral High School in Indianapolis and entered the juniorate on Sept. 10, 1955. Following his novitiate year, he studied at St. Edward’s University. His early assignments were in Milwaukee, Wis.; Akron, Ohio; and work in various community offices. From 1983 to present day, Brother Michael has been in the Provincial Business Office at Notre Dame.

Brother Edward Dailey first served for 15 years as a teacher and school administrator in Ghana and Liberia. After teaching in Ohio and working with the administration of the Midwest Province, he served for 24 years as the general secretary of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Rome, Italy. During this time, Brother Edward assisted with the beatification of their founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, in Le Mans, France, the canonization of Brother Andre Bessette at the Vatican, and the opening of the cause for beatification of the Most Rev. Vincent McCauley, CSC, in Fort Portal, Uganda.

During the past eight years, while working in Rome, he went to Bangladesh as a teacher in an intensive English course for young religious from different communities ministering in that country.

Brother Larry Stewart studied at Notre Dame after the novitiate, earned his bachelor’s degree in pre-theology, and entered the juniorate on Sept. 14, 1957. He taught in five schools in the Midwest Province before he worked in children’s treatment service and at a prison in Kentucky. He was a high school social worker, the executive secretary of the Social Justice Commission for the Midwest Province and the director of the Indiana nuclear weapons freeze campaign. He returned to Notre Dame for a year of updating in theology before going to Ghana, West Africa, where he taught at a seminary before doing formation work with potential Brother candidates.

Back in the U.S., he worked for Catholic Social Services in Florida and at Saint Edward’s parish in Richmond, Va., before moving to Annunciation parish in Albuquerque, N.M., where he retired in 2010. He has done various volunteer jobs with Holy Cross College, Meals on Wheels and teaching courses on prayer.

50-year jubilees

Brother Shaun Gray is originally from Waukesha County, Wis. When he was 10 years old, his father enrolled him in Sacred Heart Military Academy, operated by the brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

He attended and graduated from Catholic Memorial High School in Waukesha in 1965, and entered the community on his 18th birthday. While he was a scholastic, Sacred Heart Military Academy moved to Rolling Prairie and was renamed Le Mans Academy. When he took his vows in 1967 he was given a temporary assignment to Le Mans Academy. This lasted for 25 years, until the school closed. In 2004 he became a pastoral associate at St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish in Michigan City.

Brother Joseph Kofi Tsiquaye has ministerial experiences that started during university, when he spent summers teaching with the brothers in Liberia. After graduating from University of Cape Coast, he joined the faculty at St. Augustine’s College. Later, he taught in Ghana.

After a sabbatical in the USA in 1977, he returned to Ghana where he was elected District Superior in the Diocese of Sunyani and he served in various capacities for 13 years. After serving as District Superior, he joined the Holy Cross Novitiate Staff in Uganda. He studied Formative Spirituality and returned to Uganda. He re-opened the Ghana Novitiate Program in 1999, the year he graduated from Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa. In 2000, the superior general invited Brother Joseph to serve on the General Council in Rome. For the next 10 years he was the councilor responsible for Congregational Planning and Structures, and then the councilor responsible for formation. In Ghana, he assists in the formation ministry.

School Sisters of St. Francis celebrate jubilees

MILWAUKEE — On June 17, more than 50 U.S. School Sisters of St. Francis will celebrate milestone anniversaries of service as women religious. In addition, two lay women in associate relationship with the community will celebrate their 25-year jubilees, and another will celebrate her 40-year jubilee.

Celebrating 60 years as a School Sister of St. Francis is Sister Rose Ann (Condon) Trill, whose ministries include service in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Sister Rose Ann was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Alverno College, Milwaukee, and a master’s degree in systematic theology from St. John’s University, New York City. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she served as a retreat director at Fatima Retreat House, Notre Dame, from 1979-85. She is currently a spiritual director at Sophia House in Milwaukee, where she has been since 1993.

