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Shadada the second segment and second second

A photo display at Bishop Chatard High School's chapel in Indianapolis pays tribute to the life of Ben Fillenwarth, a student who died in a traffic accident before the start of the 2005-06 school year.

Longing for healing, high school students turn to peers and God

By John Shaughnessy

As the tragic news of the plane crash spread, Father Gerald Kirkhoff's phone started ringing constantly—bringing pleas for help that surprised the pastor of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.

The phone calls came from young people who had ties to the northside parish and the community of nearby Bishop Chatard High School, young people reeling from the sketchy reports that long-time parishioners Joseph and Barbara Krier had been killed in a small plane crash and their three children—all recent Chatard graduates—had been seriously injured.

"I learned what happened at seventhirty that evening," Father Kirkhoff recalled. "At eight o'clock, people started calling me and asking, 'Are we going to have a prayer service?' I said, 'I'll go over and open the church, turn on the lights and we'll see what happens."

As Father Kirkhoff left the rectory and made his way to the church, he was stunned by what happened next on New Year's Day—a response that he believes reveals a great deal about the faith of young Catholics.

Cars were already in the parking lot. Young people huddled together and used their cell phones to start calling their friends as they watched the priest head

See TRAGEDIES, page 8

Meeting focuses on challenges to priests heading multiple parishes

Vol. XLVI, No. 18 75¢

CHICAGO (CNS)—For five years, Father Pat Lee has served as pastor of both St. Joseph and Immaculate Conception parishes on Chicago's near North Side. The two churches are six blocks apart, and Father Lee can make the walk in six minutes.

But that doesn't mean the two communities are—or want to be—the same.

"The biggest challenge is to lead people to a broader vision of what Church is," said Father Lee, who participated in a Feb. 7-9 symposium on Multiple Parish Pastoring at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein. "I do bring the resources of two places to the broader mission of the Church. That should be an advantage."

Father Lee joined pastors, pastoral leaders, researchers and planners from about 20 dioceses across the United States at the symposium.

The group of about 50 priests, religious, and lay men and women discussed developing training resources, guidelines and recommendations for having a priest pastor more than one parish.

Father Lou Dorn pastors two parishes in the Diocese of Jefferson City, Mo. Both are small worship communities, located along the Mississippi River south of Hannibal.

"When he assigned me, the bishop said they were small so I would still be able to do all my other jobs," said Father Dorn, who holds a number of diocesan positions and serves on the boards of national associations.

And for Father Dorn, who has led at least two parishes for all but five of the last 28 years, it's nothing new.

That's the situation in at least one-third—and maybe up to half—of the parishes in the United States already, said Mark Mogilka, director of pastoral planning for the Diocese of Green Bay, Wis. In his diocese, two out of three parishes share a priest with at least one other parish.

"In the late '90s, we had some multiparish pastors, but it has really increased," Mogilka said. "It's largely due to the declining number of priests."

One study presented at the symposium found that more than 10,000 of the 18,891 parishes in the United States in 2005 shared **See Parishes**, page 9

Legacy for Our Mission pilot phase draws to successful close

By Sean Gallagher

The pilot phase of the Legacy for Our Mission: For Our Children and the Future campaign that began in 11 archdiocesan parishes last fall is draw-

Archbishop Daniel M.

Buechlein discusses the

campaign, page 5.

parishes last fall is drawing to a successful close.

More than \$17 million in pledges have been received that will benefit both the parishes that have raised the funds as

well as the archdiocese's shared ministries and home missions, which include the formation of seminarians and the support of retired priests.

The participation of St. Monica Parish

in Indianapolis highlights this success, having pledged \$6.2 million, which represents more than three-and-a-half times the parish's annual Sunday and holy day collections.

This will allow the parish to go forward with the construction of a much-needed multipurpose facility that will aid its numerous ministries.

Starting in March,

13 more parishes will begin their participation in the campaign that has a \$100 million goal. The remainder of the archdiocese's parishes will participate in the campaign during the next two years.

St. Pius X parishioner Jerry Semler of Indianapolis, the campaign's chairman, said that the results to this point are "very encouraging," adding that the parishes in the campaign so far have well exceeded the goal for the pilot phase.

"The parishioners are very supportive of the overall campaign," Semler said.

Members of St. Joseph Parish in St. Leon in the Batesville Deanery have been quite successful in their participation thus far, pledging more than \$334,000.

Father George Plaster, the pastor of **See LEGACY.** page

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LEGACY

continued from page 1

the southeastern Indiana parish, said that he expects a strong growth in the number of parishioners in the coming years due to the parish's close proximity to Cincinnati, approximately 30 minutes away.

Because of this, the parishioners have identified the need for a new parish life center, the building of which they hope to secure with the funds raised in the campaign. The center will also benefit other parishes in the Batesville Deanery.

"We hope that the addition of a parish life center will be something inviting to other parishes within our deanery from time to time when there may be a need to take advantage of our new facility," Father Plaster said. "What, I think, brings parishes closer together is when there are facilities that can enable closer relationships socially, spiritually and instructionally."

Although Father Plaster said that the new parish life center was a "strong motivator" for his parishioners' participation in Legacy for Our Mission thus far, he also said that they value "helping out the collective archdiocese in the ministry and mission goals for the campaign."

St. Joseph Parish in St. Leon is one of the archdiocese's oldest parishes, having been founded in 1841.

SS. Francis and Clare Parish in Greenwood, on the other hand, was established less than 15 years ago.

According to Father Vincent Lampert, SS. Francis and Clare's pastor, the 900-family parish has grown by 33 percent in just two years and is projecting a possible addition of 600 to 700 families over the next five years.

As a result of this growth, the parish has quickly outgrown its ministry space.

"There are over 400 children in Sunday morning religious education," Father Lampert said. "We use every nook and cranny we can find, including my office. We use the social hall. We use the narthex. We use offices, and we have a lot of space



As this architectural drawing shows, the parish life center of St. Joseph Parish in St. Leon, when completed, will stand to the right of the parish's rectory and church. The growing southeastern Indiana parish's participation in the pilot phase of Legacy for Our Mission: For Our Children and the Future is helping them make the construction of the center a reality. It has also helped them grow in awareness of the shared ministries and home missions of the archdiocese.

constraints."

To address this need, the parish is working toward raising enough funds for the construction of a nine-room building that will be used both for a new parish school and other ministries.

So far, the members of SS. Francis and Clare Parish have pledged \$2.25 million for Legacy for Our Mission, which represents more than three times its annual Sunday and holy day collections.

Working to build a school building that will also house other parish ministries could easily focus parishioners on their own needs.

But Father Lampert said that the Catholic identity of the parish should turn its members toward the needs of others.

"We need to recognize that being Catholic means that we have a responsibility for others, whether they're Catholic or

non-Catholic," he said. "We can focus on our needs, but we also need to focus on the needs of others at the same time."

St. Simon the Apostle parishioner Richard Pfleger of Indianapolis, the campaign's associate general chairman and chairman of its leadership phase, said that the participation he's seen thus far and that which he expects to see in the months to come reflects the deep generosity of Catholics in central and southern Indiana.

"I think that Winston Churchill quote, 'You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give,' very accurately describes the attitude of our parishioners in the archdiocese," he said. "We've got a lot of generous people that are willing to look deep into their hearts and see what they can give to help other people who need help.'

St. Bartholomew parishioner David Milroy of Columbus, the campaign's chairman of the parish phase for southern Indiana, praised the generosity shown thus far in the campaign by archdiocesan Catholics, describing it as "sacrificial."

"In my experience in working within the archdiocese to try to raise money over time, that's when people examine most closely their relationship with our Lord and his Church," Milroy said.

It was this spiritual nature of the Legacy for Our Mission campaign that Father Lampert said, in the end, was the most important part of it.

"One of the things that we try to stress is that we weren't just raising money for the sake of money," he said, "but [that] the funds we raise enable us to do the mission that God has given us." †

Cabinet members lead Legacy for Our Mission campaign

By Sean Gallagher

Several people from across the archdiocese are serving as leaders in the Legacy for Our Mission: For Our Children and the Future campaign.

From helping to oversee the effort as a whole to promoting major gifts, to aiding parishes in their participation in the campaign, these parish leaders are working hard to help Catholics in central and southern Indiana come together in the campaign to further the mission of the

The following is a list of those serving on the campaign's cabinet:

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B. Archbishop of Indianapolis

Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel Vicar General Pastor, Holy Rosary Parish, Indianapolis Jerry D. Semler St. Pius X Parish, Indianapolis Campaign Chair

Richard Pfleger St. Simon the Apostle Parish, Indianapolis Associate General Chairman Leadership Phase Chair

Father J. Daniel Atkins Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Corydon; St. Peter Parish, Harrison County; Most Precious Blood Parish, New Middletown Clergy Promotion Co-Chair

L. H. Bayley St. Luke Parish, Indianapolis Pacesetter Gifts Chair

John Duffy St. Simon the Apostle Parish, Indianapolis Major Gifts Co-Chair

Tom F. Hirschauer Jr. St. Luke Parish, Indianapolis Communications Phase Chair

Mary Horn St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Bloomington Major Gifts Prospect Review Chair

W. Tobin McClamroch St. Luke Parish, Indianapolis Major Gifts Awareness Chair

J. Timothy McGinley St. Luke Parish, Indianapolis Pacesetter Gifts Awareness Chair

William McGowan Jr. St. Luke Parish, Indianapolis Corporate and Foundation Awareness Chair

St. Bartholomew Parish, Columbus Parish Phase Chair, Southern Indiana James A. Schellinger Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Indianapolis Parish Phase Chair, Central Indiana

Maurice Spagnoletti Foundation Phase Chair

Eugene R. Tempel, Ed.D. St. Joan of Arc Parish, Indianapolis Corporate and Foundation Phase Prospect Review Chair

John M. (Jack) Whelan St. Monica Parish, Indianapolis Pacesetter Gifts Prospect Review Chair

Father James R. Wilmoth Pastor, St. Roch Parish, Indianapolis Clergy Promotion Co-Chair

Joseph S. Therber Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Indianapolis Executive Director, Stewardship and Development †

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Children to benefit from education and child care proposals

By Brigid Curtis Ayer

Schools in urban and poor areas facing teacher shortages may soon find relief if a



teacher shortage bill, Senate Bill 172, becomes Indiana law.

The bill, authored by Sen. Teresa Lubbers (R-Indianapolis), would allow the governing body of a school corporation or



Sen. Teresa Lubbers

an accredited nonpublic school to hire an individual who is in the process of obtaining a teaching license under the "Transition to Teaching" program.

"The bill is designed to help schools hire licensed teachers in hard-tofind subject areas, such as math,

science, special education and English as a Second Language," Lubbers said, with "the goal being to improve the quality of teachers in those areas where there are shortages.

Under the bill, the teachers that are hired from the "Transition to Teaching" program must have subject competency in the subjects they will teach, she said.

"The way it is now, the State Board of Education has issued roughly 2,000 emergency teaching permits to fill the teaching shortage, and those teaching with an emergency permit are not required to have a subject competency," Lubbers said. "Senate Bill 172 will require those in the 'Transition to Teaching' program to have

subject competency, but overall they are more qualified to teach since they are already working toward licensure."

Lubbers said her bill is actually becoming less controversial.

"As people are learning more about the bill, support for it is growing," she said. "This bill also applies to accredited, nonpublic schools.

"Geographically, school corporations in urban and poor areas are the ones experiencing teacher shortages," she said.

The teacher shortage bill, which passed the Indiana Senate last month, was approved on Feb. 8 by the House Education Committee. The bill has moved to the House floor for further consideration.

Another important measure affecting children is also moving forward through the legislature. Senate Bill 151, authored by Sen. Connie Lawson (R-Danville), in its original form, would have required child care providers, registered as ministries who receive federal and state funding through



Sen. Connie Lawson

vouchers from the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), to meet certain child-to-staff ratios.

"Ministries do an excellent job; however, there has been a preponderance of day care providers who have found a loophole in the definition as a min-

istry," Lawson said. "These providers, who have no real ministry affiliation, were being exempted from certain child care standards under the registered ministry category."

Lawson said that one such provider in Indianapolis had 13 2-year-olds attending and only one adult supervising.

"To address this problem, and ensure at the very least certain child-to-staff ratios existed, the bill would have required all child care providers—including those who are registered ministries—to adhere to the minimum child-to-staff ratios," Lawson said. "But because of the lack of time in the short session—and due to the outcry of ministry organizations—that language of the bill was amended out so that there would be more time to work with ministries to come up with a good definition for a ministry and resolve the problem."

Lawson said that while the bill is "watered down from its original form," the current language in Senate Bill 151 will help Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA)—the group which regulates and inspects Indiana child care providers—to comply with child care inspections and drug testing.

"It's important that we bring more people into providing quality child care, and that's what we're trying to do with Senate Bill 151," Lawson said.

Melanie Brizzi, child care development liaison for FSSA, said, "It's important for parents to realize that not all child care providers are licensed or are required to follow the same standards. Parents need to ask questions like 'How many children do you have per each adult?' There are many ministries out there that provide a very high quality of care, but parents cannot assume that they all operate under the same guidelines because they don't."

According to Brizzi, there are 650 child care providers in Indiana operating as registered ministries, and two-thirds of them accept CCDF vouchers. Child care providers which operate as registered ministries are currently not required to have child care development training and are

Track legislation, tune into radio show

To track legislative action or to contact your state legislators, go to www.in.gov/legislative/ or call the Indiana House of Representatives at 317-232-9600 or 800-382-9842. For the Indiana State Senate, call 317-232-9400 or 800-382-9467.

Indiana Catholic Conference Executive Director Glenn Tebbe's report on the week's legislative activities follows Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein's weekly radio broadcast at 11:05 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday mornings on Indianapolis Catholic Radio WSPM 89.1 FM.

The show can now also be heard anywhere in the state as WSPM has begun streaming it on the Internet. If you have Internet access, tune into the ICC's legislative update at www.catholicradioindy.org. †

exempted from child-to-staff ratios.

Approximately \$122 million in government funds is spent in Indiana through CCDF vouchers. The vouchers were developed in the early 1990s as part of the federal welfare reform program.

Senate Bill 151 passed the Senate and has been assigned to the House Committee on Family, Children and Human Affairs, where it is awaiting a hearing.

Because this is a short session, bills must be passed in committee by the end of February. The Indiana General Assembly must adjourn by March 14.

(Brigid Curtis Ayer is a correspondent for The Criterion.) †

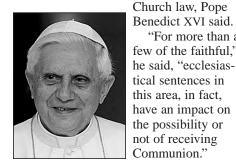
Pope says marriage tribunals must act quickly, follow Church law

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—For the good of individuals and the Catholic Church as a whole, marriage tribunals must act as quickly as possible while fully following

"For more than a

Pope Benedict

met in late January



Pope Benedict XVI

riage cases.

therefore, to receive Communion.

Pope Benedict said the reason why so many bishops at the October synod on the Eucharist raised questions about tribunals and annulment procedures was precisely because receiving the Eucharist is so important.

At times, the pope said, it can appear that pastoral concern for people in irregular marriage situations clashes head-on with the Church's insistence that matrimony is forever and that annulments may be granted only when there is clear proof that the conditions for a valid marriage did not exist from the beginning.

"The fundamental point of encounter between law and pastoral concern," the pope said, is "love for the truth."

The pastoral value of an annulment "cannot be separated from love for the truth," he said.

The purpose of an annulment procedure "is not to uselessly complicate the lives of the faithful nor even less to exacerbate litigiousness, but only to serve the truth," Pope Benedict said.

The pope also said a husband and wife who have separated cannot self-declare their marriage invalid because marriage is a sacrament of the Church and a good for society.

Reason dictates that an impartial third party [needs to] be asked to examine the facts and make a judgment, he said.

At the same time, the search for truth in a marriage case is very concrete and has a deep impact on the individuals involved, the pope said.

Because it touches both their human and Christian development, "it is very

important that the declaration arrive in a reasonable amount of time," the pope

Pope Benedict said it also was very important that the Church's pastoral approach to couples be evident long before any troubles arise.

From the moment a couple requests to be married in a Catholic Church, priests must work to ensure that the couple understands the meaning of the sacrament of matrimony, he said.

And at the first sign of trouble between a husband and wife, he said, they must be offered assistance in resolving their differences and finding "the path of reconcilia-

with members of the Roman Rota, a

Church court dealing mainly with mar-

was invalid would allow a divorced and

civilly remarried couple to have their

union recognized by the Church and,

A tribunal declaration that a marriage

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OPINION



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Editorial



Bishop Dale J. Melczek, left, shares a lighthearted moment with villagers near a soil conservation project in the hills of Trou-du-Nord, Haiti. Upon return from the 2003 solidarity mission to the impoverished island nation, the bishop of Gary, Ind., said he was reminded that joy does not come from material possessions, but from within "when there is love of God and love for one another."

We are called to be stewards of joy

British writer C. S. Lewis described his conversion to Christianity as being "surprised by joy." Lewis had a very particular understanding of joy, which he carefully distinguished from both happiness and pleasure.

Joy comes with the satisfaction of our deepest desires. Joy is what we long for always and rarely find. It is the experience of genuine unity and harmony with the world around us. It is the intimate connection with a person that makes us feel whole and complete as human beings.

The history of Christianity can be said to begin with joy—the greeting of the Angel to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for behold I proclaim to you news of great joy" (Lk 2:10). And, of course, the most profound experience of joy is found in the Easter mystery-Jesus' victory over sin and death in the Resurrection. Here, the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and in Jerusalem and Galilee, encounter the risen Lord and find their deepest longings fulfilled and their hearts burning with joy.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines joy as "vivid pleasure arising from a sense of well-being or satisfaction." We might say that it is the opposite of restless anxiety or fear.

Joy fills the emptiness in the pit of our stomachs. It causes us to feel that our unnamed fears are groundless. Joy counteracts our tendency to be constantly worried and depressed about the sad state of affairs that the world has come to (again).

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, like the saints throughout Christian history, like C. S. Lewis and countless other lost souls who are restless and filled with longing, joy takes us by surprise. We are amazed by the grace of God, which comforts us and fills our hearts with peace.

Why, then, are so many of us Christians still lost? Why is there so much bitterness and anxiety among us? Why do we still feel desperate and afraid? Why do we bicker and quarrel among ourselves? Have we forgotten

the hope we received at Christmas? Have we lost all sense of Easter joy?

In The Joy of Full Surrender, the great 19th-century spiritual director, Father Jean-Pierre Caussade, writes, "There is nothing more free than a heart which sees only the life of God in the most deadly perils and troubles." This is the joy of martyrdom: to be completely confident in the presence and saving grace of God even in the most desperate and hopeless situations.

As Father Caussade says: "The senses, in terror, suddenly cry to the soul, Unhappy one! You have no resource left; you are lost! Instantly, faith with a stronger voice answers: Keep firm, go forward and fear nothing!"

Perhaps the fear and anxiety we Christians feel today stems from a lack of faith. Like the disciples, we fail to comprehend how God works in our world-bringing light into our darkness and healing into our brokenness. And we fail to listen for the "stronger voice of faith" among all the negative messages of doubt and despair in our world today.

Christians in the 21st century (as in every age) have been given the gift of joy. We have experienced, in a provisional way, what it means to be fully satisfied, to know lasting peace and to find true love. We are called to be stewards of the joy we have received in Christ—to nurture and develop it and to share it generously with others.

Let's pray for the grace to be good stewards of God's joy. As Pope Benedict XVI said, "May we never complain or be discouraged by life's trials. May the Lord help us to follow the path of love and, in submitting to its demands, find true joy."

— Daniel Conway

(Daniel Conway is a member of the editorial committee of the board of directors of Criterion Press Inc.) †

Making a Difference/Tony Magliano

State of the world's children

The new year is not shaping up to be a happy one for hundreds of millions of the



world's poorest children. In fact, the U.N. Children's Fund (www.unicef.org) reports that the situation is truly desperate.

According to their highly respected annual report titled "The State of the World's Children,

2006," millions of excluded and invisible children make their way through life impoverished, abandoned, uneducated, malnourished, discriminated against, neglected and vulnerable.

In the world's poorest countries:

- One in every six children dies before
- One in every three children under 5 is moderately or severely underweight.
- One in every two girls is not in primary school.
- One in every four children is not immunized against measles, which kills more than 500,000 children every year.

Why do we allow so many of the world's children to suffer and die?

The United States has the resources to end domestic and global childhood poverty and hunger. However, as individuals and as a government, we often throw crumbs to the poor.

Speaking in New York in 1979, Pope John Paul II said: "The poor of the United States and of the world are your brothers and sisters in Christ. Never be content to leave them just the crumbs of the feast. Take of your substance, and not just of your abundance, in order to help them. Treat them like guests at your family table."

You can invite the poor—especially poor children—to your family table by e-mailing or calling your congressperson and two U.S. senators (Capitol switchboard: 202-224-3121), urging them to double the funding in fiscal year 2007

for the McGovern-Dole School Feeding Program.

This wonderful project enables very poor schools in the developing world to provide a nutritious meal for each student. Doubling the funding would provide food and education for an additional 2 million children.

Also, urge your congressional delegation to increase the Title II Food for Peace program to \$2 billion for 2007.

Some years ago, I lived for two months at a leprosy hospital in Bihar, India. The hospital is part of a larger operation known as the Damien Social Welfare Center, which operates two hostels for children of leprosy patients.

These hostels provide more than 700 children with nourishing food, a decent place to live, an education and a trade. Without this help, they would be condemned to a life of begging alongside their parents.

A former director of the center, Jesuit Father John Guidera, told me that with an annual per-child expense of \$300, it is extremely difficult to keep the hostels operating.

But this is where you can help. For about 95 cents a day, you could become a child sponsor, making the difference of a lifetime for one of these little ones.

Please consider sending a \$25 monthly donation to: Jesuit Missions, 7400 York Road Suite 401, Baltimore, MD 21204. (For this to be tax deductible, do not write on your check's memo line. Instead simply attach a note to each check saying, "For Guidera child sponsorship.") Within a couple of months, you should receive from India a picture and personal information about the child you are sponsoring.

With just a little effort and pennies a day, we can help some of the world's poorest children enjoy a good meal, receive an education and experience what it means to be a child.

(Tony Magliano writes for Catholic News

Letters to the Editor

Editorial an affront to America's laity

Daniel Conway's editorial "Let's stop blaming the bishops" in the Jan. 27 issue of The Criterion is an affront to the laity.

I do not believe that any thinking Catholic blames "the bishops for everything that ails the Church." There are many of us, however, who believe that those bishops who denied, ignored and covered up years of known abuse by Catholic clergy should be held responsible and ade accountable for what they did

Is there even one bishop who was arrested, suffered personal financial loss or position, or was in any way called to personal account for the criminal act of covering up criminal activity? One usually does not "learn their lesson" when there are no personal consequences. A few apologies and another committee seem woefully inadequate.

Most of us (laity) do support the American bishops in the areas that deserve our support. The abuse situation is not one of those areas. To say, as you have in the editorial, that, "Sometimes, he [the bishop] makes mistakes. If he is faithful to his calling, the bishop learns from his mistakes and carries on," seems to downplay the importance and the criminal nature of what was done by some bishops in the name of God and Church.

Please, give the faithful of our country more credit. The laity had nothing to do with the cover-up by the bishops.

And, yes, we do need to support one another. But support does not mean ignoring what was done and "going on" as if

nothing happened. When we "dumb down" the events of the past, history has shown that the past will be repeated. Helen Welter, Indianapolis

Archbishop's column hits home in Greensburg

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein's column in the Jan. 27 edition of The Criterion concerning the need for Catholic schools has prompted this letter.

It was a most-needed prod to all of us, in particular those who feel we can no longer support the ever-rising costs of maintaining our schools.

Somehow, we have survived the rising costs of everything else, and we say we want the best for our children, but not necessarily a Catholic education?

At St. Mary Parish in Greensburg, we are in a building planning mode, nothing new as this has been an ongoing project for more than 20 years. Serious talk and study is now in process, but it is mostly about a new church, which we should be looking at-but our school is of 1915 origin with a 1955 addition. It has three floors, 12 classrooms and a gym, structural problems and no air-conditioning. We are getting by, thanks to a dedicated teaching staff working for the lowest salaries in the county.

Some of our people are saying "build the church, and let the city and county educate our children." The failure of our Catholic school will only further the declining attendance and faith of our mission. Let us all pray for guidance in Catholic education.

Herb Scheidler, Greensburg



SEEKING THE FACE OF THE LORD

Buscando la Cara del Señor

Pooling our loaves and fishes for all God's people

nce in awhile, I receive letters from parishioners who don't understand why they should share some of the proceeds of the Legacy For Our Mission: For Our Children and the Future campaign with the larger mission of the archdiocese. A recent letter said that every parish should just take care of itself.

I remembered something I had read in an inspiring book, Bread of the World, by Cardinal Carlo Martini, who is now the retired Jesuit Archbishop of Milan, Italy. I was struck by the cardinal's description of an episode related to his installation as archbishop.

He wrote that someone who saw him standing at the podium in the piazza in front of the cathedral before he was installed observed, "You looked bewildered in the face of so many people, as if saying to yourself, 'Where will I find bread enough to feed them all?'

In the face of so many material and spiritual needs in our archdiocese here in central and southern Indiana, I immediately resonated with the cardinal. And I am sure many of you do, too.

The cardinal reflected on the meaning of the miracle Jesus worked with five loaves and two fishes (Mt 14:13-21).

Remember the context: It was evening, they were in a deserted place, and the crowd was large and hungry. Jesus felt compassion for them and wanted to feed them. The disciples said, "Send them home. There isn't enough food." Five loaves and two fishes were all the disciples had with them. "Bring them to me,"

In so many words, the cardinal remarked that Jesus does not want to start from nothing in building the kingdom; he does not belittle what we have. He doesn't say to us, "Why have you done so little? Why did you not plan ahead?"

Jesus asks us to bring to him whatever little we have. Like Peter and his friends who worked hard (all night) to catch their fish, we are to be generous with what we earn by our hard work and sweat and anguish. And we are to bring the bread of our suffering or the bitterness that comes our way or, sometimes, even our broken hearts—not to mention our gifts. Jesus uses whatever little we have with us to work miracles for the good of the many. Maybe this is the real miracle of the five loaves and two fishes.

Jesus does something for everyone in that hungry crowd. He has compassion for the many that were hungry, not just the exclusive few who were his friends and

disciples. And so he asks us to be part of a Church in which no one keeps the five loaves and two fishes for herself or himself alone. He won't accept our saying "Send them home. We don't have enough to feed them." We are to give of whatever we have for the sake of all his people. Jesus works the miracle and makes it go much farther than we could ever imagine.

The Lord takes our small beginnings and makes great things of them. I'm afraid sometimes when it comes to faith and religion and holiness and prayer, we want to say "Lord, I'm not ready, not yet. I'm just not good enough." Cardinal Martini wrote, "Jesus insists 'Bring me what you are, as you are; bring me the little you have so that I may use it for the salvation of a people.' He asks us to trust him, to believe in his power."

All of this is another expression of a theme I have struck from the early bewildering days of my own installation as archbishop of Indianapolis. "Together we can serve the Lord. The archdiocese is all of us, not the central office at 1400 N. Meridian St." The time, talent and treasure we share go to those most in need, not to archdiocesan administration. By the grace of God, by the miracles which the Lord works in our own times, there is so much we can accomplish together that we can not possibly do by our unrelated, individual efforts. If we pool our few loaves and fishes, they go so much farther for the good of so many more people. All of us need to claim our responsibility in the mission of our Church. I know that we agree that we cannot simply be "takers." We need to be "givers."

I surely understand that sometimes our own need or the needs of our own parish community seem overwhelming. Yet we are asked to share from our few loaves and fishes. The Lord blesses our sacrifices abundantly. We need to give of our time, talent and treasure, however small and paltry or however large and abundant, for the sake of the many. For "it is evening and they are far from home." †

Archbishop Buechlein's intention for vocations for February

Young Adults: That they may realize the importance of their presence in our parishes and have the generosity and courage to consider ser vice in the Church, especially as priests and religious.

Uniendo nuestros panes y peces en favor de todo el pueblo de Dios

e vez en cuando, recibo cartas de parroquianos que no entienden por qué deben compartir parte de las ganancias de la campaña el Legado de nuestra misión: para los niños y el futuro, con la misión mayor de la Arquidiócesis. Una carta reciente expresaba que cada parroquia debería simplemente ocuparse de sí misma.

Recuerdo algo que leí en un libro inspirador, El pan del mundo, escrito por el Cardenal Carlo Martini, quien es hoy en día un arzobispo Jesuita jubilado de Milán. Me impactó la descripción del cardenal sobre su institución como arzo-

Escribió que alguien que lo vio parado en el podio en la plaza delante de la catedral antes de proclamársele, observó: "se veía consternado ante tantas personas, como si se estuviera diciendo a sí mismo ¿dónde encontraré suficiente pan para alimentarlos a todos?' '

Ante las múltiples necesidades materiales y espirituales de nuestra arquidiócesis aquí en Indiana Central y del sur, me sentí inmediatamente identificado con el cardenal. Y estoy seguro de que mucho de ustedes también.

El cardenal reflexionó acerca del significado del milagro obrado por Jesús con cinco panes y dos peces (Mt 14:13-21). Recordemos el contexto: Era de tarde; se encontraban en un lugar desierto y había una muchedumbre hambrienta. Jesús se compadeció de ellos y quiso alimentarlos a todos. Los discípulos dijeron: "Despide

pues, a la gente, para que vayan a los pueblos y se compren comida." Cinco panes y dos peces era todo lo que tenían los discípulos. "Traédmelos acá," dijo

En pocas palabras, el cardenal resaltó que Jesús no desea comenzar a construir el reino a partir de la nada; él no desprecia lo que tenemos. No nos dice: "¿Por qué has hecho tan poco? ¿Por qué no planeaste con anticipación?"

Jesús nos pide que le llevemos aquello que tengamos. Al igual que Pedro y sus amigos quienes trabajaron arduamente (toda la noche), para conseguir su pesca, debemos ser generosos con aquellos que obtenemos por medio de nuestra ardua labor, nuestro sudor y nuestra aflicción. Y debemos llevarle el pan de nuestro sufrimiento o la amargura que se nos presente, o, en ocasiones, incluso nuestros corazones rotos, sin mencionar, por supuesto, nuestras dádivas. Jesús utiliza lo poco que tengamos para obrar milagros en favor de muchos. Quizás este sea el verdadero milagro de los cinco panes y los dos peces.

Jesús hizo algo por cada una de las personas presentes en ese grupo hambriento. Se compadece por todos aquellos que estaban hambrientos, no simplemente por los cinco que eran sus amigos y discípulos. Y de este modo, nos pide que formemos parte de una Iglesia en la cual nadie se guarda cinco panes y dos peces únicamente para sí mismo. No aceptará que digamos: "Envíenlos a casa, no tenemos suficiente comida para alimentarlos." Debemos ofrecer aquellos que tengamos por el bien de todo su pueblo. Jesús obra el milagro y lo extiende mucho más de lo que nunca podríamos imaginarnos.

El Señor toma nuestros humildes orígenes y hace grandes cosas con ellos. Me temo que a veces, en lo que respecta a fe, religión, santidad y oración, queremos decir: "Señor, no estoy listo, no todavía. No soy digno." El Cardenal Martini escribió: "Jesús insiste: 'Tráeme lo que eres, como eres; ofréceme aquello que tengas para que pueda yo usarlo en pos de la salvación de un pueblo.' Nos pide que confiemos en él, que creamos en su poder."

Todo esto es otra expresión de un tema que me ha impactado desde los primeros días de consternación de mi propia institución como arzobispo de Indianápolis. "Juntos podemos servir al Señor. La arquidiócesis somos todos nosotros, no simplemente la oficina sede localizada en el 1400 North Meridian." El tiempo, el talento y los tesoros que compartamos van para todos aquellos que más lo necesitan, no para la administración de la arquidiócesis. Por medio

de la gracia de Dios, por medio de los milagros que el Señor obra en nuestros propios tiempos, hay mucho que podemos lograr juntos y que no podríamos realizar a través de esfuerzos individuales y desligados. Si unimos nuestros pocos panecillos y peces, llegarán mucho más lejos para bien de mucha más gente. Todos debemos asumir nuestra responsabilidad en la misión de nuestra Iglesia. Sé que estamos de acuerdo en que no podemos ser simplemente "tomar." Debemos ser "dadores."

Ciertamente entiendo que en ocasiones, nuestra propia necesidad o las necesidades de nuestra propia comunidad parroquial, parecen abrumadoras. Y aun así, se nos pide que compartamos nuestros pocos panecillos y pescados. El Señor bendice con creces nuestros sacrificios. Debemos ofrecer nuestro tiempo, talentos y tesoros, independientemente de lo pequeños o exiguos, o de lo grandes y abundantes, para bien de muchos. Porque "es de tarde y están lejos de casa." †

Traducido por: Language Training Center, *Indianapolis*

La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en febrero

Adultos jóvenes: Que se den cuenta de la importancia de su presencia en nuestras parroquias y tengan la generosidad y el valor de considerar el ser vicio en la iglesia, especialmente como sacerdotes y religiosos.

Events Calendar

February 17

Knights of Columbus Hall, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis. Catholic Business Exchange, Mass, 6:30 a.m., buffet breakfast and program. Information: www.catholicbusiness exchange.org.

Marian College, St. Francis Hall Chapel, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Catholic Charismatic Renewal, praise, worship, healing prayers, 7 p.m. Information: 317-797-2460.

St. Francis Hospital, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., Indianapolis. "Cancer 101," noon-2 p.m. Information: 317-257-1505.

February 18

Christ the King Parish, Tuohy Hall, 1827 Kessler Blvd. E. Dr., Indianapolis. **An Introduction** to Theology of the Body, "God, Sex and the Meaning of Life," author Christopher West, presenter, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$10 per person. Information: 317-255-3666 or e-mail cflaten@christthe king-indy.org.

St. Lawrence Church, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Worship service, Divine Word Father Stephan Brown, presider, 7 p.m. Information: 317-546-4065.

Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. "Tracking Mammals," Wayne Wauligman, presenter, 8:30-noon, free-will donation. Information: 812-933-0661.

February 19

Marian College, Civic Theatre, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. "A Changing World," U.S. Sen. Richard G. Lugar, presenter, 7 p.m., no charge. Registration: fcgs.marian.edu.

MKVS and DM Center, Rexville (located on 925 South, .8 mile east of 421 South, 12 miles south of Versailles). Mass, 3:30 p.m., with Father Elmer Burwinkel. Information: 812-689-3551 or e-mail frburwink@seidata.com or log on to Schoenstatt Web site at www.seidata.com/~frburwink.

February 20

St. Gabriel Church, 6000 W. 34th St., Indianapolis. Evening of Reflection, "Love and Mercy," Franciscan Sister M. Timothy Kavanaugh, presenter, 7-9 p.m. Information: 317-291-7014.

February 21

St. Joseph University Parish, 113 S. Fifth St., Terre Haute. Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. SpiritPro

Workshop and retreat series, four Tuesdays, session 4, "Soul Sisters-Women of Scripture Speak to Women of Today," 6-8 p.m., Carolyn Surr, facilitator, donations accepted. Information: 812-535-4531 or e-mail spiritpro@spsmsw.org.

February 23

Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Ecclesial Lay Ministry class, "Stewardship and Lay Ministry, Record**keeping,"** 1:30-4:30 p.m., \$100 per workshop. Information: 812-357-6816.

St. Paul the Apostle Parish, 202 E. Washington St., Greencastle. Theology Night Out, "Hats Off to Church History," Dr. Virginia Unverzagt, presenter, 6-6:45 p.m. pitch-in dinner, 6:45-8 p.m. presentation. Information: 765-653-7789.

February 23-26

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, Cecilian Auditorium, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. "The Mikado," Thurs. 8 p.m., Fri. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sat. and Sun. 2 p.m., \$10 adults, \$5 children, students and senior citizens. Information: 812-535-5265.

February 24

St. Nicholas School, 6461 E. St. Nicholas Dr., Sunman. Spaghetti dinner, sponsored by seventh- and eighth-grade students, 4-7:30 p.m., free-will offering.

St. Francis Hospital, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., