



**The**

# Criterion

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## Pope says religions must help restore shattered hopes for peace

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—When the twin towers in New York fell after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, many people's hopes for a future of peace also fell, Pope John Paul II said.

"Peace cannot be built on mutual ignorance, but on dialogue and encounter," the pope said in a message to a Sept. 7-9 interreligious meeting on peace sponsored by the Rome-based Sant'Egidio Community.

The meeting in Aachen, Germany, was the community's 17th international gathering designed as a follow-up to Pope John Paul II's 1986 gathering of religious leaders in Assisi, Italy.

In 1986, the pope said, "the world was still divided in two blocks and oppressed by the fear of nuclear war. Seeing how urgent was the need people felt to once again dream of a future of peace and prosperity for all, I invited believers from the world's diverse religions to gather in prayer for peace."

Unfortunately, the pope said, the yearning for peace expressed at the Assisi gathering was not acted upon quickly or carefully enough.

"In these years, too little has been invested to defend peace and to support the dream of a world free from wars," he said.

Instead, the pope said, too many leaders chose the path of developing special interests and spending money on other priorities, particularly on military weapons and machinery.

"In a few days, we will remember the tragic attack on the twin towers of New York," he said in the message read to the gathering on Sept. 7 and released at the Vatican the next day.

"Unfortunately, together with the towers, many hopes for peace also seem to have crumbled," Pope John Paul wrote.

War, conflict and terrorism continue to sow death and fear, he said.

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## Research paper documents effects of Sept. 11

ST. LOUIS (CNS)—If a goal of terrorism is to make victims feel less in control of their own destinies, the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, succeeded, according to research from St. Louis University.

The study, published this year in the *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, is the first to compare people's attitudes before and after the attacks.



Franciscan Father Brian Jordan blesses a 20-foot tall cross of steel beams on Oct. 4, 2001, that was recovered from the rubble of the World Trade Center two days after the towers collapsed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Pope John Paul II said many people's hopes for a future of peace crumbled when the twin towers fell, but he said people must continue to use the "weapons" of prayer and dialogue to bring peace to the world.

"Most people raised within the Judeo-Christian tradition believe that life is at least relatively fair," said Fredric Wolinsky, former professor at St. Louis University School of Public Health and lead investigator on the study. "They believe that if you work hard, you can succeed. The attacks of Sept. 11 changed that for many people."

"In a sense this demonstrates that the attacks were successful," said Wolinsky,

who was recently appointed to the John W. Colloton chair in health management and policy at the University of Iowa. He said the terrorist attacks "changed deep-seated psychological assumptions."

Wolinsky, who did his research while at the Jesuit-run St. Louis University as a professor of health management and policy, said it usually is

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## Archbishop to hold retreat for men interested in the priesthood

By Brandon A. Evans

In just a few weeks, single men between 18 and 50 that have considered a vocation of ordained ministry in the Church will have a unique opportunity: they will be able to spend two days with the archbishop.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein will lead a retreat for any such men on Sept. 26-27 at Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis.

The two-day event is free of charge.

The archbishop called the event a "reflection with guys who are willing to join me in taking a look at the way a person can figure out if God is calling him to the priesthood."

Prayer will surround the retreat, including Mass and eucharistic adoration, and the archbishop will present two conferences—one of which will focus on his own vocation story.

Father Joseph Moriarty, vocations director, hopes that by hearing the archbishop's story and his difficulties and obstacles, "they might be able to say, to know, that these obstacles are not insurmountable, particularly if one is trusting the will of God in their life."

Father Moriarty also hopes that those attending get a more real sense of the priesthood, and a sense that with God's help it is an attainable vocation—no one should feel like they are not holy enough or worthy enough.

He is looking for men in particular that are involved in service to their parish, particularly in the liturgical aspect of it. Also, they should be men who have a regular pattern of prayer.

Father Moriarty noted that this is the first time that he knows of that a retreat like this has happened in the archdiocese—and he thinks it's great.

"The archbishop is chief shepherd of priests, and for my part as one of his priests, I see no better example of calling men to priesthood than the chief shepherd inviting them to come and to listen and to discern," he said.

Chris Wadelton, an archdiocesan seminarian studying at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary

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## Bishop Gregory reaffirms celibacy in response to petition

MILWAUKEE (CNS)—Changing the discipline of clerical celibacy would not assure increased vocations in the Catholic Church, according to Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Bishop Gregory's comments came in an Aug. 29 letter addressed to Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of Milwaukee.

The letter, made public on Sept. 4, was

in response to the Aug. 16 letter signed by 163 priests of the Milwaukee Archdiocese and mailed to Bishop Gregory on Aug. 19. In that letter, written and circulated by Fathers Thomas Suriano, Joseph Aufdermauer and Steven Dunn, the priests urged that "diocesan priesthood now be open to married men as well as to celibate men."

"The vitality of the Church in the

United States today owes much to the tens of thousands of priests who in previous generations were and today are faithful to the commitment of chaste celibacy and who have found it to be a powerful spiritual means to draw closer to Christ," Bishop Gregory wrote.

The Milwaukee priests said their primary motive for seeking a change in the

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# RETREAT

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in Mundelein, Ill., called it a great opportunity for men to devote time to just thinking about their vocation.

It will give some men the chance to take the next step of applying—a process that Father Moriarty hopes to discuss in a special question and answer conference—while others may use the weekend as a first step

in active discernment.

Wadelton attended a similar retreat in February 2002 in the Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon, where he was working in the semi-conductor industry. At the time, he had thought about the priesthood for three years.

“It was an easy way to spend some dedicated time” in prayer about whether or not to take the next step.

Portland's Archbishop John Vlazny led the weekend retreat and shared his story of

a call to the priesthood.

“It was a pretty major turning point in my discernment,” Wadelton said. He is a native of Indianapolis and returned to study for his home archdiocese.

As it happens, Archbishop Buechlein learned about the retreat in a conversation with Archbishop Vlazny and made it one of the major themes in his campaign for vocations, which he spelled out in “A New Moment of Grace 2007.”

Wadelton is excited that the archbishop

is doing this retreat—he said that five men out of the 22 or 23 that attended the Portland retreat last year applied for seminary.

“I think it shows how important vocations are to the archbishop,” Father Moriarty said, “and how important the work, the service and the ministry of ordained priests are to the archbishop.”

(For more information, call Father Joseph Moriarty at 317-236-1495 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1495.) †

## Gift of prayer shows the true way to increased vocations

By Brandon A. Evans

When Father Jonathan Meyer was ordained earlier this summer, he was given a gift unlike all others—one meant to sustain him and nourish him along his ministerial journey.

He was given prayer, but not just one prayer, or even several. He was given 2,372 rosaries, 426 holy hours and 12 ways of the cross—and was given a book that included who was praying what for him and when.

The spiritual bouquet was the idea of Mary Keck, a member of St. Michael Parish in Brookville, and she rallied members of the parish around her idea and signed individuals and families up for a year's worth of prayer.

Such a spiritual bounty was not intended for him alone, though, but for the priests and religious connected to St. Michael Parish, and for future vocations to the priesthood.

Father Meyer, who is now the associate pastor of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood and the associate director of the Office of Youth Ministry, called it “the greatest gift I could have ever received.”

He served at St. Michael Parish last summer.

“The more that I enter into the priesthood that I've been given by Christ, I come to realize how much of an instrument I am, and truly how all of this

comes from God's grace and through the prayers of the faithful,” Father Meyer said.

He said that the prayers give him confidence in his ministry.

He also knows that it is the power of prayer—and prayers like these—that is what will help young men called to the priesthood answer the call.

Father Patrick Beidelman, the pastor of St. Michael Parish and Holy Guardian Angels Parish in Cedar Grove, said that the spiritual bouquet is “right on the mark” for what is needed for an increase in vocations.

“I think that it is a wonderful foundation for the promotion and encouragement of future vocations,” he said.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein has made it known that he would like to have 50 new seminarians by the year 2007.

“Because of my conviction that God continues to call candidates to the priesthood, and because it is a tremendous way of life, yes, I am confident that we can reach the goal of 50 seminarians by the end of 2007,” the archbishop said.

Father Meyer said that he agrees, and that if the goal is to be reached, all efforts must be rooted in prayer.

“No other activity is more powerful than prayer, especially family prayer,” Archbishop Buechlein said.

Currently, 11 families are signed up for prayer on Keck's list of those contributing to Father Meyer's spiritual gift.

Prayer, the archbishop said, is a way to

build up the faith in youth and in families.

Keck said that prayer for vocations, along with strong families and priests interacting positively with young people, will help the current situation of declining priests.

She said that offering the prayers in the spiritual bouquet “inspires us to all become holier people,” and that when the people gather to pray for the priests and religious, they remember to pray for other parishioners and people.

The members of the parish are praying specifically for Father Beidelman; Father J. Lawrence Richardt, who is in residence at Holy Guardian Angels Parish; Francisca Sister M. Dominica Doyle, principal of St. Michael School; Franciscan Sister Helen Eckstein, a teacher at St. Michael School; and Shaun Whittington, archdiocesan seminarian.

Keck said that she knows the priests, religious and seminarians are “really counting on these prayers and they really need them.”

Father Beidelman said that it is “remarkably encouraging” that Keck and the parishioners took up this project on their own.

“I thought it was just extraordinarily thoughtful,” Father Beidelman said.

“That's really the thing that really blows my mind,” Father Meyer said. “This was [Keck's] own initiative. It wasn't prompted by a priest saying ‘do this.’ It wasn't prompted by anything but really her



Photo by Mary Ann Wyand

At his ordination Mass on June 28 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, Father Jonathan Meyer, left, now associate pastor of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood, is vested by Father Patrick Beidelman, pastor of St. Michael Parish in Brookville and Holy Guardian Angels Parish in Cedar Grove. Recently, the two priests were recipients of a spiritual bouquet from a member of St. Michael Parish.

responding to the Holy Spirit.”

Keck said that Father Meyer made a big impact on the parish when he served there last year, and his love for them inspired her to arrange this gift.

Father Meyer called the gift “a tremendous prayer of hope.”

“Because when people pray, things happen,” he said. “And people are praying.” †

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# Angels from the Heart help center-city residents

By Mary Ann Wyand

It was clean-up, and fix-up time at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Indianapolis on Sept. 6, and more than 350 volunteers from area parishes, schools, organizations and businesses turned out to help spruce up homes and streets in the near-south side neighborhood.

Volunteers for the fourth annual Angels from the Heart Day sponsored by Sacred Heart Parish helped elderly and poor neighborhood residents improve their properties and also beautified the parish campus.

At about 20 work sites, volunteers of all ages painted houses, cleaned gutters, repaired broken concrete, built a hand rail, and removed weeds and debris from streets, sidewalks and yards. They also landscaped the Franciscan friars' meditation garden and the yard between the rectory and the church.

Sacred Heart parishioners started Angels from the Heart Day three years ago to help the poor and beautify the neighborhood as part of the parish's 125th anniversary celebration in 2000.

Franciscan Father Michael Barrett, pastor of the historic south side parish, rode his bicycle to the project sites last Saturday to talk with volunteers and neighborhood residents and also offer blessings for their work.

"This is our fourth event and we've got people who have volunteered for two or three years back again this year to help with the work," Father Michael said while inspecting a neighborhood beautification project at the railroad crossing on nearby Terrace Street.

"It's exciting because it brings people together from all over the city," he said, "and they get to meet each other and work together. It's also great to see the people who are so happy to have their house painted or other repairs done to their property. At the last place I visited, I talked with an elderly couple who didn't have the money to do the work themselves. They were so grateful for the help."

When a fire gutted the interior of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church two years ago, neighborhood residents offered their prayers and support, he said. Angels from the Heart Day also is an opportunity to say thank you to the neighbors.

"The church is restored to its former beauty," Father Michael said, "and now the parish is helping improve the neighborhood. We want to help make things better for the people who live here or pass through to visit."

Sacred Heart parishioner Pat Heinzelman of Indianapolis, the volunteer coordinator for Angels from the Heart Day, said the Benedictine sisters at Our Lady of Grace Monastery offer prayers for good weather each year.

"They are wonderful," Heinzelman said. "Some of the nuns help with registration, and many of them pray for sunshine. Four out of four years, we've had good weather. We call them our God Squad."

Angels from the Heart Day began with registration at 8:30 a.m. followed by prayers and work assignments. Most of the volunteers worked outdoors all day then returned to the church for Mass at 5 p.m.

Participants or donors for the fourth annual service project represented Sacred Heart Parish, Roncalli High School, Marian College, St. Roch Parish, St. Jude Parish, St. Barnabas Parish, St. Christopher Parish, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Holy Angels Parish, St. Philip Neri Parish and Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, all in Indianapolis.

Other participating groups included the Sisters of St. Benedict of Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, the Knights of Columbus Mater Dei Council #437, Immanuel United Church of Christ, the Arthur and Anna Field Clan, the Emerald Society and the United States Coast Guard.

Business-related groups participating with volunteers or by donating funds and supplies were Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Ameritech Telephone Pioneers, Sagamore Health Network, Porter Paints, the Meridian Street Greenhouse, Monogram Magic and Spectral Graphics.

Sacred Heart parishioner Joe Williams drew a picture of the historic church to decorate a welcome sign on Terrace Street. Junior high students from St. Roch and St. Thomas Aquinas parishes helped with the lettering.

"We cleaned up the debris along this part of the street and took the weeds down on both sides of the railroad track," Williams said. "It was pretty dirty and overgrown, and the kids cleaned it up and planted mums. It was hard to see across the railroad intersection, so this makes the street safer, too."

The front of the sign says "Sacred Heart welcomes you" and lists the parish telephone number, he said, and the back of the sign says "The Lord be with you."

St. Jude parishioner Arthur Field III, whose relatives helped with a variety of projects in the family's former neighborhood, said he is happy to see so many high school and junior high school students involved in community service.

"It gets the children involved," Field said, "and it has gotten some of the residents in the neighborhood to start taking better care of their property. There's been a lot of improvements in the neighborhood over this four-year period."

More than 150 Roncalli High School students volunteered all day. Roncalli senior Chris Leppert of St. Roch Parish has helped with every Angels from the Heart Day. This year, he painted the fence around the friars' garden and collected trash from streets and alleys.

"I've helped for the past four years," Chris said, "just because it's special."

Roncalli freshman Drew Cronk of St. Barnabas Parish said "it means a lot to help people in need. It's all about pitching in and giving a lending hand. It's also fun to work with your friends and learn teamwork. We're developing a lot of really good skills by helping the poor." †



Above, St. Roch School seventh-graders Amy Broughton and Jeffrey Feltman of Indianapolis help paint letters on a sign welcoming people to the Sacred Heart neighborhood on the south side. Parishioner Joe Williams drew a picture of the historic church for the sign, which also says "The Lord be with you." Junior high students from St. Thomas Aquinas Parish also helped them clean up trash and plant flowers along the railroad crossing at Terrace Street.

Left, St. Roch parishioner Rose Mather, a former member of Sacred Heart Parish, and Arthur Field IV, whose family is from Sacred Heart Parish, pull weeds and sweep up debris along Union Street south of the historic church.

Roncalli High School freshman Drew Cronk paints the fence around the Franciscan friars' meditation garden on Sept. 6 as part of an Angels from the Heart Day work project.



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## Editorial

# Religious education

Seventy-six of the 150 parishes in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis do not have Catholic schools or access to a consolidated school. Schools in some other parishes are filled to capacity, so parents must send their children to public schools. And some parents simply choose to send their children to public schools.

Whatever the case, we cannot rely only on Catholic schools to provide the religious education of our Catholic children. Of course, we aren't. Our parishes have directors, or administrators, of religious education (DREs), who face the tremendous task of passing on our Catholic faith to both the children and adults.

According to the current *Archdiocesan Directory*, last year 17,228 children in the archdiocese participated in out-of-school religious education programs from pre-school through high school. This compares with 24,230 students in Catholic schools, also from pre-school through high school. There also were 15,675 adult participants in religious education programs of one kind or another.

Since there were 229,482 Catholics registered in our parishes last year, and 57,133 of them were either in Catholic schools or in religious education programs, it would certainly appear that there's considerable room for more participants. It would be nice to think that all the rest were at least reading *The Criterion* and listening intently to homilies at Sunday Mass, but . . .

At the national level, in 1998 only 16 percent of Catholic children were in Catholic schools and 52 percent of them were in parish catechetical programs. The remaining 32 percent weren't in any programs.

DREs throughout the country face the problem of trying to retain children in the upper grades, especially high school students. Just when the children are beginning to have adult-type questions about their faith and morality, they stop getting the guidance of the Church.

DREs also are concerned about how effective the programs can be in the limited time they have. Thomas P. Walters, a professor of theology and religious education at Saint Meinrad Seminary, is quoted in Peter Steinfeld's new book *A People Adrift*. He says that 390 hours is the amount of time a student would spend in parish religious

education if he or she came to a one-hour class for 30 weeks a year, every year from kindergarten to senior year in high school.

That compares to 11,000 hours students spend in public schools or 15,000 hours they spend watching television during that same period of time. Also, Walters says, that 390-hour figure is hugely generous because very few Catholic public school pupils actually participate in parish catechetical programs for all 13 years.

Our DREs, therefore, have an enormous challenge, especially when they must rely almost entirely on volunteers to staff their programs.

That challenge only increases when they and pastors try to figure out how to entice adults. The fact is that today's adult Catholics are the most educated Catholics in history in secular subjects, but their knowledge about their religion too often remains at the eighth-grade level, if that.

Back in 1999, the American bishops approved a document that declared adult faith formation to be at the heart of the Church's catechetical effort. The Vatican made the same point years before. The bishops called for adult faith formation teams to be formed in parishes. These teams are to analyze local needs and devise programs that will meet those needs.

Alas, it too often seems that most Catholic adults consider religious education to be something for children. We know that there are programs out there in our parishes for adults, but adults aren't taking advantage of them in the numbers that they should.

It's also true, though, at least in many cases, that parish budgets don't reflect the priority that adult's, or even children's, religious education is supposed to have. According to one survey of DREs, in more than half of the parishes, catechetical programs received less than 10 percent of the parish budget.

Would simply increasing the budget for catechetical programs help? There's no evidence that that would attract more adult Catholics. Those programs will improve when Catholics become dissatisfied with their knowledge about their faith and decide to do something about it.

Meanwhile, we applaud all those, DREs and volunteers, who are doing their best to pass on the faith to both our children and adults.

— John F. Fink

Treasures of Faith/Fr. Daniel J. Mahan

# Lift high the cross

The people of Israel faced numerous hardships as they crossed the desert to the Promised Land. One of these trials was the infestation of their camp by serpents; the venomous bites were deadly to many and the people appealed in desperation to Moses.

Through Moses, God provided a remedy: "Fashion a poisonous serpent [out of bronze] and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live" (Nm 21:8).

Jesus used this image in anticipation of his own crucifixion as he spoke with Nicodemus. "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life" (Jn 3:15).

The serpent bite was cured by looking in faith upon the image of the serpent, but what is healed by looking in faith to Jesus raised in suffering on the cross?

The answer is simple: The original serpent bite is what Jesus comes to cure.

The serpent had deceived our first parents, persuading them to disobey God and eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. That serpent's deadly bite was its word of deception. No longer would our first parents enjoy the harmony and contentment of paradise; instead they would know the cruel reality of disease, decadence and death.

At that moment, death entered the world, but so too did God's promise of life, for he pledged that one who would come as the offspring of the woman would do battle with the serpent, crushing

the serpent's head (Gn 3:15).

Innocent and sinless, Jesus is the One lifted up on the cross. "Though he was in the form of God, [he] did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave...[and] humbled himself ... to the point of death, even death on a cross" (Phil 2:6-8).

He endured the agony of death by crucifixion, in order to provide a remedy from death. Jesus, lifted up on the cross, becomes the One to whom we can look in faith to find healing, forgiveness, mercy and life in abundance. Just as death entered the world through the sin of one, so too life entered the world through the sacrifice of One. Jesus' cross becomes the tree of life, undoing the deadly effects of the tree in the garden.

This Sunday, Sept. 14, as we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, we will hear proclaimed Jesus' words to Nicodemus. In listening to that Gospel, may we remember that we, too, are called to look in faith at the One who is lifted up for our salvation. We are called to a personal faith, a personal relationship with Jesus, allowing him to be the remedy for all of our pains, all of our disappointments and sorrows, and yes, even death itself.

May we hold in our hearts and make our own Jesus' message to Nicodemus, the most consoling words ever spoken: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish, but might have eternal life" (Jn 3:16).

(Father Daniel J. Mahan is pastor of St. Louis Parish in Batesville and dean of the Batesville Deanery. This is the first of an occasional column.) †



Pope John Paul II prays beside a sculpture of a bronze snake on a cross at Mount Nebo in Jordan on March 20, 2000. Overlooking the Jordan valley, the pope during his pilgrimage to the Holy Land recounted how Moses led his people for 40 years through the desert before reaching the mountain, where he died before he could reach the Promised Land.

ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO DANIEL M. BUECHLEIN, O.S.B.



# SEEKING THE FACE OF THE LORD

## BUSCANDO LA CARA DEL SEÑOR

### A few good men who are answering God's call

I spent three days on retreat with our seminarians recently before they headed off for a new academic year of preparation and formation for the priesthood.

It was a blessing to be present with a group of truly wholesome fellows who love God and the Church. It was fun to be with them. I thank them "for giving God a chance."

Each one of them is sharp. They "know what is going on" and what is demanded of them. They have no pretensions in that they know it will be by God's grace and the call of the Church if and when they are ordained.

Some of our seminarians are undergrads in a college formation program. Most of them are older and are in their graduate years of theological education and spiritual and pastoral formation.

Some of them had been out of school for a few years. Several left behind successful careers to pursue their vocational discernment for the priesthood. God has given all of them the grace of generosity and courage.

I speak confidently about them because, arguably, these men have been evaluated and screened more closely than applicants for any other career in society. If they persevere, their leadership will be a blessing for our archdiocese.

For the third day of the retreat, one of the seminarians organized a "Pilgrimage for Priesthood Vocations" to the Old Cathedral

in Vincennes and the tomb of our first bishop, Simon Guillaume Gabriel Bruté de Rémur.

We celebrated Mass in the Old Cathedral. Later, we prayed Midday Prayer in the crypt where Bishop Bruté and three of our earliest bishops are interred.

Personally, I was moved during the Eucharist. It was my first opportunity to preside from the *cathedra* of our first cathedral. It was a privilege to celebrate at the tomb of the first of my bishop predecessors, who was an important figure in the history of the Church in the United States.

And I was humbled because our first bishop was outstanding in every way, especially in holiness and in courage. He founded the local Church in the territory we know as Indiana and half of Illinois with only three priests, one of whom was on loan. He endured poverty and hardship that we can hardly imagine.

Bishop Bruté also was very intelligent. He was a theologian at several of the early Councils of Baltimore in the 1800s. He was president of Mount St. Mary Seminary and University in Maryland and also the spiritual director of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

It is one of my dreams to pursue the cause of Bishop Bruté's beatification and canonization. At his tomb I prayed that if God wills it, some day someone will come forward to assist with the substantial resources required to do so.

Most people are not aware that in his

day Bishop Bruté had one of the largest and most substantial libraries in the New World. It is preserved at the site of the Old Cathedral in a special vault under the cathedral museum, which our pilgrim group was privileged to visit.

Our pilgrimage returned to St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg in time for evening prayer and a cookout with the parish Knights of Columbus.

I am proud of our seminarians and I believe they will be worthy successors to the first missionaries of our state and their first bishop.

The next day, I had an extended luncheon with three seminarians from the Archdiocese of Guadalajara in Mexico and Father Michael E. O'Mara, pastor of St. Mary Parish in Indianapolis. Stories in *The Criterion* earlier this summer explained their presence in our archdiocese as missionaries to our Hispanic community—to our Hispanic youth and young adults in particular.

It didn't take long for me to figure out that the rector of their seminary chose three bright, committed and mature men to help us during their summer vacation. They will be ordained to the diaconate on the day

before Christmas. They will be ordained priests next Pentecost Sunday.

Each of them was responsible for ministry in two or three parishes in the city. Father O'Mara was their host and moderator. He also acted as interpreter for me as my Spanish is quite limited.

Each of the seminarians reported on their experience. They also had specific and helpful recommendations for me. They were very happy to have had the experience here in our archdiocese and appreciated our hospitality and reception. I was happy to hear that they want to recommend that even more of their fellow seminarians assist us next summer.

I wish more of you had the opportunity to be with our seminarians and those from Guadalajara. We are planning opportunities for more youth and young adults to meet them.

By the way, I am leading an overnight retreat later this month at Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis for fellows who want to consider whether they are being called to the priesthood. The retreat begins at 6 p.m. on Sept. 26 and concludes at 3 p.m. on Sept. 27. Please spread the word! †

#### Archbishop Buechlein's intention for vocations for September

**Teachers/Religious Education Directors:** that they may rely on the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit as they hand on the Catholic faith to our youth and encourage them to consider vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

## Un grupo de hombres que han respondido al llamado de Dios

Recientemente pasé tres días en un retiro con nuestros seminaristas antes de que los enviaran para un nuevo año académico de preparación y formación para el sacerdocio.

Fue una bendición estar presente con un grupo de compañeros íntegros que aman a Dios y a la Iglesia. Fue divertido compartir con ellos. Les agradezco que "le hayan dado una oportunidad a Dios".

Todos ellos son listos. Saben "lo que está ocurriendo" y lo que se espera de ellos. No hacen presunciones pues saben que si se ordenan y cuando lo hagan será por la gracia de Dios y la llamada de la Iglesia.

Algunos de nuestros seminaristas son estudiantes de algún programa de educación universitaria. La mayoría tienen más edad y están terminando la instrucción teológica y la formación espiritual y pastoral.

Otros ya han estado fuera de las aulas desde hace algunos años. Varios han dejado atrás carreras exitosas en la búsqueda de su vocación sacerdotal. Dios les ha dado a todos la gracia de la generosidad y el valor para hacerlo.

Hablo de ellos con confianza porque posiblemente estos hombres hayan sido evaluados y examinados con mayor atención que los candidatos de cualquier otra carrera en nuestra sociedad. Si perseveran, su liderazgo será una bendición para nuestra arquidiócesis.

El tercer día del retiro uno de los seminaristas organizó un "Peregrinaje para las Vocaciones Sacerdotales" a la vieja Catedral en Vincennes y a la tumba de nuestro primer obispo, Simón Guillaume

Gabriel Bruté de Rémur.

Celebramos la misa en la vieja catedral. Luego hicimos la Plegaria de Mediodía en la cripta donde están enterrados el Obispo Bruté y tres de nuestros primeros obispos.

En lo personal, me sentí conmovido durante la Eucaristía; mi primera oportunidad de presidir desde el púlpito de nuestra primera catedral. Fue un privilegio realizar esta celebración en la tumba del primero obispo que nos precede, quien ha sido una figura importante en la historia de la Iglesia de los Estados Unidos.

Y me sentí humilde porque nuestro primer Obispo fue notable de muchas formas, especialmente por su santidad y su valor. Él fundó la iglesia local en el territorio que ahora conocemos como Indiana y la mitad de Illinois con sólo tres sacerdotes uno de los cuales era prestado. Soportó más pobreza y dificultades de las que podamos imaginar.

El Obispo Bruté también era muy inteligente. Participó como teólogo en varios de los primeros Concilios de Baltimore en el siglo XIX. Fue presidente del Seminario Mount St. Mary y de la Universidad de Maryland, así como también director espiritual de St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Uno de mis sueños es luchar por la causa de la beatificación y la canonización del Obispo Bruté. En su tumba oré porque si Dios lo permite, algún día alguien surgirá que ayude con los recursos sustanciales necesarios para conseguirlo.

La mayoría de las personas no desconocen que el obispo Bruté tenía una de las más grandes y notables bibliotecas del Nuevo Mundo. La misma ha sido

preservada en los terrenos de la Antigua Catedral en una bóveda bajo el museo de la catedral, la cual tuvo el privilegio de visitar nuestro grupo durante el peregrinaje.

Regresamos a la parroquia de St. Malachy en Brownsburg a tiempo para la oración de la tarde y una comida al aire libre con los Caballeros de Colón de la parroquia.

Estoy orgulloso de nuestros seminaristas y creo que serán dignos sucesores de los primeros misioneros de nuestro estado y su primer obispo.

Al día siguiente tuve un extenso almuerzo con tres seminaristas de la Arquidiócesis de Guadalajara en México y con el Padre Michael E. O'Mara, pastor de la Parroquia Mary en Indianápolis. Los relatos aparecidos en *The Criterion* al principio del verano explican su presencia en nuestra arquidiócesis como misioneros de nuestra comunidad hispana —dirigidos a nuestra juventud hispana y en particular hacia los jóvenes adultos.

No me tomó mucho tiempo adivinar por qué el rector de su seminario escogió a estos tres hombres brillantes, comprometidos y maduros para que nos ayudaran durante sus vacaciones de verano. Serán ordenados diáconos el día antes de Navidad. Serán ordenados sacerdotes el próximo Domingo de Pentecostés.

Cada uno de ellos tuvo la responsabili-

dad del ministerio en dos o tres parroquias en su ciudad. El Padre O'Mara fue su anfitrión y moderador. También actuó como mi intérprete porque mi conocimiento de español es bastante limitado.

Cada uno de los seminaristas comentó su experiencia. También me hicieron recomendaciones muy útiles y específicas. Estaban muy contentos de haber vivido esta experiencia en nuestra arquidiócesis y agradecieron nuestra hospitalidad y acogida. Me agradó enterarme de que ellos recomendarán que algunos más de sus compañeros nos ayuden el próximo verano.

Me gustaría que más de ustedes tengan la oportunidad de estar con nuestros seminaristas y los seminaristas de Guadalajara. Estamos planeando oportunidades para que más jóvenes y adultos jóvenes puedan conocerlos.

Por cierto, estoy planeando un retiro a finales de este mes en la Casa de Retiro Fátima en Indianápolis, para aquellos que quieran considerando el llamado a la vocación sacerdotal. El retiro empezará a las 6 p.m. el 26 de septiembre y concluirá a las 3 p.m. el 27 de septiembre. ¡Por favor pasen la voz! †

Traducido por: Language Training Center, Indianapolis

#### La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en septiembre

**Maestros/Directores de Educación Religiosa:** ¡que ellos puedan contar con la fuerza y dirección del Espíritu Santo cuando pasen la fe Católica a los jóvenes y les den ánimo a ellos a considerar las vocaciones al sacerdocio y la vida religiosa!

## Check It Out . . .

St. Joan of Arc Parish, 4217 N. Central Ave., in Indianapolis, is having its **French Market** from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sept. 13. There will be French foods, booths and entertainment. For more information, call 317-283-5508.

St. Mary Parish in Aurora is having its **Riverfest 2003** at Lesko Park, Highway 56 on the Ohio River, from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Sept. 13 and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sept. 14. There will be music, games, and chicken and pork dinners. For more information, call 317-926-0060.

St. Mary Parish, 212 Washington St., in North Vernon, is having its **parish festival** all day on Sept. 13 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 14. There will be an "all you can eat" meal and children's games. For more information, call 812-346-3604.

St. Michael Parish, 250 High St., in Brookville, is having its **Fall Festival** from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Sept. 13 and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sept. 14. There will be pork chop and chicken dinners. For more information, call 765-647-5462.

**Rachel's Companions**, a confidential Catholic support group for women suffering from the aftermath of abortion, will begin meeting again on Sept. 13. To learn more or to register for the three-month program, call Servants of the Gospel of Life Sister Diane Carollo, director of the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, at 317-236-1521 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1521.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society's Archdiocesan Council of Indianapolis is having an **Estate Sale** at the distribution center, 1201 E. Maryland St., in Indianapolis, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sept. 24 and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sept. 25. There will be antiques, special event clothing, artwork and unique furniture, among other things. All of the revenue from the sale goes to help the poor. The distribution center is always open to donations, and will repair certain appliances. For more information, call the center at 317-687-1006.

There will be a **Tri-Parish Spiritual Enrichment Program Vesper Service** on Sept. 14-16 in Indianapolis. Franciscan Sister Marjorie English will present a

reflection at each service. Father Larry Voelker will preside at the service from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 14 at Holy Cross Church, 125 N. Oriental St. Father Michael O'Mara will preside at the service from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Sept. 15 at St. Mary Church, 317 N. New Jersey St. Father Rick Ginther will preside at the service from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Sept. 16 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St. A free-will offering is requested, and there will be refreshments following each service. For more information, call Holy Cross Parish at 317-637-2620, St. Mary Parish at 317-637-3983 or SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral Parish at 317-634-4519.

Mount Saint Francis Retreat Center in Floyd County is offering a **"Women's Retreat"** on Sept. 26-28. There will also be a **"Friends of Francis Retreat"** on Oct. 3-5. The theme of both retreats is "Journeying with Jesus Christ." The suggested offering for each retreat is \$95 per person. For more information, call 812-923-8817 or e-mail [mtstfran@cris.com](mailto:mtstfran@cris.com) or log on to [www.cris.com/~mtstfran](http://www.cris.com/~mtstfran).

The annual reunion liturgy for the former **St. John Academy in Indianapolis** will be held at 11 a.m. on Sept. 28 at St. John the Evangelist Church, 126 W. Georgia St., in Indianapolis. Members of the class of 1953 will be honored. The celebrant will be Benedictine Father Noah Casey, the new administrator of the parish effective Sept. 24. For more information, call the parish at 317-635-2021.

Mount Saint Francis Retreat Center in Floyd County is offering a **"Come-and-See Day"** from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sept. 27. The day will be hosted by the Conventual Franciscans and is for single men ages 16-40 who are interested in learning more about the priesthood and brotherhood in the Catholic Church. There is no cost for the day. For more information, call Conventual Franciscan Father Jim Kent at 800-424-9955 or e-mail [franvoc@aol.com](mailto:franvoc@aol.com).

There will be a free lecture titled **"Introducing the Franciscan Family"** from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 14 in Room 251 of Marian Hall at Marian College, 3200 Cold Spring Road, in Indianapolis. The event is sponsored by the Marian College Franciscan Spirituality Board. The speakers will be Franciscan Sister Ann Vonder Meulen; Joe Kuczowski, a member of the secular Franciscan order; and July Hillman, an associate of the Sisters of St. Francis. For more information, call 317-955-6000.

A workshop on **"Prayer and Conversion"** will be offered by Saint Meinrad School of Theology from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Sept. 24, Oct. 1 and Oct. 8 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., in Greenwood. Franciscan Sister Barbara Leonhard, a teacher, retreat director and spiritual director, will be the presenter. The cost is \$60 per person, less for seniors. For more information or to register, call the Indianapolis Office of Saint Meinrad School of Theology at 317-955-6451. †

## VIPs . . .



Brother John Mark Falkenhain

**Novices Marc Falkenhain** of St. Louis, Mo., and **Jeffrey Nord** of Huntingburg, Ind., professed temporary vows at Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad on Aug. 6. With their professions, each received the name of a patron saint.

Falkenhain now becomes Brother John Mark. A native of Belleville, Ill., he grew up in St. Louis, where he attended high school at



Brother Paul Nord

Chaminade College Prep School and was a member of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

Following high school, he received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Christian Brothers College in Memphis, Tenn. He earned master's and doctorate degrees in clinical psychology from St. Louis University. For the next five years, he worked at the Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis.

Nord is now Brother Paul.

A native of Indianapolis, he attended Southridge High School in Huntingburg, Ind., and was a member of St. Joseph Parish in Dale, Ind.

In 1997, he received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute. He has been studying for the priesthood at Saint Meinrad School of Theology since 1999. †

## Awards . . .

**Providence Sister Catherine Marie Qualters**, music director at St. Anthony Parish in Indianapolis, was recently honored as an honorary firefighter with the Indianapolis Fire Department. In an official proclamation from Chief Louis Dezelan, she was called a "true friend to the Indianapolis Fire Department in general" and to Station 18 in particular. She was also honored for her commitment to the parish and community. Station 18 is down the street from the parish, and whenever the fire trucks go by she goes outside, waves and prays for them. Sister Catherine's father worked for the station for 30 years, and she grew up in the neighborhood. All three fire trucks from the station were present when the award was given to her. †



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## U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting movie ratings

**Dickie Robert: Former Child Star** (Paramount)  
Rated **A-III (Adults)** because of recurring crude, sexually related humor, a sensual encounter, as well as some crass language and drug references.  
Rated **PG-13 (Parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13)** by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA).

**Grind** (Warner Bros.)  
Rated **A-III (Adults)** because of an implied sexual encounter, rear nudity, intermittent toilet humor, sporadic crude gestures, sexual references, course language and an instance of profanity.  
Rated **PG-13 (Parents are strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13)** by the MPAA. †

# Nativity Parish completes ambitious school expansion

By Mary Ann Wyand

Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish in Indianapolis continues to grow in membership, and school enrollment is on the rise there, too.

Responding to changing demographics in the south-eastern part of Marion County, Nativity parishioners undertook an ambitious three-part school expansion project in 1995, which was finished this summer.

"When I came here as pastor 10-plus years ago, there had not been a lot of residential expansion in Franklin Township," Father Steven Schwab, pastor, explained. "It really got underway in the 1990s, and it's continuing."

Nativity parishioners will celebrate the completion of their latest school addition on Sept. 14 with Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein.

The archbishop will bless the school building at 10 a.m. on Sunday then preside at the 11 a.m. Mass at Nativity Church.

Father Schwab sees the completed school building with its many state-of-the-art amenities as a visual testimonial of the love, dedication and generosity shown by parishioners during the past decade.

To address the growing demand for Catholic education in the area, he said, Nativity Parish undertook capital campaigns in 1995 and 2000, which raised \$2,386,000 for three school expansions.

In 1995, Nativity's "Building Our Future" campaign, chaired by parishioner Mark Bohnert, raised \$962,000 in pledges to build a gymnasium, conference room and administrative offices.

Those facilities were completed in 1996, opened for use in January 1997 and blessed by Archbishop Buechlein in March 1997.

The parish also honored longtime principal Lois Weilhammer, who retired after more than 20 years of service to the school, by naming the gymnasium for her.

In 2000, Nativity's "Faith, Family, Future" campaign, chaired by parishioners Paul Jennings and Donna Goebes, raised pledges of \$1,424,000 for a two-phase building project.

The first phase with four air-conditioned classrooms was built in 2001 and opened in August of that year.

The second phase, which opened last month, included four more air-conditioned classrooms for seventh- and eighth-grade students as well as a state-of-the-art computer lab, a teachers' lounge, a multi-use conference room and additional restrooms.

Peg Dispenzieri, now in her second year as Nativity's principal, said the computer lab was furnished with a \$60,000 grant from a charitable trust.

All students will be able

to use the latest school addition, she said, when they take computer classes in the new wing.

"The parishioners really support the education of their children," Dispenzieri said. "They have consistently kept up with the development of Franklin Township by providing space and opportunities for educational and religious growth. It's a real privilege to be part of a community that believes so strongly in stewardship."

This year, 315 students are enrolled at Nativity School, she said, and the expansion has enabled the nearly 40-member kindergarten class to be relocated from the church building to the school.

Daycare before and after school as well as a variety of Catholic Youth Organization sports events on evenings and weekends ensure that the school and 17-acre parish campus is busy every

day of the week.

Providence Sister Theresa Clare Carr retired two years ago after serving 25 years as a teacher, and still helps as a substitute there.

"I've always sung the praises of the parents here at Nativity," Sister Theresa Clare said, "because they've always been such a wonderful support."

"The very fact that we have two new additions to the school in such a short time is a real proof of their support and generosity and how much they value Catholic education," she said. "The support from parents means everything."

Parishioner Jane Jennings, who chairs the school commission, attributes the success of the building campaign to "the collaborative work of the many good people of Nativity Parish."

Jennings said the new addition enhances educational opportunities for stu-



Nativity School students work in the new computer lab in the school's new west wing that was completed during the summer. There are 703 households in the parish and 315 students in the school

dents and also opens up more meeting space for a variety of parish activities.

Father Schwab has a long list of parishioners to thank during the blessing ceremony this weekend,

including Nick Jarnagin, who chaired the building committee, and Dwayne Daming, a building committee member.

The parish was able to substantially reduce the

costs of the projects, Father Schwab said, because of Jarnagin, Daming and so many other parishioners who stepped forward to help complete Nativity School. †



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may Christ teach you  
to do yours."**

- St. Francis of Assisi

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# PEACE

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Meetings such as those sponsored by Sant'Egidio offer a realistic response, the pope said. They show the power of prayers for peace and demonstrate the willingness of religious believers and nonbelievers to get to know each other and to work together to overcome tension.

"In a divided world, which is increasingly pushed toward separations and particularities, there is an urgent need for unity," he said. "People of different religions and cultures are called to discover the way of encounter and dialogue."

The more people get to know, understand and respect each other, he said, the more able they will be to "disarm the violent and call them back to reason and respect."

Pope John Paul told the leaders of the world's major Christian communities and Churches that he prayed efforts to promote Christian unity would increase.

"The scandal of division can no longer be supported; it is a repeated 'no' to God and to peace," he said.

Addressing the Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist and other non-Christian leaders present, the pope encouraged increased

efforts to recognize each other as children of the same God and to promote mutual respect.

"With the weapons of prayer and of dialogue we will walk on the path toward the future," the pope said.

Andrea Riccardi, the founder of Sant'Egidio, told the gathering, "There is too much pessimism around us, and it is presented as realism."

He encouraged the religious leaders to "have the courage to spark the hope of our world, to have the courage to make it dream, to dream of peace, which is the most beautiful and realistic dream of humanity."

Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, the former chief Ashkenazi rabbi of Israel, told the gathering that he is "more pessimistic than 10 years ago" about the hopes for peace in the Holy Land.

However, he said, the fact that Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders from the region continue to dialogue and to participate in gatherings like the Sant'Egidio meeting means that some hope still exists.

"Everything can be resolved by talking and dialoguing," he said, "but if someone starts shooting, you cannot talk."

The Middle East peace process will not go forward until acts of terrorism stop and both sides begin talking to each other again, the rabbi said. †

# PAPER

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impossible to study the effects of a traumatic event like the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, because researchers can't collect baseline data about how participants felt before the attacks.

"You have to know ahead of time when an attack will occur," he said. "Only the attackers know that, and they're not going to do a study."

Wolinsky's research was made possible only by coincidence. His team already had begun an investigation of how patients with illnesses such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, congestive heart failure and asthma felt about their lives.

Participants were asked questions about their mental health, levels of personal stress and feelings of control over their lives.

"We saw an opportunity to gauge how this event changed people's feelings about their lives," he said.

While feelings of personal stress and mental well-being did not change, participants were much more likely to report that they disagreed with statements such as "I am responsible for my own successes" and "my misfortunes are the result of mistakes I have made" than they were prior to Sept. 11, 2001.

Researchers from the St. Louis Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Indiana University School of Medicine, the Regenstrief Institute for Health Care in Indianapolis and the Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis also participated in the study.

The study, based on older adults receiving health care in Indianapolis and St. Louis, included an initial interview and six bimonthly follow-up interviews with 1,662 patients. Of these, 437 had the opportunity to complete only three interviews, and 291 of them completed all six interviews.

The study revealed no noticeable changes in personal stress or mental health after the Sept. 11 attacks, but did reveal a decline in sense of control that was greater among those who were working for pay, had more comfortable incomes and reported greater religiosity.

In determining why the terrorist attacks altered patients' sense of control, the researchers concluded that a "sense of control is a representation of the patient's view of the just world perspective." The researchers concluded that an event of the magnitude of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks "would likely be viewed as a shocking violation of the just world perspective, especially among a cohort predisposed to claim responsibility for their own successes and failures."

Wolinsky said the findings are even more striking given that most subjects were 50 or older, an age at which people's fundamental attitudes about the world tend typically not to change.

"Somebody's sense of control is usually fixed by their early 30s," he said. "As people get older, an isolated event doesn't rattle them much. This is an exception." †



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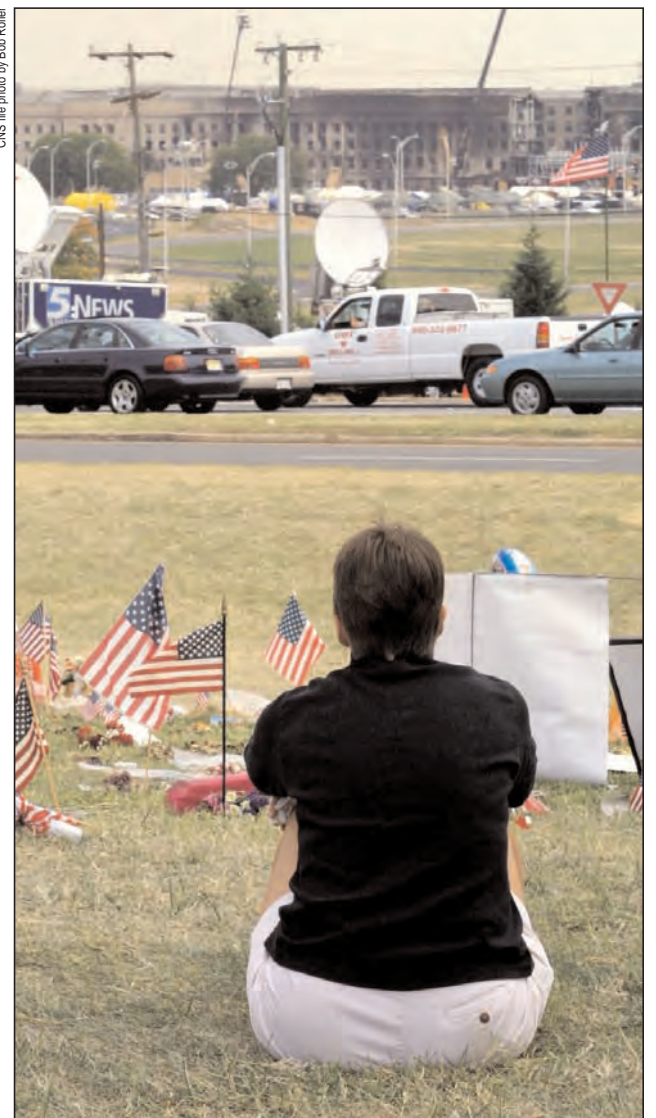
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CNS file photo by Bob Reller



A woman reflects at a makeshift memorial on a plot of grass across from the destroyed section of the Pentagon on Sept. 18, 2001. A St. Louis University researcher found that the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks changed deep-seated psychological assumptions, including the belief that life is at least relatively fair.



# D.C. voucher plan makes progress in House, Senate

WASHINGTON (CNS)—A Catholic schools official described as “good news” the recent approval of a school voucher initiative for the District of Columbia by a U.S. Senate committee and the full House of Representatives.

Oblate Father William Davis, assistant secretary for Catholic schools and public policy for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Department of Education, has been monitoring the voucher legislation closely. He said the narrow victory in the House (205-203) on Sept. 5 does not open the door for federal approval of other voucher plans.

The priest said the legislation for D.C. vouchers was separate from other voucher initiatives and noted, “We won’t get the votes for other scholarship programs.”

But he was quick to acknowledge that a victory for D.C. vouchers is certainly a step in the right direction. “It’s progress,” he told Catholic News Service on Sept. 5.

The \$10 million voucher program plan approved by the House will provide \$7,500 to at least 1,300 low-income District of Columbia students to attend the school

of their choice.

The five-year pilot program aims to give hope to students who attend “the worst schools in America,” according to Rep. John Boehner, R-Ohio, chairman of the Education and Workplace Committee.

Critics of the House proposal, which is an amendment to the District of Columbia appropriations bill, said it signified the abandonment of D.C. public schools and suggested that money should instead be spent on fixing buildings and helping teachers.

Eleanor Holmes Norton, the district’s nonvoting delegate in Congress, told House members that by voting for vouchers they would “send a signal to every private school in the country [and] to every organization of private schools, that this is the time to bring pressure to get the same private-school deal that the District of Columbia got.”

Her amendment to eliminate the \$10 million funding for the voucher program failed on a tie vote of 203-203.

The full Senate is expected to vote on a similar five-year voucher amendment the week of Sept. 8, as part of the District’s \$5.6 billion 2004 budget, although

Democrats are pledging to collect enough votes to form a filibuster.

On Sept. 4, the Senate Appropriations Committee, in a 16-12 vote, approved a \$40 million plan that would provide vouchers of up to \$7,500 for about 2,000 low-income D.C. students to attend private, charter or public schools.

In a session of heated debate, Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., described the public school system of the District of Columbia, which teaches nearly 67,000 students, as a “broken-down, useless system.”

“If there is anything we don’t want to borrow from, it is the D.C. schools,” he said. “It is the worst system in America, and it is the most expensive.”

Opponents of the voucher plan said educational reform would not come about by helping a small portion of students and called the plan an irresponsible use of tax dollars.

Washington Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick has endorsed the bill for its three-pronged approach—offering \$13 million for the scholarship program, \$13 million for the charter schools and \$13 million for public schools in the District of Columbia. †

# Cardinal Ratzinger says ‘weakness of faith’ behind sexual abuse

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (CNS)—“Weakness of faith” was the root cause of the sexual abuse crisis in the U.S. Church, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, said in a television interview on Sept. 5.

Interviewed on Eternal Word Television Network’s “The World Over” program, the cardinal said priests share in the weakness of all human beings, and if their faith is just an idea or hypothesis rather than a deep personal friendship with the Lord, they may give in to their weaknesses. EWTN is based in Birmingham.

Cardinal Ratzinger said a lack of “conviction of the clear moral teachings of the Church” in recent decades also contributed to the clergy sexual abuse problem.

The Church must do what it can to assure that such abuse does not happen again, he said, but he also warned that the Church will always have sinners in its midst.

“In the fields of the Church, there is not only wheat but chaff. ... This is the essence of the Church. The Lord sits at the table with sinners,” he said.

From a historical perspective, he said, “there have been other times at least as difficult as ours.” He cited the scandals in the papacy during the Renaissance as an example.



Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger

When asked about current challenges to Church teaching on sexuality, including movements for same-sex marriages and the use of in vitro fertilization, separating procreation from the conjugal act, Cardinal Ratzinger said, “It is always essential that the nature of the human being is given. ... God created man and woman to be one.”

He called attitudes of relativism

among Catholics a significant problem for pastoral work and said the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is “a great help” for renewing catechesis and evangelization today.

“The school of prayer is very essential” to the renewal of faith, he added.

He said he sees signs of a new springtime in the Church in “really convinced communities,” including young people, who embrace their faith with joy.

He cited Catholic renewal movements such as Communion and Liberation, the Focolare movement and the Catholic charismatic renewal as “a sign of the springtime and of the presence of the Holy Spirit today.”

He said Pope John Paul II’s own “deep faith and love for the Lord” and his evident prayer life are encouraging young people to a deeper faith and spiritual renewal. †

# St. Vincent de Paul members urged to greater advocacy efforts

ATLANTA (CNS)—Advocacy must occupy a greater portion of the attention of members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the organization’s national leaders said at their 89th national meeting on Sept. 3-7 in Atlanta.

“We know the poor,” said national president Gene Smith in his state of the society address on Sept. 4, “and we hear their needs firsthand.”

The society is uniquely positioned to address the challenges of speaking with and for them “to try to change policies that reflect negatively on them,” he said.

The organization has more than 100,000 volunteers who served 14.5 million poor people last fiscal year, but they did it primarily in one-on-one encounters in private homes.

“Advocacy has always been part of our mission,” said national executive director Roger Playwin. “Historically, it has been one-on-one: Mrs. Jones is getting her water shut off, so we intervene with the water company. We never spent as much energy on policy advocacy as we are now.”

The next time the St. Vincent de Paul Society gathers as a whole will be in Washington in February 2004, where members plan to join with other Catholic organizations to meet legislators with an agenda advocating basic human needs be met for all people.

A relatively new Voice of the Poor committee of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is drafting a letter for the Senate Finance Committee regarding welfare legislation.

While the society is placing a greater emphasis on speaking out on behalf of the most vulnerable groups in the country, Smith said, its members must “never lose sight of the importance of person-to-person service.”

Signs of growth were evident throughout the meeting as Vincentians exchanged information about new programs and services, including a human services campus in Phoenix and a new chapter—called a conference—comprised of prisoners as an outgrowth of ministry in Tehachapi, Calif.

The society, which describes itself as the largest Catholic lay volunteer organization in the country, added 160 new conferences in the United States during the past three years. But with only 7,000 youth members, Smith said, they need more young people involved.

A challenge facing the organization, which marked the 170th anniversary of its founding in April 2003, is achieving a richer ethnic mix in membership, Smith said. †

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# Marian College awards dinner will raise scholarship funds

By Jennifer Lindberg

Marian College of Indianapolis will recognize three individuals and one organization for their dedication to Franciscan values at its annual "Opportunities for Excellence" scholarship dinner on Oct. 7.

The dinner, which will begin at 7 p.m. in the Physical Education Center on the Marian campus, is the college's largest fundraising event for scholarship aid. More than 95 percent of Marian students receive some form of financial aid.

Marian College President Daniel Elsener said supporting the event helps students and the Church.

"An investment in this event will create a return of magnanimous proportions," said Elsener. "The students receiving scholarships and financial aid as a result of this event will receive an education steeped in the Catholic and Franciscan traditions. With this excellent education, they will be of great service to the Church, community and world."

The event recognizes individuals and organizations for demonstrating the teachings of St. Francis of Assisi, which form the foundation of Marian's philosophy, such as dignity of the individual, peace and justice, reconciliation and responsible stewardship.

The chairman of this year's event, Michael Alley, who is chairman and chief executive officer of electronic evolutions inc., said, "One of the greatest gifts we can give a young person is an education. Since getting to know Marian College over the past few years, I have been impressed with not only the quality of the education its students receive, but also the values that are part of its curriculum.

The college allocates \$5 million annually for institutional aid. Last year, the event raised more than \$300,000. This year's goal is to raise \$330,000. For the past 10 years, \$1.7 million has been raised for scholarships at Marian.

This year's Franciscan Value Award recipients are: Lucious Newsome, M. Lynne O' Day, James Divita and The St. Vincent de Paul Society

**Lucious Newsome**, a member of Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish in Indianapolis, will receive the award given to a community leader.

Newsome arrived in Indianapolis 16 years ago to help with the annual Mozell Sanders Thanksgiving Dinner.

When it was over, he wanted to know who fed the hungry in Indianapolis the other 364 days of the year. He later founded "The Lord's Pantry." Newsome's volunteers give food, clothing and shelter to the poor, help them pay utility bills and make sure the homeless are buried with dignity.

Newsome, 85, was a Baptist minister in his native Tennessee when he first visited Indianapolis. He later joined the Catholic Church.

"There is an abundance of food for some and a scarcity for others," Newsome said. "I just move the abundance to the scarcity."

Newsome and his wife, Lorena, have five children and six grandchildren.

**M. Lynne O' Day**, a member of St. Luke Parish in Indianapolis, will receive the service award for a Marian College graduate.

A graduate of Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, O' Day also has a bachelor's degree in nursing from Marian College (magna cum laude) and a master's degree in health administration from St. Francis

University in Joliet, Ill.

O' Day has worked for more than 30 years at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis as part of the leadership team.

"Lynne is committed to efficient and effective care of our patients," said Daughter of Charity Sister Sharon Richardt, vice president of mission services for St. Vincent Hospital. "She uses an integrated team approach to deliver comprehensive, individualized patient care that emphasizes body, mind and spirit."

Sister Sharon said O' Day takes the Franciscan value of responsible stewardship seriously, directing her gifts of time, talent and treasure toward the boards of Marian College, the Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, Marquette Manor, Gennesaret Free Clinic and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Hospital.

O' Day has two children, one who also attended Marian College, and one grandchild.

**James Divita**, a member of St. Gabriel Parish in Indianapolis, will receive the award for a Marian College faculty or staff member.

Divita, a retired professor of history, taught for 30 years at Marian College. He retired in May.

Educated in Chicago Catholic schools, Divita is a graduate of DePaul University in Chicago and the University of Chicago.

He decided to work at Marian College after being inspired by President John F. Kennedy's call to service and because he wanted to use his talents in Catholic education.

Former student David Guarino, a member of the Class of 2002 said Divita's high standard of academic excellence left a lasting mark on his life.

"He provided me with a clear

understanding of the issues and people that have played a crucial role in history," Guarino said.

Divita, also a writer, has extensively chronicled Indiana's ethnic and religious heritage, and written several parish histories in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. He is also known for his work with the Italian Heritage Festival and with Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis.

Divita and his wife, Mary Fran, are the parents of four children.

**The St. Vincent de Paul Society** will receive the service award for a business/organization.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is a service organization that cares for the poor and needy by distributing contributions of food, clothing, sick-room equipment and household goods.

St. Vincent de Paul functions through the work of dedicated volunteers from various parishes across the archdiocese.

It combines a stewardship mission that advocates a just relationship among neighbors and provides the means to recognize and maintain the dignity of each individual served.

St. Vincent de Paul reflects the Franciscan values of dignity of the individual, peace and justice, and responsible stewardship because it serves "without fanfare or self-importance, simply because the message of the Gospel directs us to do so," said Sister Margaretta Black, a member of the leadership council of the Sisters of St. Francis Oldenburg.

(For those interested in attending the dinner, single tickets are available for \$150. For information about table sales or to purchase a ticket, contact the Institutional Advancement Office at Marian College at 317-955-6206.) †

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Dear Friend,

The theme for this year's Catechetical Sunday—Sowers of God's Peace—is a timely one.



We live in a world where war is not uncommon, and where terrorism threatens people around the globe. Our own lives at home, at work, and within our families and communities are often overshadowed by situations that leave us feeling anxious and unsettled.

The image of sowing the seeds of God's peace, then, offers both comfort and hope. It reminds us to look to the coming of the Reign of God in its fullness, in which love will prevail above all else.

Catechetical ministry is an especially effective opportunity to sow the seeds of God's Word and his peace. The annual celebration of Catechetical Sunday is a way for parishes across the country to recognize and thank all those who give generously of their time and gifts in the world of catechesis.

Sowing the seeds of God's peace is a day-to-day process. As people of hope, we believe the Lord will help our seed-sowing efforts so that the Word will take root, blossom and spread.

My prayer is that each of us will be filled with strength and hope as we continue to try to do Christ's work of bringing the Gospel into a world that needs a true and lasting peace.

Sincerely in Christ,

Archbishop Buechlein, A.

Most Reverend Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.

Archbishop of Indianapolis

Chairman, U.S. Bishops' Committee on Catechesis



## Scientist asks questions about God's will

By Jennifer Lindberg

When Diane Stothard starting thinking about a career in religious education, her family and friends were worried.

Stothard herself wasn't sure if she was hearing God correctly. After all, she'd spent intense and grueling hours working for her Ph.D. in genetics. She wasn't sure if she could or should leave all that hard work behind.

It would also mean a 50 percent pay cut and a dramatic lifestyle change from her current position as a science writer for Eli Lilly and Co. Previously, she had worked in a research lab.

But the thought of becoming a director of religious education (DRE) wouldn't go away.

Like any good scientist, Stothard started asking questions.

Calling the Office of Faith Formation at the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Stothard explained what she was thinking and signed up for theology classes at Marian College in Indianapolis, all within one month.

Explaining that she believes people should be informed about their faith and not make blind decisions, Stothard got busy trying to discern if a career in parish ministry was for her.

She's still discerning, but feels better prepared to listen to what God really wants.

The thought of becoming a DRE began when a co-worker, who was a non-practicing Catholic, began asking her questions about why the Catholic Church had certain rules and rituals.

"In the process of talking with him, I realized that [my faith] was something I was very passionate about, and I started thinking maybe I should go into religious education," Stothard said.

The thought just popped into her head, she said.

Yet the legwork had already started in the way her faith was being formed.

A member of St. Gabriel Parish in Indianapolis, Stothard was involved in parish life from singing in the choir to lecturing.

Crediting the people of St. Gabriel for being a great witness to the faith and teaching her to be patient, Stothard began to forget her timeline for getting things done.

"I was so caught up in my own grand plans, it did not occur to me that God works at his own pace," Stothard said.

While raised Catholic, Stothard, 36, only went to Catholic grade school and received no more catechesis.

"I realized that I was 30-something, but still had the faith knowledge of a 13-year-old," she said.

She attended the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes to learn more about her faith and found that her faith deepened after a mission trip to Guatemala, where she realized her own faith lacked vitality compared to

Photo by Jennifer Lindberg



Diane Stothard, a member of St. Gabriel Parish in Indianapolis, has been asking herself questions about the direction God wants her life to take. Stothard is discerning switching from a lucrative scientific career to parish ministry as a director of religious education to help inform others about the faith.

those around her.

Recording a Christmas CD of sacred music also helped her realize that God gives wonderful gifts, such as the ability to sing, but people don't always use them to the fullest potential.

All of these experiences have shaped her discernment process, along with the recent Indiana Catechetical Leadership Skills Institute at Saint Mary-of-the Woods near Terre Haute, where she spoke to DRE's about their experiences and the realities of their job.

Realizing she did well on a perceiver test—given to prospective DRE's to determine if it's the right career—Stothard keeps praying about her decision and taking theology classes.

"For me, I think God calls all of us to do something," she said. "I think a call can be very painful, especially if you already have in your mind what your call is and then God calls you to do something else."

In her previous research job, Stothard said she wasn't passionate about her work and had already started looking elsewhere.

She thought she would be a DRE, but a previous job application at Eli Lilly became a reality, making her

uncertain about her course.

Some friends and family members told her they were glad she "didn't take that Church job."

But Stothard thinks it just may not be the right time.

Throughout the process, she's had thoughts of making sure she can keep her house and car. She ran the figures in a spreadsheet for the minimum amount of money she could make in ministry work, and keeps praying and learning about her faith.

Jumping from her scientific background to ministry work won't be that difficult, she said.

Many people perceive it as being on opposite sides, but "I don't see it that way," Stothard said.

"Theologians and scientists ask the same questions, but in a different way," she said. "It's all about who is God and what is God doing in the world. Scientists are asking the same questions, but may not realize it."

Throughout her 18-month discernment process, Stothard is learning to put aside her own ego and what she thinks needs to be done.

She also realizes she needs to stop talking in prayer and listen more to God, she said, although "I may be

# Holy Spirit catechists help children become strong in their faith

By Jennifer Lindberg

Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis is working on building a strong laity to teach children the faith.

This year, 13 out of 25 catechists for Sunday morning religious education completed Echoes of Faith—classes aimed at helping volunteer catechists learn their faith better, increase their own personal prayer and give them innovative ideas to use in the classroom.

The program is also for anyone who teaches the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or works in other adult faith formation activities.

At Holy Spirit, Benedictine Sister Joann Hunt is using it for Sunday morning religious education classes.

"I think it is absolutely wonderful that the lay parishioners are willing to give so much time and energy to the mission of the future Church," Sister Joann said.

"Without good catechists on the front lines, the next generation won't be a strong laity, but weaker and less informed."

Sister Joann was pleased about how many catechists took the seven classes to complete their certification as an intern catechist.

She attributes it to a good teacher, Joann Wilson, and

offering a variety of class times that fit into many people's schedule.

For example, one week was done during vacation Bible school so women could have their children in Bible school and take the catechetical classes.

Classes were also offered on Saturdays or Sundays after Masses.

The classes were either four or eight hours long, depending on the meeting time. Catechist classes included: Getting started as a catechist; roles of the catechist; I believe, we believe (creed); grade-level methods; liturgy and sacraments; the Bible; archdiocesan religion curriculum; and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Pam Springer, who teaches the second grade for Sunday morning religious education, said the classes broadened her thinking and allowed her to share ideas with others.

"I think it makes you more aware to reach out to different ideas because everyone doesn't think like you do," Springer said. "You also learn so much more about what you believe and knowing yourself better allows you to give more to the children you are teaching."

While taking the classes was an intense commitment,

Springer said she would encourage others to complete the courses.

"I was disappointed this year because we finished," she said. "This is refreshing. It brings me away from all my home commitments and makes me give a week to God."

"It forces me to give time to God and to myself."

Sister Joann is hoping to start the next level of classes that would earn catechists a catechist certification.

Those six classes are prayer and spirituality; Catholic morality; the Creed and the Church; the person of the catechist; the introduction to the learner and Faith 2000—the test given in the archdiocese to assess if students are learning their faith.

Sister Joann said she likes promoting the classes because it helps teachers with lesson plans, classroom management and their own prayer life.

It also provides an example of stewardship, she said.

"Besides donating their time every Sunday morning for the classes, they are donating their time to do all this training, and it is a huge commitment," she said. "But it is a terrific example to their own children and other people in the parish about the fact that we need to participate in the life of the parish in many ways." †

# Becoming 'Sowers of God's Peace' helps bring healing to the world

By Harry Dudley

The call to conversion and belief in the Gospel of the Kingdom—a Kingdom of justice, love and peace, and in whose light we shall be judged—is fundamental for catechesis



*General Directory for Catechesis, #102.*

Our world needs persons who are fully conscious of the fundamental call of catechesis to be transformed into "Sowers of God's Peace."

This year's readings challenge us to take to heart the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;*

*where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy ...*

We hope and believe that the Lord will help our peace-sowing efforts. By being instruments of peace and sowers of God's peace, the Word can take root, blossom and spread.

Lives characterized by mercy, consistency, gentleness and sincerity prepare the soil. Reaching out to those who are marginalized, ignored and living on the fringes of the community creates the context for peace.

During this year when the world—especially the Middle East—desperately needs peace, we are all called to renew our commitment to be sowers of God's peace.

Here are some simple ways we can do this:

- Pray for peace every day. Let the morning newspaper or evening newscast serve as a trigger for devotion to prayer. Instead of being overwhelmed by accounts of war, violence, poverty and disease, be reminded by prayer of God's strength and abiding love.
- Engage in communities of faith. Reactivate your involvement in parish, archdiocesan or national organizations that work for justice and promote peaceful means of resolving conflicts.

- Act for justice. Share time, talent and financial assistance supporting institutions that are dedicated to taking care of the "least among us." Whether we help at a shelter for homeless people, purchase Third World products that benefit the poor or purchase food in bulk to give the extra to a parish pantry, these individual acts make an important difference in the lives of the poor and in ourselves.

- Choose the language of peace. Words hold great potential for being helpful or harmful. Cultivate ways of speaking and writing that affirm and heal at home, in the workplace and on the street.

- Encourage catechetical ministers. Remember that our ability to be sowers of peace has been nurtured by the efforts of catechists who have formed us in the faith. Write a note, make a phone call or send an e-mail to a catechist or catechetical leader in your parish. Let them know you appreciate what they do as sowers of God's peace.

St. Francis asked his followers to preach and teach the Gospel of peace at all times "and sometimes even use words." My prayer is that our practices this week will help us to be more conscious of how we can be better "Sowers of God's Peace" throughout the year.

(Harry J. Dudley is the associate executive director for faith formation for the archdiocese.) †

## SCIENTIST

continued from page 11

afraid to hear what he has to say."

Still, her experiences are helping her grow in her own faith and pushing her to want to help others grow in their faith journey.

She's teaching Sunday morning religious education classes and has found that her background in science is an asset for a DRE.

"Science teaches you to ask questions," she said. "If people come to me with questions about their faith, I won't be afraid of those questions. If you question, it is OK."


"The more informed you are about your faith, I think the stronger your faith becomes."

Her biggest piece of advice for anyone going through her same process is to educate yourself, have patience and wait for God to act.

"That can be frustrating to be patient," she said. "But in some ways, it is liberating because you don't have to live to a schedule. You know you can just be where God wants to lead you."

(If interested in learning more about ministry activities or attending the next Indiana Catechetical Leadership Skills Institute scheduled for June 20-25, 2004, call the archdiocesan Office of Faith Formation at 317-236-1446 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1446.) †

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# Renovated CYO Camp Rancho Framasa serves groups year-round

By Mary Ann Wyand

NASHVILLE—God plus nature equals countless religious education opportunities for children, teen-agers and adults who participate in the new year-round outdoor programs at the archdiocesan Catholic Youth Organization's Camp Rancho Framasa in scenic Brown County.

"Our year-round outdoor education programs are meant to enhance classroom experiences," said Jules Erwin, outdoor ministry program director at CYO Camp. "Programs are suited to a group's needs."

Specialized outdoor programming serves students in Catholic schools, parish religious education classes and youth groups, she said, and complements retreat ministry for teen-agers and adults.

"Our educational programs are all curriculum-based and are set within a spiritual framework," Erwin said. "Groups can choose to do a spiritual growth hour or maybe focus on leadership skills, character development or team-building, but there's still going to be a religion component with prayers and activities. What better place to have worship time or to learn teamwork and how to treat other people better than at CYO Camp?"

One-day and overnight programs at Camp Rancho Framasa include a variety of opportunities for prayer and reflection, she said, at a number of memorable camp locations in the wooded hills or by the lake.

"We have one morning activity called 'Daybreak' right after breakfast when we sit and tell stories that are Scripture-based or that focus on good Catholic living," Erwin said. "A good story with a moral lesson sets a positive tone for the day's experiences."

Camp director Kevin Sullivan, who has worked at Rancho Framasa for 21 years, said CYO summer camp and year-round

programming always incorporates the camp theme of "Catholic camping makes a difference."

Sullivan said renovations to winterize cabins and new construction in recent years have given new life to the archdiocesan campground, which opened in 1946.

After 50-plus years, he said, CYO Camp "looks like it was built yesterday because of renovations on our old cabins, three new cabins and a new \$1.7 million, 14,000-square-foot dining hall that we call our Outdoor Program Center. It provides meeting space [and] a heated area for 200-some people to be able to gather and break bread and have a meal at one time."

In a video prepared to market CYO Camp to groups, Sullivan explained that, "All around you, you see God's created beauty and wonder, his power and his love. To have a hike at night here and a candle-light service someplace deep in the woods provides the best [experience of] Church sometimes that we think we can have for some of the students that come here."

Father Paul Shikany, pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin and Holy Trinity Parish in Edinburg, is one of many archdiocesan priests who enjoy celebrating Mass with campers at the renovated outdoor amphitheater during summer months.

"What better place for the Church to be celebrated," Father Shikany said in the promotional video, "than in the outdoors with the creation of God?"

Outdoor education programs are collaborative efforts with teachers, youth ministers and retreat leaders, said Mary Beth O'Brien, assistant camp director.

"We want to provide what's needed by different groups," O'Brien said. "We've created programs that we think fill the needs, but within those programs there is room for the specific needs of a particular group or class. It's definitely collaborative.

Jules [Erwin] does a lot of communication with group leaders before they arrive to make sure that what they're getting at camp is what they really need, and we encourage people to ask questions about programs."

Spiritual-based programs include nature hikes, campfire talks and an arts and crafts session to make rosaries in the handicrafts building in the woods, Erwin said. "You can make a rosary however you want as long as it has the right amount of beads and you understand what they represent. We make crosses with twigs and wire or with beads. We also have a session on how to pray the rosary."

Outdoor education activities focus on topics ranging from Indiana history, environmental science, astronomy, leadership skills and character development.

"We can do evening programs on the

constellations," Erwin said. "We have a great view of the night sky here."

Singing songs around a campfire is another memorable camp experience.

After spending time outdoors, Erwin said, the winterized cabins and Outdoor Program Center ensure that camp experiences are more comfortable for campers of all ages.

"We're an all seasons camp now," O'Brien said. "It's part of our mission to provide programs and services year-round to better serve youth. We see the outdoor education program as a definite need in the archdiocese, and feel like our camp experiences can be a great addition to the education that the youth are getting in their Catholic schools and religious education programs. Everything we do has a Catholic component." †

## Martinsville students pray and walk to make a difference

By Jennifer Lindberg

Walking for 24 hours to fight cancer led to a lot of prayer time for religious education students at St. Martin of Tours Parish in Martinsville.

The parish hosted a Relay for Life fundraising event to fight cancer in June. Students enrolled in Sunday morning religious education classes in grades five through 12 joined adults to walk around the track at Martinsville High School.

The relay theme, "The Power of Prayer," was used to promote how prayer is important. Students raised \$1,800 for the event, said Cathy Combs, a youth group volunteer.

Participants said the most moving part of the walk were the personal prayers that

students wrote and pasted on a prayer wall.

One letter read, "Dear Lord, please help the people that are very ill. I ask for you to heal them."

Another letter read, "Dear God, I don't know how many people are suffering from cancer, but let this relay help those who need it most."

Combs said she was deeply moved "emotionally and spiritually" by the prayers written by the students.

"This was a great event for adults and kids to come together and work as a team with the community to create an awareness of cancer, recognizing survivors and their families, and remembering the people who lost their life to cancer," Combs said. †

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# Men's ministry members in Columbus like to get up early for God

By Mary Ann Wyand

COLUMBUS—Men's ministry programs at St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus are intended to glorify God.

Members of the group also have fun together as they grow in faith and friendship with men they might never have met otherwise in the 1,516-household parish.

They meet for breakfast, prayers, faith-sharing time and a program presented by a guest speaker at 6:15 a.m. on the first Thursday of every month in the social hall of St. Bartholomew Church.

The men enjoy getting up early to spend time with God, and they often attend the 7:30 a.m. Mass together.

"The men's ministry is a very big part of my faith walk," parishioner Doug Allen

of Columbus explained. "The men that I've met here have been pretty big influences and given me quite a bit of direction."

Allen, who is a distance runner in spite of his vision impairment, was baptized and joined the Catholic Church at St. Mary Parish in North Vernon after completing the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults process in 1997.

When he accepted a counseling position with the vocational rehabilitation service of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, the job change required him to move from North Vernon to Columbus in January 2002.

St. Bartholomew parishioners are friendly, Allen said, but after he joined the parish last year he felt like the new kid on the block until he joined the men's

ministry and started participating in a Little Rock Bible Study group.

"I didn't get connected real well [in the parish] until I went on the men's ministry retreat to Saint Meinrad and was able to really meet people," he recalled. "I feel lucky to be a part of the men's ministry, and to have their friendship and prayer support. It's been a blessing."

Allen can only see a little with his left eye, but doesn't let his vision impairment affect his career and distance running.

"I know people notice it and are interested, but it's really not my identity," he said. "I want people to be inspired and understand that, whatever kind of problems you're facing, you offer that up to God as a personal sacrifice and go on about your life. Running is a big part of my life, but prayer is at the forefront of everything I do. That's number one."

Allen's upbeat approach to his life circumstances inspires other members of the men's ministry.

Walter Glover, a member of the parish since 1972, helped found the men's ministry about seven years ago.

"The first thing we did was get together on Saturday mornings to pray about starting a ministry for men in the parish," he said. "We didn't have a vision. It was an outgrowth of our participation in Promise Keepers. We were sent back to our churches and our parishes to figure out what men's ministry would be like. We prayed for four or five Saturdays and then, through the Holy Spirit, had something of a vision of what that ministry could look like."

Since then, he said, the men's ministry has had a positive impact on parish life.

"There are at least 30 men at every breakfast," Glover said. "The first year, we took 25 men to the retreat at Saint Meinrad. More than 50 men went to the last retreat there in January."

Their faith-based friendships are a great support system, he said, and everyone who participates in the men's ministry seems to benefit in different ways.

"Doug Allen is such a perfect fit within the men's ministry," Glover said. "As a master's level counselor, he brings a clinical sense and a spiritual sense [to the group] that helps teach and inspire us. Just as perhaps we can help him with some of his challenges in terms of lack of vision, he can help us by feeding us in ways where there might be cracks in our armor."

Parishioner Ken McClaine, a 10-year member of the parish who volunteers as a music minister, said the men's ministry helps improve parish life by encouraging greater participation in activities and building friendships with the pastor and associate pastor.

"Men's ministry is an important niche for parish life in general," McClaine said. "It's like the hub of the wheel. I think men have a harder time than women do getting together and talking about God. This ministry helps men do that. The biggest benefit for me has been seeing that I'm not alone when I have problems."

Parishioner Eric Fay and his wife, Phuong-Linh, moved from Nashville, Tenn., to Columbus two years ago. He appreciates the volunteer opportunities that the men's ministry offered him as a newcomer.

"We were pretty active in our church in Nashville," Fay said, "but when we moved here we didn't know anyone. We had been coming to church at St. B's for about a month when I read a notice about the men's ministry breakfasts. I saw it as an opportunity to meet people and get involved in the parish, so I started going to the breakfasts and made a lot of really good friends. That's how I met Doug. He runs mini-marathons, and I'm a runner too. We started running together every Tuesday, and we've been good friends ever since."

Glover is happy that men of all ages participate in the men's ministry.

"We've got another generation of volunteers we can hand the men's ministry to," he said, "and we know it's in good hands." †

## They renewed my passion for helping others.

Pictured are 2003 graduate Linda Wilson (seated) and some of her favorite professors. Left to right are Margaret D. "Peggy" Keen, M.S.N., R.N., Juanita Brand, M.S., R.N., John Buben, Ph.D., and Sr. Monica Zore, O.S.F., M.A.



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## Film inspires adult faith formation activities at Jeffersonville parish

By Jennifer Lindberg

It was an unlikely character that kicked off a series of adult faith formation events at Sacred Heart Parish in Jeffersonville.

Enter the movie *Schrek*, the story of an ogre whose life is dramatically changed when fairy tale characters show up at his swamp home. After seeking to get rid of them, he is told he will receive help from the evil Lord Farquaad if he saves a princess from a dragon.

The moral of the story surrounds friendship and love. Members of at Sacred Heart Parish in Jeffersonville figured out how to make the story line relevant to their own parish community by forming the Sacred Heart Adult Religious Education Catechesis.

Kicking it off with the movie, complete with popcorn, and inviting the entire family, the adults later answered reflection questions on friendship, such as what makes a friend in Christ or how friends forgive each other, said Bill Hunn, director of religious education for the parish.

The group meets between the parish's two Sunday Masses from September to May, where they learn about a variety of topics from Vatican II to an explanation of the sacraments or a program on how the Golden Rule is presented in various religions.

Some classes also focused on secular topics, such as wills, trusts and drug prevention.

The idea became a reality after many parishioners began asking for some way to continue their faith formation after the Christ Renews His Parish program.

Parishioner Judy Crawford attended all of the planned programs.

"I like the intermingling with other members of the parish," she said. "It's a good opportunity to get to know people

better. You are having a good time and learning something, too."

Classes ranged from as few as 10 people to as many as 60 parishioners each Sunday.

Participating in the events helped Crawford grow in her faith.

"It does my heart good," she said. "I'm a convert and I've embraced this religion. Anything I can do to spread that word to lead people to know what Sacred Heart [Parish] has to offer is worth it."

She's also found that listening to other people's questions helps her learn more about her faith.

Bob and Georgia Leonard, parishioners since 1965, said they like the focus on adult formation.

"Somebody told me a long time ago that you can't be Catholic alone," Georgia Leonard said. "I feel like if I'm not growing in my faith I have to be shrinking. There is no middle ground there. Either you are growing or not, and this also helps me to meet with my parish family."

Her husband, Bob, thinks that the program fills a gap in the Catholic faith for adults by engaging in peer learning and discussions about "things they never thought about or an experience they never had."

"It's been a learning experience for me and helps my faith," Bob Leonard said. "The point that we are together and learning together ... and sharing our faith is very important."

The adult faith formation committee is getting ready for this fall's series of events that will include a dinner, a nun speaking about her missionary work on an Indian reservation and another movie to kick it all off. *The Lion King* is this year's theme.

"I know people probably think we are crazy," Crawford said. "But there are a lot of themes in that movie"—ones they plan to use to showcase what being a parish community is all about. †

# Faith *Alive!*

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## As the body of Christ, we can heal racial differences

By Fr. Maurice J. Nutt, C.S.S.R.

Have you ever noticed that when the topic of race or racism is mentioned, we typically become uncomfortable?

Our emotions may range from embarrassment, guilt or shame to anger, hurt or pain. I believe that these emotions will persist unless we as the body of Christ deal with the matter of racial differences openly and honestly.

The Church has issued many documents regarding racism, including the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter on racism in our day, "Brothers and Sisters to Us," in 1979 or the pastoral letter on racism, "Dwell in My Love," by Cardinal Francis George of Chicago in 2001.

Catholic Church teaching adamantly abhors and challenges racism, and acknowledges it as sin.

"Brothers and Sisters to Us" stated, "Racism is the sin that says some human beings are inherently superior and others essentially inferior because of race.... It mocks the words of Jesus: 'Treat others the way you would have them treat you.' Indeed, racism is more than a disregard for the words of Jesus; it is a denial of the truth of the dignity of each human being revealed by the mystery of the Incarnation."

As an African American, I was taught by my parents not to hate or disrespect those who mistreat people of our race.

I later learned that ignorance is at the root of racism. People are not innately racist; it is a learned behavior. And racist behavior is taught and modeled in many instances by people we hold in great regard—grandparents, parents, teachers, clergy and religious.

Many "recovering racists" acknowledge that it is only when they associate with people of other races and learn from their interactions that they sincerely confront and eradicate their racist attitudes.

While I am not aware of any explicit programs where local parishes are confronting racism, many dioceses have sponsored workshops on racism, cultural sensitivity and diversity.

Sometimes it is not so formal. I know of one particular parish that, while primarily African-American, has an inviting spirit and good liturgies that draw many whites to the parish. African Americans and whites sit side by side at worship every Sunday.

Four women in this parish, two African American and two white, who worship each Sunday in the same pew, decided not to limit their relationship simply to Sunday



CNS photo by Karen Callaway, Northwest Indiana Catholic

Parishioners in the Diocese of Gary, Ind., listen as their bishop discusses his new pastoral letter on the "sin of racism" during a Sept. 7 prayer service at Holy Angels Cathedral in Gary. Bishop Dale J. Melczek's letter, "Created in God's Image: A Pastoral Letter on the Sin of Racism and a Call to Conversion," calls upon the Catholic community to examine racism in people's individual lives, in institutions and in culture.

morning liturgies. They wanted to become better acquainted so they formed the Third Saturday of the Month lunch club. On some Saturdays they would go to restaurants, and on other Saturdays they would dine at their respective homes.

"I wanted our bond to go beyond church," one of the women explained. "Although we were of different races, we had so much in common."

Another woman said, "They are not my

'white friends.' Those ladies are my sisters in Christ, and I love them."

A third woman explained, "Our meals are sacred. It is a continuation of the eucharistic unity that we share together on Sunday mornings."

Undoubtedly, these women are working toward real racial reconciliation. They have entered into each other's worlds and have found genuine bonds of friendship.

Is there someone of another race in your

parish, workplace or school whom you need to get to know?

Why not begin breaking down barriers and building new relationships with those who may be different from you?

Difference is not necessarily bad. It's just different!

(Redemptorist Father Maurice J. Nutt is director of the Redemptorist African-American Ministry Initiative in Chicago.) †

## Each person is an image of God on Earth

By Daniel S. Mulhall

Christians believe that God was one of us, that Jesus—the Son of God—became man and lived among us, like us in all things but sin.

Because Jesus became man, he made a gift to humanity of a special dignity that was given originally in creation: "Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness'" (Gn 1:26).

All of which reveals a great truth: When you look at another human being, you are seeing something truly amazing—you are seeing an image of God!

But racism says, "God made me in the divine image, but not you; Jesus died for me, but not for you."

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (#1929-1938) calls us to respect other people's dignity and teaches us to see other people as "other selves" (#1931).

Quoting Vatican Council II's "The Church in the Modern World" (#29), the catechism condemns racism: "Every form of ... discrimination ... on the grounds of sex, race, color, social conditions, language or religion must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design" (#1935).

The U.S. bishops, in "Brothers and Sisters to Us" in 1979, called racism "a sin that divides the human family, blots out the image of God among specific members of that family and violates the fundamental human dignity of those called to be children of the same Father."

Racism destroys the bond between people, preventing us from sharing our gifts freely.

(Daniel S. Mulhall is assistant secretary for catechesis and inculturation in the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Department of Education.) †

### Discussion Point

## Parish can work to end racism

### This Week's Question

Describe an effort of your parish, school or diocese to combat racism.

"We [St. Ignatius Loyola Parish] have had a series of talks on contemporary moral theology by [Jesuit] Father James Keenan, which included the issue of racism. Father Keenan is coming back ... to address specific questions raised during his first presentations." (Mary Naughton, New York, N.Y.)

"Assumption [Parish] has between 600 and 700 families, mostly Caucasian, with a few minorities.... Our pastor speaks often about Jesus' love for and interaction with marginalized people in Israel.... Our Faith in Action Team contributes to other Seattle parishes in need.... Our St. Vincent de Paul [conference] helps a food bank in a black parish. Our interfaith commission works with Jewish, Protestant and Muslim

congregations to produce joint services and to serve a transitional housing organization for the homeless. We have featured Asians in our newsletter." (Francis A. Spelman, Seattle, Wash.)

"We [Immaculate Heart Parish] are a primarily white parish. We get together twice a year with a parish that is primarily black to celebrate our faith, to make new friends and to enjoy each other's gifts." (Debbie Gartner, St. Louis, Mo.)

### Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: Have you ever made a pilgrimage—a religious pilgrimage or one to a place of personal interest to you? What was important about this for you?

To respond for possible publication, write to *Faith Alive!* at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. †



CNS photo by Karen Callaway, Northwest Indiana Catholic

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

## Important events: The first social encyclical

Forty-sixth in a series

On May 15, 1891, Pope Leo XIII published the encyclical *Rerum Novarum* ("On the Condition of Human Labor"). It marked the beginning of the Church's social justice movement. It is the 46th on my list of the 50 greatest events in Catholic history.



*Rerum Novarum* was the Church's response to the harsh conditions that accompanied the Industrial Revolution, generally believed to have begun around the year 1760. A series of mechanical inventions changed the western world from an agricultural to an industrial society. The inventions required factories where workers—men, women and children—were hired to work on machines.

Along with the changes, though, unbridled capitalism resulted in workers living in poverty while owners of factories prospered. Long hours and low wages were common as employers tried to produce as much as possible at the minimum cost.

To counter capitalism, Pierre Leroux in

France and Robert Owen in England preached socialism in the 1830s. Socialism is based on the common ownership of property and equal distribution of income and wealth. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels went a step farther in 1848 when they published the *Communist Manifesto*, demanding a complete abolition of private property.

Pope Leo XIII defended the right to own private property, but said that that right required just wages for workers. He defended the right of workers to organize into unions to balance the needs of capital and labor. But he soundly rejected socialism, saying that if socialism were ever implemented the workers would be its first victims (which, of course, is what happened later in communist countries).

The encyclical introduced the concept of subsidiarity—that laws should go no further than necessary to remedy evils or remove dangers. He said that the Church's vision of society was one in which people had different ranks and functions.

In 1931, 40 years after *Rerum Novarum*, Pope Pius XI published *Quadragesimo Anno* (literally "The Fortieth Year" but known as "On Reconstruction of the Social Order"). This encyclical reaffirmed what

Leo XIII said but, coming as it did during the Great Depression, it had a note of urgency. It also took aim at the totalitarian threats posed by German Nazism, Italian Fascism and Russian communism.

World War II and its aftermath stalled further developments in the Church's social teachings, but Pope John XXIII issued two social encyclicals: *Mater et Magistra* ("Christianity and Social Progress") and *Pacem in Terris* ("Peace on Earth"). Pope Paul VI wrote *Populorum Progressio* ("Development of Peoples") in 1967.

Several of the documents of the Second Vatican Council emphasized the Church's teachings about social justice, especially *Lumen Gentium* ("Dogmatic Constitution on the Church") and *Gaudium et Spes* ("Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World"). *Dignitatis Humanae* ("Declaration on Religious Freedom") stated that freedom of religion is a basic human right.

Pope John Paul II issued three social encyclicals: *Laborem Exercens* ("On Human Work"), *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis* ("On Social Concerns"), and *Centesimus Annus* ("The 100th Year"), the last marking the centenary of Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*. †

The Bottom Line/Antoinette Bosco

## An anniversary that will not be forgotten

Sept. 11 never again will be an ordinary day in America. Memories of an unbeliev-



able act of terror that brought death and mourning into our lives will haunt us into the future.

Yet, for all the tragic stories, a spirit emerged that brought new inspiration to many, reviving the belief that, as the

French writer Albert Camus maintained, there is "much more to be admired than despised" in humankind.

One story that touched me was the way people in a small town in Newfoundland, for the better part of a week, opened their hearts and homes to strangers stranded there when U.S. airports were closed on 9/11. Thirty-eight jetliners bound for the United States were forced to land in the small community of Gander. More than 6,000 U.S. travelers were stranded there, but so warmly received and aided by Gander's people that the story of their love and compassion will be told for a long time to come.

The story of their generosity and caring has been told by Jim DeFede in a book titled *The Day the World Came to Town* (Regan Books).

His report of their remarkable humanity and kindness earned a Christopher Award, and I had the privilege of meeting DeFede and hearing his story at the event.

I think I'll remember what happened in Newfoundland every Sept. 11. For, as DeFede said, these townspeople "affirmed the basic goodness of man at a time when it was easy to doubt such humanity still existed."

I will also remember Jennifer Sands every Sept. 11. Her story touched me as no other one has. She lost her husband that day of tragedy, becoming a young widow who had to search her soul to discover who she would now become.

The young woman, a pharmacist, had waited a long time to find the right man to share her life with her. She and James Sand Jr. met on a blind date. Both were mature adults who had hoped eventually to find "the right one." From that first date, they were "inseparable," eventually having "a big, fat Catholic wedding," said, giving a glimpse of her sense of humor. The bride, five years later, was a widow.

On that fateful morning, Jim Sand had gone to the World Trade Center to his office at Cantor Fitzgerald. When the terrible events were being reported, Jennifer remembers screaming, "What happened?" and hearing, "His tower collapsed." And then she did, too.

Now began her new journey. Through horror and grief and spiritual darkness, she desperately sought answers. A devout Catholic, she turned to God, often screaming the "Why?" we all ask when the unexplained, the unbelievable happens.

In time, she found she could not blame God. She tells the story of her loss and then of finding her way—a way where God would become her greatest support—in a moving book, *A Tempered Faith, Rediscovering Hope in the Ashes of Loss* (The Olive Press).

One place she found help was in the writings of Max Lucado, who said something we all can learn from: "Bitterness is its own poison. You can choose, like many, to chain yourself to hurt. ... Or you can choose, like some, to put away your hurts before they become hates. How does God deal with your bitter heart? He reminds you that what you have is more important than what you don't have. You still have your relationship with God. No one can take that."

(Antoinette Bosco is a columnist for Catholic News Service.) †

Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewes

## Maybe I've seen too many Italian movies

It's not Saturday afternoon, but nevertheless I must confess that I've recently watched the entire run of a TV series called "The Restaurant."



This is sinful mainly because I'd vowed never to watch one of the new "reality" shows, which I consider trashy attempts by television networks to win ratings with

cheaply produced, dishonest trash.

Actually, I was suckered into this crime because I thought the series was some kind of semi-documentary account of starting a restaurant. I was fooled because the chefs were forever depicted sauteing peppers and onions, tossing their frying pans and throwing in spices and hunks of cheese from a foot away.

This impressive spectacle assured me that I was indeed watching a real restaurant in operation. Real, get it? But, dumb me, I was hooked before I realized that it was really a show.

The story, if you could call it that, involved a New York restaurateur named Rocco who was already the proprietor of two restaurants in that city. He aimed to

start a homey Italian place (what a surprise, his name is Rocco) with food and atmosphere he remembered from childhood, yet trendy enough for sophisticated urban tastes.

We saw him search for a cozy venue similar to his family home in Queens, in which he'd enjoyed wonderful Italian meals. Helping him was his authentic Italian Mama, a charming lady who had a heavy accent and looked like a hardworking immigrant. Early every morning, she made what were declared to be the most delicious meatballs anywhere. She also mothered and endeared herself to all the employees.

The plot thickened when the site had to be ready in less than half the usual time. Then, there were betrayals, incompetence and turf infighting among employees. Not to mention that Mama took sick once and we saw Rocco lovingly carrying a tray of food to her apartment upstairs.

So, now we knew that a) Rocco was a good guy; b) Mama was a true Italian who could cook wonderful Italian stuff; c) not only had she raised her son right, but also inspired him to be a great chef; and d) we desperately wanted this restaurant to succeed. Reality TV at its best!

We lived through two or three marriage proposals by customers to their girl-

friends, cheered on by the restaurant staff and other patrons. We witnessed various amorous assignations between employees, and jealousies between a couple of "hot blond" bartenders.

We saw food being dressed, chopped, breaded, fried, garnished and served one-handed in ways that defied gravity. We heard mentioned the exotic names of the various dishes, and the litany of duck, lamb, suckling pig, aragula and porcini mushrooms included in them. For me, that was the best part, food and words being among my favorite things.

In the last show, everything had more or less come together so that the restaurant was booming, the staff was efficient and the customers happy. So, Rocco and Mama took the entire staff to the Hamptons for a long day of fun at the beach. Music up.

Come to think about it, maybe some kinds of reality TV are OK after all. I mean, despite having to sit through all that scripted angst, what could be wrong when ethnic charm and scrumptious food triumph in the end?

(Cynthia Dewes, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greencastle, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.) †

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

## Blushing is more than a surface problem

Earlier in life, I avoided speaking before groups because, despite apparent calm, I would blush. Then I was thrust into the public eye after the success of books that featured my poetry. At one program, my blushing was so severe that it registered on photographs.



So, I was intrigued by an article in the Feb. 12, 2001 issue of *New Yorker* magazine by Dr. Atul Gawande titled "Crimson Tide." His story about an Indianapolis television reporter, Christine Drury, told of an agonizing blushing history that led to her being medically treated for Idiopathic Craniofacial Erythema (ICE). Then I immediately lost the article until it surfaced again earlier this year.

A week later, an ad in *The New York Times Book Review* announced the publi-

cation of *Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science* by the same Dr. Atul Gawande. "Crimson Tide" is a chapter in this excellent book.

Since the *New Yorker* story, Christine has married. She is now Christine Drury Van Marter—a "cradle Catholic" whose husband, Mike, joined the Church as an adult. They are members of St. Luke Parish in Indianapolis, where she serves as a lector.

ICE is an ironic acronym for what untold numbers of men, women and children suffer, usually silently but often with ridicule. For me, even holding ice on my face doesn't calm prolonged blushing. It can happen anywhere at any time for no apparent reason. I've even blushed when receiving the Eucharist, absorbed in a book or quietly writing poetry.

Severe blushers know how detrimental this is to a professional life. Christine, however, researched ICE well, finding relief through simple surgery. She eventually "felt led by God" to establish The Red Mask Foundation, Inc., whose purpose is:

- To confront the psychological cruelty surrounding ICE;
- To encourage sufferers to seek help;
- To form support groups;
- To educate the U.S. medical community about ICE, a condition that has a cure—a 20-minute outpatient procedure pioneered by vascular surgeons in Sweden;
- To increase public awareness.

Christine's Red Mask programs and media contacts have occurred at home and abroad, and she spoke at the fourth International Symposium for Sympathetic Surgery in Finland. She also founded an informative Internet site, [www.redmask.org](http://www.redmask.org).

She can be contacted by e-mail at [christine@redmask.org](mailto:christine@redmask.org) or [RdMask@aol.com](mailto:RdMask@aol.com) or by writing the Red Mask Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 2488, Indianapolis, IN 46206-2488.

(Shirley Vogler Meister, a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.) †



Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Sept. 14, 2003

- Numbers 21:4b-9
- Philippians 2:6-11
- John 3:13-17

This weekend, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. It supplants the observance of the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Book of Numbers provides the first reading. Numbers is the fourth book in sequence of the Bible. Attributed originally to



Moses, this book is one of the five books of the Pentateuch. These five books also are called the Torah, and together they form the basis of the Jewish religion.

In this reading, recalling the flight of the Hebrew people across the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt toward the land that God had promised them, conditions had reached such a bad point that the people grumbled and indeed doubted God.

God had spared the people many things. This time, as punishment for their sins, the people lost God's protection. The desert then was filled with vipers and poisonous snakes and insects, as indeed it is filled today. Unprotected because of rejecting God, the people were prey to these venomous animals. Many people died.

Moses called them back to God. At God's direction, Moses lifted a serpent on a pole and held the pole aloft. He promised that if any victim of snakebite looked upon this staff, he or she would be healed.

Once more, God provided salvation. By God's power alone, the people avoided death, even those people bitten by dangerous serpents.

The Epistle to the Philippians provides the second reading.

Scholars say that this section of Philippians is not a narrative, but rather a hymn. Once it was sung, probably used by the early Christians in their worship.

Even not set to music, and even without congregational melody, it is magnificent in the depth of its praise of Jesus the Lord.

St. John's Gospel is the source of the last reading.

This reading refers to the section of the Book of Numbers read on this feast for the first reading. It identifies Jesus with the saving act of God, given through Moses, as described in Moses.

It is an obvious reference to the crucified Jesus. In reading this section, recollecting a time in the life of Jesus long before Calvary, it is important to note that the Gospels are not diaries of Jesus, not day-by-day reports of the ministry of Jesus as this ministry unfolded each day.

Rather, they are the memories of Jesus composed years after the Lord by those who knew Jesus, or by those who knew persons close to Jesus. In other words, when this Gospel was written, including this section, the Christians knew about the Crucifixion. It had occurred a while before. They easily could connect the event in Numbers with the event of the Lord's death.

Each event was an expression of God's saving power. It was a power exercised in love. Most importantly, only God could provide the protection.

## Reflection

From New Testament times, Christians have realized that belief in Jesus is their salvation. They also have realized that in the Crucifixion, Jesus achieved salvation for the world.

Paul proudly declared that he preached Christ, and that indeed he preached Christ crucified. More than 16 centuries ago, the Emperor Constantine built a great church in Jerusalem to commemorate the death of Christ on Calvary.

This imperial interest gave rise in Middle Eastern Christianity to a feast of the cross. The feast celebrated this weekend is a product of this initial interest.

The cross for Christians is a symbol of the profound love that God has for humankind. First, God sent Jesus, the Son of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, as Redeemer. Jesus was more than a messenger or an instrument of God's will and of God's love. He was, and is, God.

He avoided nothing to make real God's love. Rather than compromise or deny the purpose of the Redemption, Jesus endured the fearful death of crucifixion. He loves us with a perfect and unqualified love.

Secondly, we cannot attain salvation on our own. We are at the mercy of the vicious serpents of our day, none more vicious than Satan, the serpent of Genesis.

However, we have nothing to fear. Evil cannot overwhelm us. Death has no sting. If we set our eyes on the cross, intent upon the love of God and determined to respond with our own complete love, we shall live forever. †

## Daily Readings

Monday, September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows  
1 Timothy 2:1-8  
Psalm 28:2, 7-9  
John 19:25-27  
or Luke 2:33-35

Tuesday, September 16

Cornelius, pope and martyr  
Cyprian, bishop and martyr  
1 Timothy 3:1-13  
Psalm 101:1-3, 5-6  
Luke 7:11-17

Wednesday, September 17

Robert Bellarmine, bishop and doctor  
1 Timothy 3:14-16  
Psalm 111:1-6  
Luke 7:31-35

Thursday, September 18

1 Timothy 4:12-16  
Psalm 111:7-10  
Luke 7:36-50

Friday, September 19

Januarius, bishop and martyr  
1 Timothy 6:2c-12  
Psalm 49:6-10, 17-20  
Luke 8:1-3

Saturday, September 20

Andrew Kim Taegön, priest and martyr  
Paul Chōng Hasang, martyr and their companions, martyrs  
1 Timothy 6:13-16  
Psalm 100:2-5  
Luke 8:4-15

Sunday, September 21

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Wisdom 2:12, 17-20  
Psalm 54:3-4, 5, 6-8  
James 3:16-4:3  
Mark 9:30-37

Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen

## All Church teachings are not official articles of faith

Q I find it difficult to believe some Church teachings that it seems all



everyone in the same way? (California)

Catholics are supposed to accept, even some published in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

Is there such a thing as a "range" of required faith in Catholic doctrines or are they all one level, to be accepted by

which they already possess."

In other words, while some teachings are clearly articles of Catholic faith (the primacy of the bishop of Rome for one), determining the theological note of others may require serious study and research concerning their development in the magisterial history of the Church. The mere fact that they are in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is not enough to make such a judgment.

Q A few years ago, my wife and I, after consulting with our associate pastor, decided on cremation after our deaths.

We've noticed that when the ashes are present for the funeral, the ceremony is called a memorial Mass. Why would the ashes not be treated as an embalmed body, with a white cloth over the urn to recall baptism, as when the body is in a casket? (Ohio)

A As long as the family means no disrespect for the body or for our faith, cremation is no longer forbidden. In fact, the funeral rite of the Church explicitly provides for cremation ceremonies (Introduction to the Rite of Funerals and Canon #1,176).

To respond to your question, even when cremation is planned, the Church urges that, if at all possible, the body of the deceased person be present for all funeral liturgies—vigil service, Mass and prayers of commendation at the end of Mass. Cremation would follow.

This avoids the problem you asked about since the body would be present at the Church's liturgy as for any other funeral. With permission of the bishop, however, cremated remains may be present in the church during the Mass.

The Church does not enter into detail about the reasons for its special regulations for funerals with the urn of ashes present at the funeral Mass.

There may be good theoretical reasons for saying that it doesn't make much difference since the body will soon be "dust" anyway. But local culture and Christian tradition greatly influence feelings about death and burial, and these feelings need to be respected.

Again, it may be good to consider the option of arranging for cremation after the funeral Mass. †

## My Journey to God

### I Thank Thee, Lord

I thank Thee, Lord, for happy, homespun things:

Companionship and coffee with a friend,  
The chime of windbells and the bird that sings,  
The fragrance that Your lovely flowers send.

I thank Thee, Lord, for pure translucent lace  
That hangs in shining points from frosty eaves,  
And for the glowing fire whose golden grace  
The winter cold unfailingly relieves.

For children's laughter and teens' rhythmic race  
Along the village streets, the pansy face  
Of a small gray kitten with green-gold eyes.



I thank Thee, Lord, for bees and butterflies  
Adrift like grace notes on their gauzy wings ...  
How blest are we by holy, homespun things!

By Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan

(Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan is a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin.)

## The Active List

The Criterion welcomes announcements of archdiocesan Church and parish open-to-the-public activities for "The Active List." Please be brief—listing date, location, event, sponsor, cost and time. Include a phone number for verification. No announcements will be taken by telephone. Notices must be in our office by 10 a.m. Monday the week of (Friday) publication: The Criterion, The Active List, 1400 N. Meridian St. (hand deliver), P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206 (mail); 317-236-1593 (fax), [mklein@archindy.org](mailto:mklein@archindy.org) (e-mail).

### September 12

St. Francis Hospital-Indianapolis, South Campus, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., **Indianapolis**. Natural Family Planning classes, 7-9:30 p.m. Registration: 317-865-5554.

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., **Indianapolis**. Catholic Charismatic Renewal, praise, worship and teaching followed by Mass and healing service, 7 p.m. Information: 317-927-6900.

### September 12-14

Saint Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology, 200 Hill Dr., **St. Meinrad**. "Pastoral Call to the Gospel of Life," Father Frank Pavone, founder of Priests for Life, presenter. Reservations due by Sept. 5. Information: 812-357-6772.

### September 13

St. Joan of Arc Parish, 4217 N. Central Ave., **Indianapolis**. French Market, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., French foods, booths, entertainment. Information: 317-283-5508.

Holy Family Church, 815 W. Main St., **Richmond**. Rosalyn Moss, editor of *Home at Last* and frequent guest on "Catholic

Answers Live," presenter, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Information: 765-966-0916.

Michaela Farm, **Oldenburg**. Volunteer work day, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., snacks and drinks provided. Information: 812-933-0260.

Rachel's Companions, confidential Catholic support group for women suffering from the aftermath of abortion, first meeting for three-month support group, all calls are confidential. Information on time and location: Servants of the Gospel of Life Sister Diane Carollo, director of archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, 317-236-1521 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1521.

### September 13-14

Lesko Park, Highway 56 on the Ohio River, **Aurora**. St. Mary Parish, Riverfest 2003, Sat. 4-11 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., music, games, chicken and pork dinners. Information: 812-926-0060.

St. Mary Parish, 212 Washington St., **North Vernon**. Parish festival, Sat. all day, Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., "all you can eat" meal, children's games. Information: 812-346-3604.

St. Michael Parish, 250 High St., **Brookville**. Fall Festival, Sat. 4-10 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., pork chop and chicken dinners. Information: 765-647-5462.

St. Thomas More Parish, 1200 N. Indiana St., **Mooreville**. Applefest and Battle of the Bands, entry fee, \$45. Information: 317-821-0993.

### September 14

Marian College, Marian Hall, 3200 Cold Spring Road, **Indianapolis**. Free lecture, "Introducing the Franciscan Family," 3-5 p.m. Information: 317-955-6213.

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., **Indianapolis**. Celebration of 12th anniversary of the Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel, Mass, 3 p.m. homilist, Father Frank Pavone, founder of Priests for Life. Information: 812-342-9550.

Holy Cross Church, 125 N. Oriental St., **Indianapolis**. Tri-parish spiritual enrichment program, vespers service, 5-6:30 p.m., Franciscan Sister Marjorie English, presenter. Information: 317-637-2620.

St. Anthony Parish, Parish Life Center, 379 N. Warman Ave., **Indianapolis**. Euchre party, 1:30 p.m., \$3 per person.

Mount St. Francis Retreat Center, 101 St. Anthony Dr., **Mount St. Francis**. Francis2, "The Cross: Blood and Guts," young adults 18-30, 6-8 p.m. Information: 812-923-8444 or [franvoc@aol.com](mailto:franvoc@aol.com).

St. Mary Parish, Hwy 56, four miles west of Jasper, **Ireland, Ind.** (Evansville Diocese). Parish picnic, food, quilts booth.

Mary's King's Village Schoenstatt, **Rexville** (located on 925 South, .8 mile east of 421 South, 12 miles south of Versailles), "Schoenstatt Spirituality," 2:30 p.m., Mass, 3:30 p.m., with Father Elmer Burwinkel. Information: 812-689-3551 or e-mail [eburwink@seidata.com](mailto:eburwink@seidata.com) or log on to Schoenstatt Web site at [www.seidata.com/~eburwink](http://www.seidata.com/~eburwink).

### September 15

St. Mary Church, 317 N. New Jersey St., **Indianapolis**. Tri-parish spiritual enrichment program, vespers service, 7-8:30 p.m., Franciscan Sister Marjorie English, presenter. Information: 317-637-3983.

Mary's King's Village Schoenstatt, **Rexville** (located on 925 South, .8 mile east of 421 South, 12 miles south of Versailles), "Family Faith Talks," 7 p.m., Mass, 8 p.m., with Father Elmer Burwinkel. Information: 812-689-3551 or e-mail [eburwink@seidata.com](mailto:eburwink@seidata.com) or log on to Schoenstatt Web site at [www.seidata.com/~eburwink](http://www.seidata.com/~eburwink).

### September 16

St. Francis Hospital-Indianapolis, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., **Indianapolis**. "Freedom from Smoking," second of seven weekly classes developed by American Lung Association, 6-8 p.m., \$50 fee, \$25 due at first class then \$5 each week. Information or reservations: 317-782-7999.

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., **Indianapolis**. Tri-parish spiritual enrichment program, vespers service, 7-8:30 p.m., Franciscan Sister Marjorie English, presenter. Information: 317-634-4519.

### September 17

Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., **Indianapolis**. Indianapolis Deanery Council of Catholic Women, first quarterly meeting, 10 a.m. Information: 317-852-5451.

### September 18

Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, gymnasium, 1402 Southern Ave., **Beech Grove**. Ave Maria Guild fall card party, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Information: 317-780-8627.

### September 19

St. Ferdinand Church, 341 E. 10th St., **Ferdinand, Ind.** (Evansville Diocese). Dan Schutte in concert, 7:30 p.m.

(EST), \$12 per person. Information: 812-367-2777 or 800-880-2777 or e-mail [kordes@thedome.org](mailto:kordes@thedome.org).

### September 19-20

St. Malachy Parish, 326 N. Green St., **Brownsburg**. 25th annual Country Fair and Hog Roast, Sat. 4-11 p.m., Sun. 4-11 p.m., food, booths. Information: 317-852-3195.

### September 19-21

Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., **Indianapolis**. Tobit Weekend, \$250 couple. Information: 317-545-7681.

### September 20

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 1530 Union St., **Indianapolis**. Old Southside Fall Festival, 4-11 p.m., rides, food, auction, entertainment. Information: 317-638-5551.

St. Patrick Parish, 950 Prospect St., **Indianapolis**. Parish festival, homemade Mexican food, bake sale, music, booths, crowning of Queen Grandma, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Information: 317-631-5824.

Our Lady of Providence High School, 707 W. Highway 131, **Clarksville**. Harrison County Tri-Parish Community and the New Albany Deanery, Firm Foundation Catholic Conference, 8 a.m. registration, 4 p.m., Mass, \$10 adults, \$7 children 12 and under.

Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., **Beech Grove**. Spa Day for Women, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., \$100 per person includes breakfast and lunch. Information: 317-788-7581.

Kordes Retreat Center, 841 E. 14th St., **Ferdinand, Ind.** (Evansville Diocese). "Here I Am, Lord: Ministry as Service of the Community," Dan Schutte, presenter, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (EST), \$85 per person. Information: 812-367-2777 or 800-880-2777 or e-mail [kordes@thedome.org](mailto:kordes@thedome.org).

### September 20-21

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish, 23670 Salt Fork Road, **Bright**. Fall Festival, Sat. 6 p.m.-midnight, Sun. 12:30-8 p.m., country fried chicken dinner, attractions for every age. Information: 812-656-8700.

### September 21

St. Christopher Parish, Activity Center, 5301 W. 16th St., **Indianapolis**. Euchre party, 1 p.m., \$3 per person.

St. Roch, 3600 S. Pennsylvania

St., **Indianapolis**. Old-time card party, table and door prizes, desserts, 1 p.m., \$4 per person. Information: 317-784-9135.

St. Gabriel Parish, 6000 W. 34th St., **Indianapolis**. Neighborhood ice cream social, 4-7 p.m. Information: 317-291-5376.

St. Louis Parish, 13 St. Louis Place, **Batesville**. Parish Festival, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (EST), chicken and roast beef dinners, booths, games. Information: 812-934-3204.

St. Meinrad Parish, Community Center, 13150 E. County Road 1950 North, **St. Meinrad**. Fall Festival, 11 a.m.-7p.m., quilts. Information: 812-357-5533.

### September 26

St. Philip Neri School, 545 N. Eastern Ave., **Indianapolis**. Kids Walk, 2K walk. Information: 317-631-8746.

### September 27

Cordiafonte House of Prayer, 3650 E. 46th St., **Indianapolis**. Silent prayer day, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., bring bag lunch, free-will offering. Registration: 317-543-0154.

### September 28

St. John the Evangelist Parish, 126 W. Georgia St., **Indianapolis**. St. John Academy Alumni reunion liturgy, Class of 1953 will be honored, 11 a.m. Reservations: 317-635-2021.

4-H Fairgrounds, Expo Hall, **Connersville**. St. Gabriel Parish Fall Festival fried chicken dinner, games, booths, country store. Information: 765-825-8578.

### Monthly

**Second Mondays**  
Church at **Mount St. Francis**. Holy hour for vocations to priesthood and religious life, 7 p.m.

**Second Tuesdays**  
St. Pius X Parish, 7200 Sarto Dr., **Indianapolis**. Support Group for Separated and Divorced Catholics, 7 p.m. Information: Archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries, 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

**Second Thursdays**  
St. Luke Church, 7575 Holliday Dr. E., **Indianapolis**. Holy hour for priestly and religious vocations, 7 p.m.

**Second Saturdays**  
St. Agnes Parish, Brown County Public Library, **Nashville**. Brown County Widowed Support Group, 3 p.m. Information and

—See ACTIVE LIST, page 19

**IDEAL PICNIC GROUNDS**

**SPACIOUS PARKING**

**GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY**

**CASH PRIZES**

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ST. JOAN OF ARC

# French Market

**Saturday, Sept. 13, 2003**

**11:30 a.m. – 11 p.m.**

**St. Joan of Arc Church**

**4217 Central Avenue**

Children's Area Closes at 5:00 P.M.

**Free Admission!**

Join us for Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Passenger drop-off on 42nd Street

**ACTIVITIES FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY**

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- Chicken Crepes
- Rotisserie Chicken & BBQ Ribs
- Tenderloin Tips in wine sauce
- Assorted Quiches
- Tarte Flambé
- French Pastries & Desserts
- Ratatouille & French Onion Soup
- Beer and Wine

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

- Cathy Morris & Collage
- Stan Hillis
- Urban Jazz Coalition
- Jennie DeVoe

**The Active List, continued from page 18**

directions: 812-988-2778 or 812-988-4429.

**Third Sundays**

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd., E. Dr., **Indianapolis**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 2 p.m.-7 a.m. Monday, rosary, 8 p.m. Open until midnight.

**Third Mondays**

St. Matthew Parish, 4100 E. 56th St., **Indianapolis**. Young Widowed Group, sponsored by archdiocesan Office for Family Ministries, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

**Third Wednesdays**

Holy Name Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., **Beech Grove**. Holy hour and rosary, 6 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

St. Jude Church, 5353 McFarland Road, **Indianapolis**. Rosary, 6:15 p.m. Information: 317-783-1445.

Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., **Indianapolis**. Catholic Widowed Organization, 7-9:30 p.m. Information: 317-784-1102.

Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 Troy Ave., **Indianapolis**. Mass, 2 p.m.

**Third Thursdays**

Our Lady of Peace Mausoleum Chapel, 9001 Haverstick Road, **Indianapolis**. Mass, 2 p.m.

St. Elizabeth's Pregnancy and Adoption Services, 2500 Churchman Ave., **Indianapolis**. Daughters of Isabella, Madonna Circle meeting, noon, dessert and beverages served. Information: 317-849-5840.

St. Joseph Church, 1375 S. Mickley Ave., **Indianapolis**. Adoration of Blessed Sacrament, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Mass, 5:45 p.m. Information: 317-244-9002.

**Third Fridays**

Marian College, St. Francis Hall Chapel, 3200 Cold Spring Road, **Indianapolis**. Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana, Mass and healing service, 7 p.m.

**Third Saturdays**

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., **Indianapolis**. Helpers of God's Precious Infants monthly pro-life ministry, Mass for Life by archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, 8:30 a.m., drive to Clinic for Women (abortion clinic), 3607 W. 16th St., **Indianapolis**, for rosary, return to church for Benediction.

**Fourth Wednesdays**

St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., **Moore'sville**. Mass and anointing of the sick, 6 p.m. Information: 317-831-4142.

**Fourth Sundays**

St. Patrick Church, 1807 Poplar St., **Terre Haute**. Tridentine Mass, 3 p.m. Information: 812-232-8518.

**Last Sundays**

Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., **Indianapolis**. Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 11:15 a.m. Information: 317-636-4478.

**First Sundays**

St. Paul Church, 218 Scheller Ave., **Sellersburg**. Prayer group, 7-8:15 p.m. Information: 812-246-4555.

Fatima Knights of Columbus, 1040 N. Post Road, **Indianapolis**. Euchre, 1 p.m. Information: 317-638-8416.

**First Mondays**

Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., **Indianapolis**. Guardian Angel Guild, board meeting, 9:30 a.m.

**First Tuesdays**

Divine Mercy Chapel, 3354 W. 30th St., **Indianapolis**. Confession, 6:45 p.m., Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 7:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 2605 St. Joe Road W., **Sellersburg**. Holy hour for religious vocations,

Benediction and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 7 p.m. Mass.

Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School, 2801 W. 86th St., **Indianapolis**. Indiana Autism and Sertoma Club meeting, 7 9 p.m., child care provided. Information: 317-885-7295.

**First Fridays**

St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1723 "I" St., **Bedford**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 8:30 a.m. Mass-9 a.m. Sat. morning, reconciliation, Fri. 4-6 p.m., Sat. 8-9 a.m.,

"Children of Hope" program, Holy hour for children. Information: 812-275-6539.

Holy Name Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., **Beech Grove**. Mass, 8:15 a.m., devotions following Mass until 5 p.m. Benediction. Information: 317-784-5454.

St. Peter Church, 1207 East Road, **Brookville**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 8 a.m. until Communion service, 1 p.m.

Holy Guardian Angels Church, 405 U.S. 52, **Cedar Grove**.

Eucharistic adoration after 8 a.m. Mass-5 p.m.

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd. E. Dr., **Indianapolis**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 7:15 a.m. Mass-5:30 p.m. Benediction and service.

Holy Rosary Church, 520

Stevens St., **Indianapolis**. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 5:45 p.m. Mass-9 a.m. Saturday. Information: 317-636-4478.

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 5333 E. Washington St., **Indianapolis**. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer service, 7:30 p.m. †

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# CELIBACY

continued from page 1

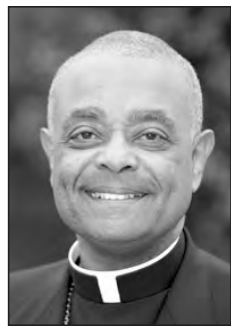
Church's discipline on celibacy was based on their "pastoral concern that the Catholic Church needs more candidates for the priesthood, so that the Church's sacramental life might continue to flourish."

In his "Herald of Hope" column in the Sept. 4 issue of the *Catholic Herald*, archdiocesan newspaper, Archbishop Dolan thanked Bishop Gregory for his "thoughtful and compelling response" and said he concurred with it "wholeheartedly."

He disputed the impression given by some that "as an archbishop and a so-called 'Vatican loyalist,' I have to support the Church's tradition of priestly celibacy, but that my heart, as the hearts of most other bishops, is really not in it."

"This impression is simply wrong," Archbishop Dolan said. "I enthusiastically and confidently embrace my own celibate commitment, and believe it a providential blessing for priests and for the Church. ... It is not some stodgy Vatican 'policy' that has been 'imposed,' but a gift savored for millennia."

Bishop Gregory, who heads the Diocese of Belleville, Ill., said that, while he shares the letter writers' pastoral concerns, changing the celibacy rule does not mean priestly vocations would increase.



Bishop Wilton D. Gregory

"I must confess that it is by no means clear that, as their letter states, a change in the discipline of clerical celibacy would necessarily bring about an increase in the numbers of candidates for priesthood," he wrote.

He cited the experiences of Protestant Churches, which allow married clergy. "A number of studies in recent years indicate that denominations such as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the Presbyterian Church (USA) as well as other mainline Churches with married clergy have also faced a shortage of ministers," said Bishop Gregory.

Bishop Gregory said that the USCCB does not act on

matters of concern to local dioceses. "Accordingly, I think it is appropriate for my response to be directed to you," he wrote to Archbishop Dolan.

He added that local concerns need to be presented to the USCCB through its bishop members.

The three priests met privately with Archbishop Dolan on Sept. 2 at his residence. During their meeting, the archbishop gave the three priests copies of Bishop Gregory's letter.

In an interview with the *Catholic Herald* following the meeting, the priests said they could not comment on Bishop Gregory's letter until they had time to study it.

Father Suriano described the meeting with Archbishop Dolan as a "very open and respectful conversation."

All three priests said their letter, which was endorsed by six additional priests since the packet of letters was mailed to Bishop Gregory on Aug. 19, has struck a chord among Catholics.

"The most touching part of this whole experience has been priests that I do not even know, from far as well as near, calling and just unburdening at how overworked they are and how they wished they had some [priest] help," said Father Suriano.

Father Aufdermauer said he would like to see a formal process begin to discuss the clergy shortage.

"We do not have enough priests to have Mass, anointings, hear confessions," he said. "Somehow, somewhere it seems we are forgetting that problem. I don't believe, if the Church would change this [celibacy rule] tomorrow that we would have a glut of priests. But I think we would have more who would be willing to become priests. It's our love of the Church that's making me speak out. If anybody else has a better solution, please let them speak."

Father Dunn said there is historical precedent in the Church for married clergy. "To me, it's the best of both worlds. You can have celibate clergy and married clergy. My hope is that there really will be serious dialogue at higher levels," he said.

"I firmly believe that someday we will have optional celibacy for diocesan priests," said Father Aufdermauer. "It won't be in my lifetime, but it will happen. I think the sense of the laity that I'm getting is, 'What's holding it back?'"

Father Aufdermauer said the pope's decision to allow married Protestant ministers to be ordained Catholic priests is not a source of confusion.

"I think Catholics are saying, 'Way to go, Holy Father, you're leading the way,'" he said. "I believe our Holy Father's a brilliant man, and I think he's telling us something by allowing the converts to continue the priesthood as married men."

While about a third of the Milwaukee Archdiocese's priests signed the letter to Bishop Gregory, the majority did not. Among the latter group was Father Jeff Haines, moderator of the Archdiocesan Council of Priests, who offered several reasons for not endorsing the letter.

"My concern was the consequences of how it would play in the press," he said. "My fear was that the press would get a hold of it and turn it into a large issue and give the impression that there is dissension among the ranks of priests."

Father Haines said he does not believe that is what the letter's promoters intended to happen. As the media portrayed it, "this was another instance of the Church in crisis and since we had gone through enough crises already, I really didn't want to see that happen," he said. "There is so much good happening in the Catholic Church."

Nathan Reesman, a seminarian for the archdiocese, said he would not have signed the letter.

"I think for people my age who are coming into seminary ministry, there is a lot of feeling that we kind of moved beyond this question and are committed to it and would like to focus our energies on other things," he said. "I don't want to delegitimize the hard work these priests do, but I don't think I agree with it." †

## ARCHBISHOP BUECHLEIN'S 'ROSARY SERIES' NOW AVAILABLE AS BOOKLET

Archbishop Buechlein's popular "Rosary series," which is appearing in his regular column in 13 installments this summer, is now available in an easy-to-read booklet. Titled *The Rosary: Contemplating Christ in the School of Mary*, the 44-page, 8.5" x 5.5" booklet contains all the information that is appearing in the archbishop's summer series plus the text of all the prayers needed to pray the Rosary—and a helpful illustration on exactly how to say it. It is available in both English and Spanish.

The booklet includes meditations on all the mysteries, including the new Luminous Mysteries suggested by Pope John Paul II and a set of Priestly Mysteries favored by Archbishop Buechlein.

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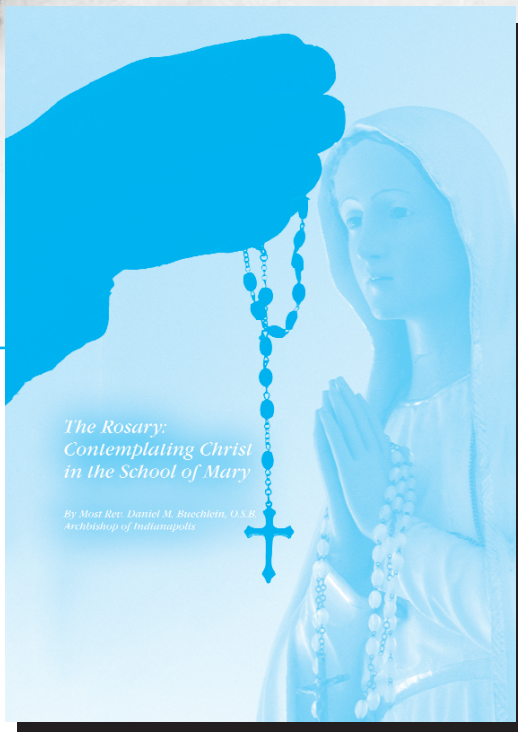
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### Caring for the elderly

A Missionaries of Charity nun feeds an elderly woman at a home for the destitute and dying in Calcutta, India, on Sept. 4. Nobel Peace Prize laureate Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who founded the order to work with the poorest of India, died on Sept. 5, 1997, and will be beatified on Oct. 19 by Pope John Paul II.

# Flooding affects some Indianapolis Catholic schools and parishes

By Brandon A. Evans

Torrential rains over the Labor Day weekend gave many Indianapolis-area students an extra day off from school last week.

After Indianapolis received a record rainfall—7.2 inches in a single day on Sept. 1—many homes and businesses owners had to clean up water damage.

Not excluded were several area Catholic schools, many of which remained closed on Sept. 2 to clean up the mess.

David Hodde, director of the Office of Management Services for the archdiocese, said that, while the damage is still being assessed, he expects the total cost of the damage to be around \$100,000.

Each of the two high schools, four elementary schools and one parish that sustained damage are covered by an archdiocesan insurance policy.

Marian College in Indianapolis was also affected.

For the most part, the damage at the different locations was described as “superficial” and an “inconvenience.”

Patricia Whitaker, principal of St. Susanna School in Plainfield, said she was grateful the damage was not more severe.

Although students missed school on Sept. 2, it was mostly due to the bad road conditions in Hendricks County. By Sept. 3, two of the three classrooms that had been affected at St. Susanna School were cleaned up.

Some carpet areas and books needed to be replaced. The parish rectory basement had also flooded.

“We had water,” Whitaker said. “There were people who had mud and worse.”

One of those places that had “worse” was St. Andrew & St. Rita Catholic Academy in Indianapolis.

“We lost quite a bit of our things,” said Connie Zittnan, the principal. “We had raw sewage flooding on the whole first floor of our school.”

Both furniture and supplies were destroyed, and at one point the school staff had filled two 40-cubic-foot dumpsters with damaged items and were still cleaning. Some appliances may be unsalvageable as well.

School resumed on Sept. 3, but because of the flooded cafeteria students had to bring sack lunches to eat in their classrooms—and those that didn’t have classrooms were moved to any spare room available.

Zittnan said that all the staff pulled together, and some of the teachers came in when the school was closed to lend their support. Parents came to help out as well.

She said that the flooding was discovered on Labor Day when one of the teachers came in to do work.

“I have the best teachers and students in the State of Indiana,” Zittnan said.

Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis started school on Sept. 3 on a delayed schedule.

The damage there was mostly superficial, and only one room was still closed when the school reopened. Some things had to be thrown out, and other things simply had to be dried.

Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis was closed on Sept. 2-3.

“Our cafeteria was flooded ... which means the kitchen, the bookstore,” said E. Jo Hoy, the principal. “It was in our students’ best interest to call school off.”

Hoy said that it is not helpful to miss school this early, but because the students are on a block schedule they only missed one set of classes.

Holy Cross Central School in Indianapolis had some flooding in the basement. The art and music room had water on the floor, as well as the second-grade classroom.

Seven classrooms on the lower level of St. Monica School in Indianapolis—which comprises the middle school—were flooded with several inches of standing ground water.

The approximately 150 middle school students were out of school for one day while the mess was taken care of.

St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Indianapolis had flooding in the basement of the rectory along with ceiling and wall damage in the office.

Marian College in Indianapolis had flooding in four buildings, including St. Francis Hall, which is the center of the nursing department.


Some clinical lab space was flooded, and some classes were cancelled or moved.

Hodde said that no other parishes or schools have reported damage. †



Photo by Brandon A. Evans

The cafeteria at Cardinal Ritter High School in Indianapolis was empty at lunchtime on Sept. 3 after it was flooded two days before on Labor Day. School was cancelled on Sept. 3 for the second consecutive day as the cafeteria, kitchen and bookstore were cleaned up. Two Catholic high schools, a college, four elementary schools and one parish were affected by the flooding that took place in the Indianapolis area on Sept. 1.



## LA SERIE DEL ROSARIO DEL ARZOBISPO BUECHLEIN, AHORA EN UN DEVOCIONARIO

La popular “Serie del Rosario” del Arzobispo Buechlein, publicada este verano en su columna semanal en trece entregas, ahora se encuentra disponible en un librito sencillo. El devocionario de 44 páginas de 8.5” x 5.5”, titulado *El Rosario: Contemplando a Cristo en la escuela de María*, contiene todas las reflexiones publicadas en la serie del verano del arzobispo, además de todas las oraciones necesarias para el Rosario y una descripción ilustrativa y precisa de cómo rezarlo. Se encuentra en inglés y en español.

El devocionario contiene meditaciones para todos los misterios, incluso los nuevos Misterios Luminosos presentados por el Papa Juan Pablo II y el conjunto de Misterios Sacerdotales de la preferencia del Arzobispo Buechlein.

Como un paquete especial para los lectores devotos, The Criterion ofrece un Rosario bendecido por el propio arzobispo. Estos Rosarios en blanco y negro confeccionados en Italia, tienen un largo de 18”, con eslabones metálicos de enlaces cuádruples.

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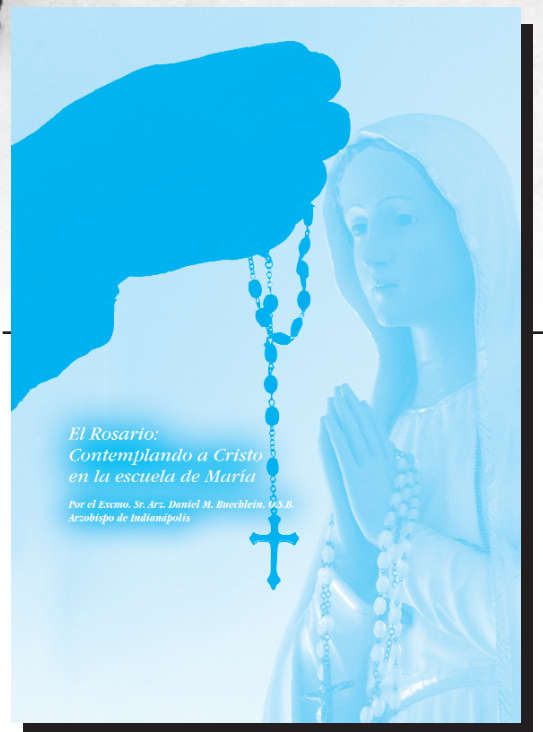
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# Rest in peace

Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Mon. the week of publication; be sure to state date of death. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests and religious sisters serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in *The Criterion*. Order priests and brothers are included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connections to it.

**BLAKE-GREGORY, Julie**, 36, St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville, Aug. 25. Wife of Aubrey Gregory. Daughter of Mary Helen Blake-King. Stepdaughter of David King. Sister of Janet Blake-Pearson.

**BROWN, James David**, 47, St. Paul, Sellersburg, Aug. 22. Husband of Sandra Brown. Father of Keri Campbell. Son of Ella Brown. Brother of Wanda Ball, Linda Carman, Ruth Hilpp, Stella Hoyland, Peggy Kelly, Aliene Waters and Lorene Winbun. Grandfather of two.

**DERR, Robert J.**, 84, St. Mary, Lanesville, Aug. 23.

**ELLIS, Donald J.**, 89, Prince of Peace, Madison, Aug. 27. Husband of Verna (Schmidt) Ellis. Father of Pat Hartgrove and Raymond Ellis. Grandfather of four. Great-grandfather of eight. Great-great-grand-

father of three.

**ESKELINEN, Mary**, 60, St. Michael, Greenfield, Aug. 13. Wife of Norman Gibson.

**FIRSICH, Hubert E.**, 83, St. Vincent de Paul, Shelby County, Aug. 30. Father of Brenda Lanter, Donna Scott and Nancy Firsich. Brother of Juanita Bausback, Mary Horigan and Imogene Karmire. Grandfather of five. Great-grandfather of 12.

**GEORGE, James**, 49, St. Isidore, Bristow, Aug. 23. Husband of Kathy George. Father of Eric George. Son of Jim George. Stepson of Virginia George. Brother of Diane Royer and Fred George.

**GLOGOZA, Thomas**, 79, SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis, Aug. 23. Brother of Walter and William Glogoza.

**GODDARD, Myra J.**, 74, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Aug. 25. Mother of Mark Goddard. Sister of Jack Goddard.

**GROSS, Georgia**, 89, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany, Aug. 23. Sister of Nell Reese and Christine Wood.

**HALL, Jennie L. (Rendelle)**, 84, St. Michael, Cannelton,

Aug. 27. Sister of Beatrice Rendelle.

**HOWELL, Helen T.**, 84, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, Aug. 24. Mother of Kathy Kruer, Jeanne Schmidt and James Howell. Sister of Ann Jean Meyer. Grandmother of seven. Great-grandmother of eight.

**HUESMAN, Walter W.**, 80, St. Joseph, Shelbyville, Aug. 28. Husband of Ruth (Stohry) Huesman. Father of Donna Daub, Jane Kuhn, Teresa Muldoon, Donald, James, John, Patrick and Samuel Huesman. Brother of Henry Huesman. Grandfather of 18. Great-grandfather of four.

**JACOBS, Treasure L. (Gupton)**, 73, Our Lady of Lourdes, Indianapolis, Aug. 16. Mother of Chad Jacobs. Stepmother of Victor Jacobs. Sister of Laura (Gupton) Lane, David and John Gupton. Half-sister of Bernadean (Gupton) McKelway and John Gupton. Grandmother of one.

**KAHL, Helen Decker**, 95, St. Philip Neri, Indianapolis, Aug. 19. Mother of Dick and Jim Kahl. Grandmother of 11. Great-grandmother of 13.

**KEHOE, Maurine**, 66, SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood, Aug. 25. Wife of John Kehoe. Mother of Coleen Alley, Maureen Little, Mark and Michael Kehoe. Grandmother of 12.

**KERSTIENS, Joyce M.**, 88, St. Mary, New Albany, Aug. 29. Mother of Janet Thomas, Donald, Joseph and Robert Kerstiens. Grandmother of 10. Great-grandmother of 19.

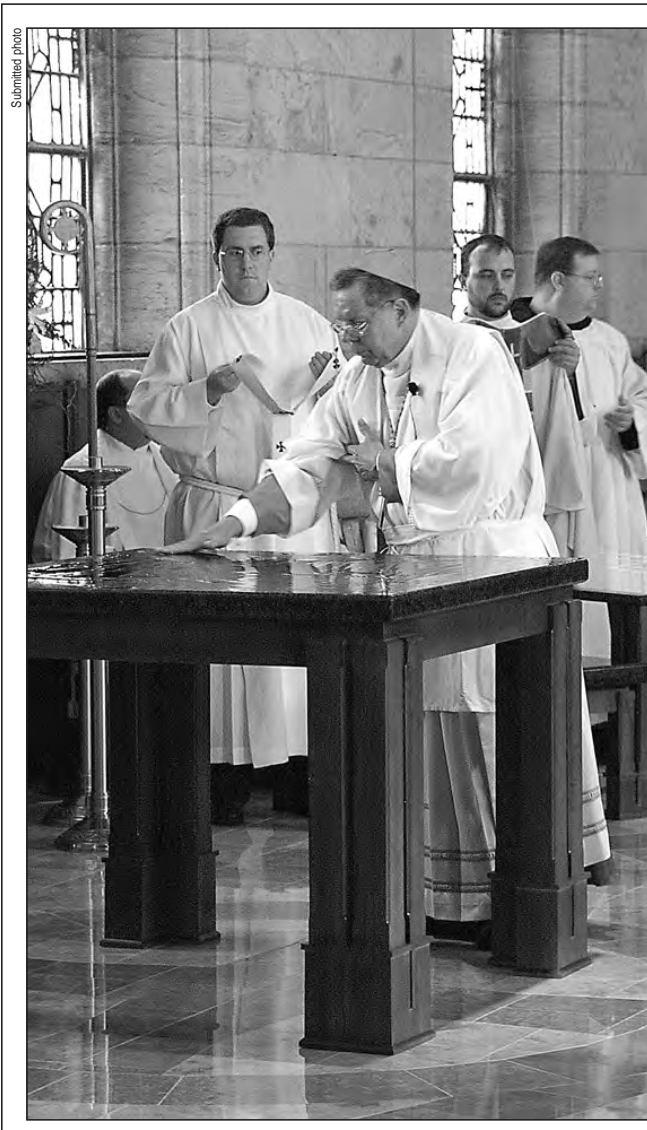
**KOEHL, Thomas L.**, 58, St. Anthony, Indianapolis, Aug. 27. Father of Chadd and Marty Koehl. Grandfather of four.

**MARONE, Helen E.**, 86, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Terre Haute, Aug. 11. Mother of Phillip Marone. Sister of Margaret McKee, Ann Melton and Mary Ofsansky. Grandmother of nine.

**MELTZER, Zane J.**, 16, St. Joseph, Shelbyville, Aug. 26. Son of Kris and Sandy Meltzer. Brother of Trent Meltzer. Grandson of Bill and Betty Everitt and Philip and Charlene Meltzer. Great-grandson of Marietta Everitt.

**MOODY, Mary A.**, 79, St. Louis, Batesville, Aug. 28. Mother of Beverly Jumper, Cindy Weiler, Roseann Tousley, Anita Zielinski, Keith, Ken and Kevin Moody. Sister of Helen Rose Doyle, Bill, Louis and Paul Enzinger. Grandmother of 19. Great-grandmother of 20.

**MOSLEY, Jo Ellen**, 50, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Aug. 24.



## Altar consecration

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein anoints the altar during the dedication of the renovated St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel on Aug. 28 at Saint Meinrad School of Theology. The renovation included the addition of a spacious narthex, removal of the balcony, installation of air conditioning and flooring, and new furnishings. In his welcome to the students, faculty, staff and guests who attended the dedication, Archbishop Buechlein said his first visit to the chapel was 51 years earlier as a seminary student.

Mother of Dana and James Mosley.

**O'BRIAN-BURNE, Therese A. (Reckley)**, 74, Our Lady of Lourdes, Indianapolis, Aug. 12. Wife of Robin Burne. Mother of Andrea Faulkner and Dr. Jeffery O'Brian. Sister of Daniel and Steven Reckley.

**O'BRIEN, Richard**, 66, St. Margaret Mary, Terre Haute, Aug. 27. Husband of Patricia O'Brien. Father of Margaret Baldwin, Colleen Brannon, Kathleen Holt and Debra VanGilder. Grandfather of seven.

**PEAK, Marita Sue**, 45, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany, Aug. 23. Daughter of David and Sue (Manning) Peak. Sister of Joyce Gittings and Linda Woodrow.

**REECE, Jack E.**, 69, St. Anne,

New Castle, Aug. 26. Father of Twilla Deaton, Vickie and Ron Reece. Brother of Virginia Bailey, Betty Bolinger and Robert Reece. Grandfather of six. Great-grandfather of one.

**RIETEL, Linda**, 55, SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood, Aug. 23. Wife of Ernest Rietel. Mother of Amy Donaldson and Emily Rietel. Sister of Sharon Burdick, Catherine George, Carolyn Moeller, Ernest Jr., Granville, James, Kenneth, Preston and Richard Burrett. Grandmother of two.

**SCANLAN, Thelma M. (Sanders)**, 82, St. Barnabas, Indianapolis, Aug. 9. Wife of Thomas J. Scanlan. Mother of Elizabeth Bagnocche, David, Joseph, Michael, Timothy and Thomas Scanlan. Grandmother

of 12. Great-grandmother of one.

**SCHNEIDER, Rita M.**, 90, St. Michael, Greenfield, Aug. 11. Mother of Meryle Suhr. Grandmother of three.

**SMITH, Charles H.**, 57, St. Gabriel, Connerville, Aug. 30. Husband of Jan (Johnson) Smith. Father of Chad, Kyle and Trent Smith. Son of M. Cleo (Adkins) Smith. Brother of Patsy Reynolds. Grandfather of five.

**SPEER, Mary E. (Hornberger)**, 86, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Aug. 26. Mother of Rita Saylor, Shirley Spitz and Charles Speer Jr. Grandmother of five. Great-grandmother of 12. Great-great-grandmother of one.

**STANTON, Catherine**, 78, Our Lady of Lourdes, Indianapolis, Aug. 11. Mother of Timothy Stanton. Grandmother of two.

**SWAIN, Patrick Lee**, 38, St. Philip Neri, Indianapolis, Aug. 21. Father of Jessica Swain. Brother of Anneta Hall, Chris Miles, Brenda Patterson, Roszella Tiller, Karen Wilkenson, Cynthia Wix, Garry, Leonard, Michael, Robert and Thomas Swain.

**TALENS, Wilhelmina T.**, 64, St. Margaret Mary, Terre Haute, Sept. 1. Wife of Alfred Talens. Mother of Alfred Jr., Frederick and Ronald Talens. Sister of Ceridad Matias and Corazon Tancico. Grandmother of one.

**TASKEY, Aaron R., Sr.**, 68, St. Ambrose, Seymour, Aug. 23. Husband of Sarah Taskey. Father of Sally Helton, Holly Montgomery, Jacqueline Stout, Aaron Jr., Michael Sr. and Stanley Taskey. Grandfather of 10. Great-grandfather of three.

**TAYLOR, Thomas E.**, 59, St. Roch, Indianapolis, Aug. 26. Husband of Priscilla (Ryalls) Taylor. Father of Letha Stevenson, Susan Taylor-O'Brian, Robin Thompson and Jonathon Taylor. Brother of Richard Taylor.

**WASHBURN, M. Martha**, 89, Christ the King, Indianapolis, Aug. 22. Mother of Rock Washburn. Sister of James Anderson. Grandmother of four. Great-grandmother of two. †

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# Pope John Paul's book of poetic meditations now available

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Pope John Paul II's new book of poetic meditations went on sale on Sept. 5 in more than 400 Catholic bookstores and other venues across the country.

*The Poetry of John Paul II—Roman Triptych: Meditations* contains three poetic meditations by the pope on God as the beginning and the ending of human life and on the beginning and the ending of his own pontificate.

These are the first poems by the pope published during his papacy, said an announcement from the U.S. bishops' Department of Communications in Washington.

The book—which features full-color artwork from the Casa Buonarroti and Albertina Museum and several pages of the pope's original handwritten text—is

being published by USCCB Publishing, the publishing arm of the U.S. bishops.

The price of the 40-page, limited-edition hardcover book is \$19.95. The book is available in English (100,000 copies) and in Spanish (25,000 copies).

Information on how to order *The Poetry of John Paul II—Roman Triptych: Meditations* directly from the USCCB is available on the conference Web site at [www.usccb.org/publishing](http://www.usccb.org/publishing).

Meanwhile, another new book related to Pope John Paul was named "the pick of the crop" among tributes commemorating the pope's 25th anniversary by *Publishers Weekly* magazine.

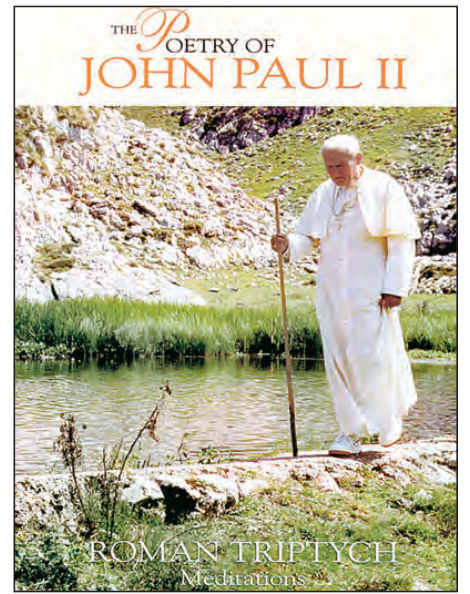
*John Paul II: A Light for the World* contains 150-word personal remembrances from several Church leaders and several 400-word essays on themes such

as sexual abuse in the priesthood, human rights, the death penalty, labor and racism. It also has photos spanning the pope's reign and an introduction written by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

"This coffee-table book, with memorable full-color images by official Vatican photographers and reflections by many people who have had personal encounters with John Paul, may be the pick of the crop," the publishing industry trade magazine wrote in its Aug. 11 issue.

*A Light for the World* is published by Sheed & Ward and has been produced in conjunction with the USCCB. The book is scheduled for publication in mid-September. The cost is \$35.

Pope John Paul II was elected to the papacy on Oct. 16, 1978. †



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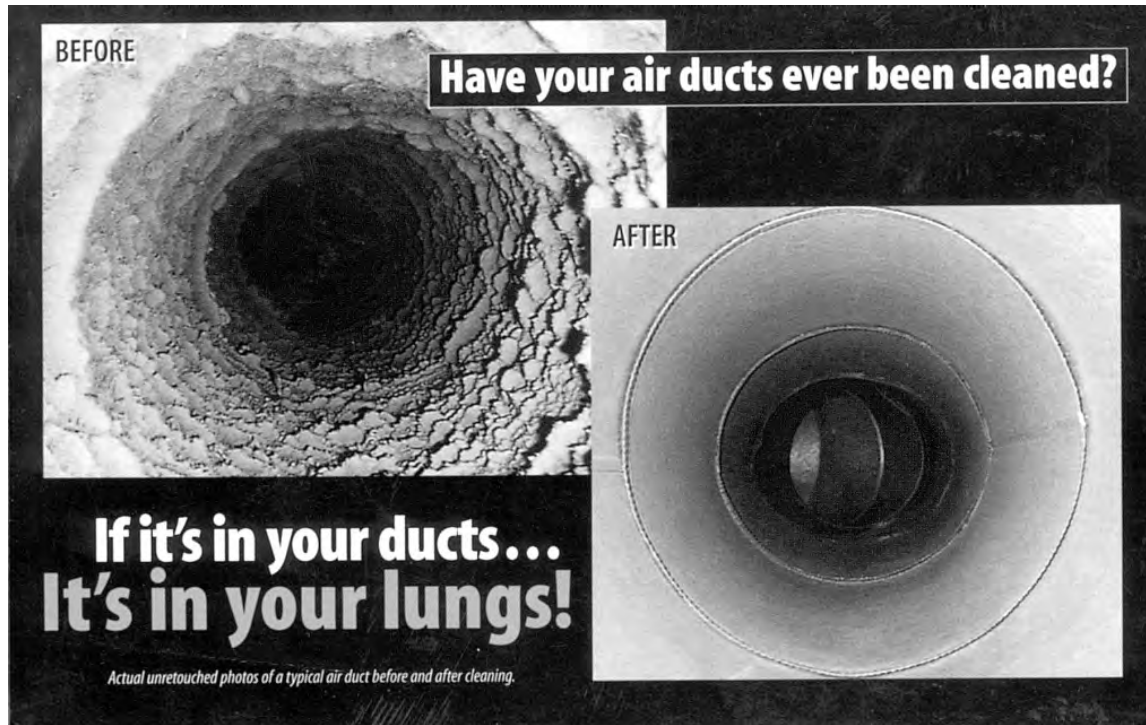
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