Cards for the sisters may be mailed to the sister’s name, Attn: Jubilee Committee, 1515 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53215.
Sixty-year jubilee for Father Schmitt

BY MARK WEBER

It could be said that young Adam Schmitt’s call to the priesthood was a face-to-face experience, rather than a mystical awareness.

Back in the day, parishes had a full staff of priests: a pastor and two or three assistants. Such was the case at St. Peter Parish in Fort Wayne, where the pastor, Father John Bapst, required that the same server assist him at his daily Masses — except Sundays — all year long. That honorable responsibility fell upon eighth-grade student Adam Schmitt, whose day began with a 6:20 a.m. wake-up call from his mother and then a two-mile bicycle ride to St. Peter.

That same year, teaching the eighth-grade religion class at St. Peter was Father Thomas Durkin. One day, Father Durkin talked about the priesthood and concluded the class by saying, “All boys who want to go to the seminary, go see the pastor after school today.” Schmitt chose to do so, and thereby took the first steps into a lifetime of the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

Although more than 60 years have passed since that dream became a reality, and he is officially listed as “retired” at Saint Anne Communities at Randallia Place in Fort Wayne, it is the wrong label for Father Schmitt, who says weekly Mass and hears confessions for the Franciscan friars and for the cloistered Poor Sisters of St. Clare in Fort Wayne. He also offers Mass one or two days a week in the Saint Anne chapel, for residents, and assists in a regular anointing of the sick there. He also finds time for callers who stop by his apartment.

Looking back over his diocesan assignments, Father Schmitt revealed that he enjoyed each of them: but he has particularly mellow feelings about his first assignment at St. Bernard Parish in Wabash, because there he was reunited with Father Robert Zahn, who had been assistant pastor at St. Peter when Adam was in grade school.

Thursdays are special for Father Adam. That’s the day when he and the other three priest residents of Saint Anne’s, Chaplain Father Jack Overmyer, Father John Pfister and Father Larry Tippmann, concelebrate Mass and then have a foursome lunch. When asked, “What do you talk about?” Father Schmitt, in an artful dodge, replied, “Oh, we talk about the weather.”

Another occasion that delights Father Schmitt is a monthly bridge game with other priest buddies, which presents another opportunity to discuss meteorological data.

May 25 was the actual anniversary date of his ordination. It was celebrated in a merry but low-key style at Saint Anne’s, beginning with Mass concelebrated by himself and six visiting priests, including his nephew, Father Tony Steinacker. Father Schmitt’s sisters, Joan May and Mary Steinacker, were also present.

Prayerful solitude enriches Father Schmitt’s mornings. Rosaries, reflections on Fatima, Mass alone and a slow reading of the morning paper, with attention to how the Chicago Cubs did last night, begin each day of “retirement.” It’s all there, like a 60-year fugue, from server to celebrant, baptisms and funerals, life and death; following the rules, following Christ in the bloody dust of Calvary … thou art a priest forever.
Father Edmund Sylvia's call to the priesthood came as a result of renewal movements. He was a public school junior high school history teacher at the time, when one of his eighth-grade students asked him if he was interested in going on a retreat known as a Cursillo. Father Sylvia came to know the student’s parents, who then sponsored him for the retreat, which he called “life-altering.” In the 30 years since, knowing with certainty that Jesus was the answer to many questions, his life has never been the same.

As time went on, Father Sylvia said he was introduced to more Christian communities and became involved in Catholic Charismatic Renewal. “Knowing God's love and power in a new and deeper way, I was open to the Lord who placed Holy Cross in his heart.”

Father Sylvia served at the original retreat house on the edge of Stonehill College, North Easton, Mass., then went to school for a year at Harvard School of Divinity and the Jesuit School of Theology in Boston. Soon after, he moved to Baltimore, where he was part of a large charismatic group called The Lamb of God Community. He assisted at St. Thomas More during Holy Week of his fourth year of teaching God began to lead him, and he responded by following. The religious community that ran the retreat house where he made his Cursillo retreat returned to put on another one, at the Congregation of Holy Cross. Father Sylvia eventually became a part of the order, even though he was close friends with diocesan clergy from his home parishes and members of the Franciscans and the Sacred Heart fathers. Father Sylvia said it was the Lord who placed Holy Cross in his heart.

Father Sylvia was introduced to the Catholic Center in downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana, the extension campus of the University of Notre Dame, the Student Life team in Clearwater, Fla., where he also worked in evangelistic outreach and with Living His Life Abundantly, which produced radio and television programming for EWTN. Father Sylvia became full-time with Living His Life Abundantly, specifically on a new outreach called Women of Grace, which continues on EWTN today.

In 2015 he moved from Florida to South Bend, where he served as associate pastor at Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus parishes. He is now at Holy Cross Parish full-time.
Father Glenn Kohrman celebrates 25th jubilee

BY DEB WAGNER

When Father Glenn Kohrman was young, a priest asked him to pray a prayer after communion. A prayer that would unknowingly and eventually shape his vocation. The prayer was simple: “God, let me do whatever you want me to do.”

He came from a family where religion “was taken seriously, but in what I would judge to be in a very balanced way,” he said. They went to Mass on Sundays and would even occasionally attend a Holy Hour on Thursday nights. They also prayed the family rosary, especially during the seasons of Advent and Lent.

Engineering, however, also fueled his interests. “I had an idea for a high mileage gasoline carburetor and wondered if it would work, so it seemed that theology would give me the skills to assess the theoretical possibility of it,” he said. “In my third year at Purdue, I was able to estimate that that my ’73 Dodge Charger should be able to get at least 70 miles per gallon, assuming an adiabatic efficiency of 17 percent and the caloric value of gasoline being 126,000 BTU per gallon of gasoline, but I never have built the prototype.

During his senior year, a professor in physics directed him to do research for a master’s degree in mechanical engineering, with a specialty in acoustics. Additionally, “in this period I met a beautiful person and seriously considered marriage, but felt God was inviting me to be a priest. This woman was probably holier than I was and entered the convent for a time, but discerned that was not her vocation. She actually died last year at the age of 51, and lived a life of service dedicated to others.”

Today Father Kohrman can often be heard to exclaim, “Priesthood is more fun than a human being should be allowed to have!” He feels extremely blessed, and said he is “privileged to help people discover their worth and just how much God loves them.”

Some of his favorite memories include when he was in Mile High stadium for a Mass with St. John Paul II, “and as we were walking into the stadium, all the youth were reaching out to the priests, over the rails, to give them high-fives.” Even though that experience was “pretty cool,” Father Kohrman always loves saying Mass, gathering the people for worship and confession and helping them understand God’s mercy is such a gift. To lift burdens and put into practice the gift of God’s apostles in John 20:19, “that is somewhat of a miracle.”

Perhaps there are also some genetics involved in Father Kohrman’s calling to a religious life. His sisters entered the convent briefly, going on to be happily married and living faith-filled lives. A niece of Father Kohrman’s is making her final vows this summer in the Dominican Community at Ann Arbor, Mich. He also had an excellent example from his uncle, Father Donald Isenbarger.

Father Kohrman served at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur, for about 14 months before being named administrator of Sacred Heart and St. Paul parishes in Fort Wayne. After about five years he was moved to St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne, followed by an additional 2-1/2 years at St. Paul. He spent the next nine years at St. Mary of the Lake and Culver Academies, as their chaplain, and was then asked to serve at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, for six years. He is currently at Holy Family Parish, South Bend, and since September has been attending to the needs of St. John the Baptist, South Bend.

Regarding his plans for the future, Father Kohrman said he hopes to remain faithful in his service to Jesus. “I just hope to become a better friend of Jesus in all I do. There really is something to that prayer, ‘God let me do, whatever you want me to do!’”

Father Thadeus Balinda to observe silver jubilee in Uganda

BY VINCE LABARBERA

Father Thadeus (“Ted”) Balinda will observe his 25-year anniversary of priesthood on June 27 in Uganda, where he was ordained. His local parish, St. Patrick, Arcola, where he has served as pastor since 2013, celebrated the occasion on Sunday, June 11, with a thanksgiving Mass at noon, followed by a luncheon in the parish hall.

“I was born in 1965, in the land of the Uganda Martyrs,” said Father Balinda. Between 1885 and 1887, a group of 23 Anglican and 22 Catholic converts in the Kingdom of Buganda, now part of Uganda, were executed, he related. The 22 African Roman Catholic martyrs collectively were beatified by Pope Benedict XV in 1920 and canonized by Pope Paul VI on Oct. 18, 1964. Their feast day is June 3.

“Three popes have visited my small homeland,” Father Balinda noted: “Pope Paul VI in 1969, Pope John Paul II in 1993 and Pope Francis in 2015, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the martyrs’ canonization.”

Father Balinda is the youngest of six boys and two girls. Three brothers are deceased. Following his elementary education in 1978, he said St. Mary’s Minor Seminary in the local Diocese of Fort Portal. His father, Thomas Balikigamba, was a lay catechist serving at missionary outstations during prayer sessions when a parish priest could not be present to celebrate Mass. His ministry made a great impression on young Balinda.

Following his ordination in 1992, Bishop Paul Lekuru Kalandla assigned the new priest to serve as an associate pastor at the local Cathedral of Our Lady of Snows. He was only there for seven months, however, when he was asked to assume the duties of pastor at Christ the King, a missionary outstation in Kampala, about 50 kilometers (31 miles) away.

For three years Father Balinda was busy physically building up the parish, with a new rectory and improvements to the church. He was then asked to study canon law in Rome. Not only was it the first time he would be away from home, but the three-year course was taught in Italian. He was given one month to learn the language. Balinda pastor of St. Patrick, and was assigned in 2009 as rector of St. Mary’s Minor Seminary in the local Diocese of Fort Portal. His father, Thomas Balikigamba, was a lay catechist serving at missionary outstations during prayer sessions when a parish priest could not be present to celebrate Mass. His ministry made a great impression on young Balinda.

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Father Balinda had completed a master’s degree when a civil war involving Uganda broke out in August 1998. He returned home and was assigned the position of judicial vicar, overseeing the diocesan tribunal and judiciary from 1999 to 2009. In addition, after completing his doctrine degree, he began serving as rector of St. Mary’s Minor Seminary. In June 2009, he was assigned to be vicar general of the diocese.

After a while, the priest realized “I needed a change of pace.” His new superior, Bishop Robert Muhirwa, knew the late Bishop John M. D’Arcy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, so Father Balinda journeyed to Fort Wayne and met with him. Bishop D’Arcy asked if he would serve in the tribunal. “Then, when I humbly asked Bishop D’Arcy if I could return to parish ministry, he was very kind and understanding. I was assigned in 2009 as pastor of St. Mary of the Lake in Culver.”

In 2013 Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades appointed Father Balinda pastor of St. Patrick, and the following year incardinated him into the local diocese.

“I really feel at home here at St. Patrick’s,” he said. “That’s partly because the two international priests who preceded me — Fathers Cyril Fernandes and Father Alex Dodrai — made such a good impression.” In addition to parish work, he also enjoys serving as rector and teaching in the seminary. “It’s both exciting and humbling to participate in the formation of future priests,” he said.

Father Balinda considers himself fortunate to be able to return to Uganda annually to visit his family.

DRISCOLL

Continued from Page 10

the Diocese of Helena, offering them theological enrichment as well as relieving them periodically of their pastoral duties to allow for some rest and rejuvenation.

Lastly, Father Driscoll will continue guiding a few dissertations as well as teach part-time in the MSM and Master of Divinity graduate programs at Notre Dame. He most enjoys a course on the Eucharist that allows him to mentor seminar- 

ists and lay ministers taking the course. Partnering both lay musical and religious theological students, he opens the dialogue between the connection the celebration of the liturgy and the musical parts to be understood from both a theological and technical musical viewpoint. The beauty and benefits of building such relationships are helpful for the course, as well as the real-life application, which his students will encounter after graduation in their pastoral work.

This type of collaborative work and dialogue is one of the hallmarks of Father Driscoll’s ministry. A constant theme of ecumenism has existed and flourished over the course of his 40 years of priestly service. Father Driscoll reflected how in fifth grade, in Butte, Mont., he was asked to write his first long paper; three pages on any topic of his choice. As the Second Vatican Council was being convened in Rome, he chose the word “ecumenism” to write about. This set a trajectory of the topic for the rest of his life.

Travel, as it connects with his ministry, has also been a retirement delight for Father Driscoll. He hosts “Travelin’” Irish trips for Notre Dame alumni, including one to the Galapagos Islands. Father Driscoll also taught a three- week course on liturgy and architecture at the Notre Dame Rome Global Gateway. Even while visiting mother in Hawaii, Maui, he was able to serve there as well as at the parish of St. Augustine by the Sea on Oahu. Looking down the aile of the church to the Pacific Ocean, he celebrated Mass in the manner familiar to the people of Tongo, complete with Tongolese music. Father Driscoll delights in this style of practical applica-

tion of his life’s academic study, where the theoretical and pastoral become one.

“It has been a great ride,” he explained smiling. He is clearly looking forward to where the Holy Spirit calls him.
Kathy Griffin and the vanishing of argument

By now the whole world has heard about comedian Kathy Griffin’s appalling, staged photo of her hand holding a mockup of the bloody, severed head of Donald Trump. Despite her rather pathetic apology, a firestorm of protest has broken out pretty much everywhere. To say that this stunt was in poor taste or, in the parlance of our time, “offensive,” would be the understatement of the decade. At a time when the most barbarous people on the planet are, in point of fact, decimating their enemies and holding up the heads of their victims as trophies, it simply beggars belief that Griffin would have imagined this escapade as an acceptable form of social protest. But I would like to situate what Griffin did in a wider context, for it is but a particularly brutal example of what is taking place throughout our society, especially on university campuses. Speakers of a more conservative stripe, ranging from serious academics such as Charles Murray and Heather Mac Donald to provocateurs such as Ann Coulter and Milo Yiannopoulos, have been shouted down, obstructed, insulted, and in extreme cases, physically assaulted on university campuses. Tenured professors were compelled by one group to impose its views on the college classes, forcing him to lecture in the world. What is most striking to me in all of this is the obvious lack of anything resembling rational argument. Students are not positing counter-positions, marshaling evidence, drawing logical conclusions, proposing more convincing scenarios, etc. In a word, they are not arguing with their opponents. They are belying, drowning them out, intimidating them, physically attacking them. This is not only irrational, it is deeply disrespectful, for it fundamentally denies the humanity of their adversaries. Not only is these determinantization more patently evident than in the case of Kathy Griffin’s protest. And the impugnation with argumentative standards is, of course, labeled a racist and mobs of angry students shut down his classes, forcing him to lecture in the world.

But when there is no truth, there can be no argument, for argument depends upon a shared appeal to certain epistemic and ethical values. If I might propose an analogy, it is something like the common rules that make a game possible. Precisely because the players all agree to certain strictures and delimitations, real play can ensue. If every participant is making up the rules as he goes along and according to his whim, the game promptly evanescences. Indeed, if we continue with this analogy, the game, in fact, does not even begin, for what makes a radical ideology holds sway.

I’m talking about the questioning of objective truth and the concomitant hypervaluation of the self-assertive will. It is a commonplace on the left that claims to objective truth are thinly-veiled plays of power, attempts by one group to impose its views on another. Accordingly, “truth” is constructed as a function of power will of the individual. I determine the meaning of my life, and you determine the meaning of yours; I decide my gender and you decide yours — and therefore the best we can do together is tolerate one another’s choices.

The most profound aspect of this development is the absence of any engagement with the basic arguments that undergird objective truth and the adjudication of their dis-

The Catholic Difference

Hubble Space Telescope. Watch for Father Lemaître’s bold idea to gain even further traction by the findings of the James Webb Space Telescope when it begins orbiting the sun, a million miles from Earth, in a few years. So unless one wishes to assert that Mendel and Lemaître were split personalities who said Mass in the morning and died in the afternoon, thereby dividing their lives into hermetically-sealed compartments, the cutting edges of modern science itself would seem to rebuff the claim that “believer” and “scientist” are mutually incompatible human types.

St. John Paul II was fascinated by the hard sciences (physics, chemistry, astronomy) throughout his life; for decades, he hosted at Castel Gandolfo a bi-annual seminar of leading scientists from those fields, so that he could keep abreast of developments in their disciplines. But him, everything eventually pointed to the New Evangelization. So even before he began using that term, he

Even all the hairs of your head are counted

The Book of Jeremiah supplies this weekend’s first reading. Jeremiah wrote at a time when life was hard for God’s chosen people. Only briefly was life good for God’s people. Their nation was unroofed under one golden age, a relatively short period of time, comparatively speaking. There was only one golden age, namely the years of the reign of David and then the time of the rule of David’s son, Solomon.

After Solomon, the country divided. Weakened, often at odds with each other, the two result-
A myth of neutrality

Once upon a time, we were told to allow our children to have their babies delivered by an abortion provider. In politics as well, freedom of choice is getting old. Tom Perez, Democratic National Committee chairman, now insists that support for abortion is a litmus test for anyone running as a Democrat for public office. Some party leaders see the issue as a way to demine the lives of seriously ill patients, but as a way to let desperate people make their own choices at the end of life.

Where does this commitment to personal freedom stand now? The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists declared in 2007 that doctors morally opposed to abortion must present it as an option, and perform it or make referrals. They should even locate their practice near abortion clinics to ensure “access” to what they abhor.

Now, the New England Journal of Medicine has published a manifesto, co-authored by Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, an architect of President Barack Obama’s health care plan, that goes further. Abortion is now “a standard obstetrical practice,” he says, and physicians may not substitute their “personal beliefs” for this professional standard. Objectors must switch to a medical specialty where they will not care for female patients or “leave the profession.”

The article’s basic premise is ridiculous. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists’ 2011 survey of its membership showed that only 14 percent are willing to provide abortions. So Emanuel’s position accuses most OB-GYNs of unprofessional conduct, and would force all pregnant women to have their babies delivered by an abortion provider.

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Loss of assistant principal impacts Corpus Christi School

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

When Keith Foley reached the age of 50, he was still going to school. At least, that was his outlook. “Keith would always say he did not get up in the morning to go to work, he was going to school,” reflected Maggie Mackowiak, principal of Corpus Christi School in South Bend. “He loved his job so much.” Mackowiak worked alongside Foley for many years. As her confidant and co-worker, her passing earlier this month was not easy on her.

“He was a good listener… If I needed to work out a problem, I’d close the door to my office and Keith would just sit there and listen,” Mackowiak recalled. This was just the type of person Foley was — always ready and willing to help. In fact, it was this very quality that brought him to Corpus Christi.

In 2009 Foley learned from his wife, who has taught at Corpus Christi for over 20 years, that the school needed some technical and staffing help. He approached Mackowiak, who was serving as interim principal at the time and balancing a busy schedule, to see if he could offer assistance by joining the staff. Foley’s offer to lend his skills to the school community came as a blessing to her as she juggled a busy work schedule stemming from short staffing at the school, tending to four children at home and completing her master’s degree after she unexpectedly found herself filling in as principal.

Foley left Microsoft Corp., and came to Corpus Christi shortly after presenting his offer to Mackowiak. Already familiar with the community because of his wife’s connection to the school and his mother’s volunteer work at its main office for over 25 years, Foley fit right in. Leveraging his technical expertise and computer skills, he successfully transferred the computer classroom to a larger area, played an integral role in setting up new smart boards and worked to revamp the school’s website and establish its access to Gmail.

Diagnosed with Leukemia this past November, Foley was a long-time member of the South Bend community. He graduated from Clay High School and received his degrees from Indiana University and the University of Notre Dame. In addition to working at Corpus Christi and Microsoft, Foley taught middle school math at South Bend’s St. Jude School and served as principal in the Millerburg Public School District.

“This has been a difficult year for Corpus Christi, as they worked to support Keith and his family during his treatment and also tried to take care of his many school responsibilities,” Superintendent Marsha Jordan said. “...as is true in all of our schools, we operate as a family and become very close to one another. The loss of one individual greatly impacts the entire community.”

Foley was the fourth in an unusual string of deaths of school staff this year. St. Therese School in Fort Wayne mourned the passing of principal Chuck Grimm in August, teacher Kimberly Cragun-Reber in December and principal Jeanette Donovan in May.

Just before Foley passed, he had the opportunity to be baptized. Mackowiak was there to support him.

“When hospice was called in during his final days at the hospital, I came to visit him. While there, his family told me that he had confided in them that he intended to be baptized,” she said.

A priest was called in to administer the sacrament of baptism, along with first Eucharist and confirmation to Foley. In the urgency of the moment, Mackowiak stepped forward to be his sponsor — a moment she calls “one of the most beautiful and spiritual experiences I’ve ever had.”

Foley is greatly missed by Mackowiak and the school community, and his example of true kindness has left an indelible mark on Corpus Christi.

“He was an asset to our school and left a legacy that we will not forget,” Mackowiak said.
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 260-599-1449 to purchase space.

Knights host breakfast
FORT WAYNE — St. Gaspar del Bufalo Council 11043 will serve breakfast Sunday, June 25, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at Most Precious Blood School, 1515 Barthold St. Costs are $8 for adults, $4 for children 6-12, and $20 per family. Carry out will be available. Proceeds will benefit diocesan and Franciscan seminarians.

Garage sale to benefit church and school
FORT WAYNE — The Queen of Angels Parish annual garage sale will be Friday, July 21, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Saturday, July 22, from 8-11:30 a.m. in the Monsignor Faber Activities Center, 1600 West State Blvd. Bag sale on Saturday. Air conditioned and handicap accessible. All proceeds benefit Queen of Angels Church and School.

Marriage Encounter Weekend in July
SOUTH BEND — Worldwide Marriage Encounter will host a weekend July 14-16, in South Bend. Visit www.mmenc.org for more information or www.mmenc-in.org to submit an application. Apply by phone to 260-422-0803: Greg and Jen would love to help.

ND Voceale Concert
NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame’s Department of Music presents a sacred music concert titled “A Mirror over Time.” Self-reflecting Themes in the Catholic Musico-Poetic Imagination,” a concert by Notre Dame Vocale on Friday, June 25, at 9:15 p.m., in the Washington Hall Auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public.

Parish festival at Our Lady of Hungary
SOUTH BEND — Our Lady of Hungary, 829 West Calvert St., will host a parish festival on Saturday, July 15, beginning at 4 p.m. A multi-cultural melting pot of food, drink, music and fun will offer authentic Hungarian goulash and langos to traditional Mexican tacos, german tostadas, quesadillas, elotes, and chicharrones. Games for children and adults alike. Polka Mass in the church at 5 p.m.

Nights of music in the pond
FORT WAYNE — Enjoy two great nights of music at St. Vincent de Paul’s Party in the Pond Music Fest. Meet at the retention pond, 1502 E Wallen Rd., on Monday, June 26, and Tuesday, June 27, from 7-9 p.m. each evening. Musicians Josh Comeau and Alanna Boudreau will perform on June 26 and, Kevin Heider and Joe Zambon will perform on June 27. An ice cream truck, a bounce house for kids and much more. Bring your own picnic. Donate a toiletry item to benefit St. Vincent de Paul Society or pay $5 as admission per person each night. Contact the church office at 260-489-3537 for more information. No smoking or alcohol allowed.

Patriotic concert at cathedral
FORT WAYNE — The cathedral choir and brass quintet will present the annual patriotic concert on Wednesday, June 28, at 7 p.m. in the cathedral. Featuring American music will be conducted by Michael Dulac and accompanied by Kathy Miller. The Farmland Jazz Band will offer American music — Dixieland style. Refreshments will follow with free ice cream on the cathedral plaza.

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TODAY’S CATHOLIC
other as a means of witnessing the Catholic faith to the community. Her father, Irv Kloska, a loyal participant, confirmed that account, saying that while the Kloskas were St. Thomas parishioners, Lisa was RCIA instructor at St. Vincent and started the E Team.

“I never miss it,” he said of the procession. “Celebrating Jesus in the Eucharist is fantastic! More people need to understand the Real Presence.”

Fellow parishioners Kay Gonosko, Carol Pawlak and Hannelore Dykes have been participating for most of those 20 years as well. Gonosko said they come because they “like to witness for Christ and take him with us to the streets.”

Like many others, Theresa and Brian Gerwels, parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul, pushed their baby and toddler in a stroller. Theresa said it’s the fourth year she’s participated and claimed it to be “a simple proclamation of the Gospel.

Members of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus were there in full regalia as were members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society from St. John the Evangelist in Goshen. Other members from St. John the Evangelist participated, including Patrick Wheeler and George and Dawn Fattal and their twin sons.

The procession through the streets of Elkhart was waiting. The faithful were treated as less than a child of God. He prayed that all who govern us “seek not to be great, but to be good.” He offered prayers for forgiveness for abortionists, and that they be granted the grace of repentance.”

“Deliver us from every temptation to despair; give us full confidence of the Gospel, ‘for those who love God all things come to good.’”

He prayed, “When the culture of death surrounds us, never let us lose sight of the beauty of your Son’s face. Give us grace to do His will and carry every cross that comes our way.”

“When the crusade for life seems unending, come to our aid. Give us assurance you are always with us and will bring victory to all.”

The Litany for Life was followed by a litany of prayers for all fathers — those who are new fathers, fathers who are alone, unemployed, addicted and abusive. The litany was repeated for mothers, members of congress and other government leaders, lawmakers and medical professionals.

They began praying the Divine Mercy chaplet as they processed the remaining distance to St. Vincent de Paul.

Bishop Rhoades reminded everyone that we should never take for granted the gift of Jesus in the Eucharist. “The Eucharist is our food for the journey. Just as he gave the Israelites manna in the desert, he gives us the Eucharist for our journey to the promised land of heaven — one that’s much better.”

Refreshments were offered afterward in Vincent Hall. The Blessed Sacrament remained in the church at St. Vincent for adoration for one week.

The procession leaves St. Thomas the Apostle Church and heads down Main Street in Elkhart Sunday, June 18.

The bishop also prayed to remove from all hearts the temptation to harm human life, to remove the arrogance that our wants and needs are superior to others and that no person be treated as less than a child of God.

He prayed that all who govern us “seek not to be great, but to be good.” He offered prayers for forgiveness for abortionists, and that they be granted the grace of repentance. He prayed, “When the culture of death surrounds us, never let us lose sight of the beauty of your Son’s face. Give us grace to do His will and carry every cross that comes our way.”

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The Sacred Host is adored by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during a Corpus Christi procession Sunday afternoon at one of the planned prayer stops.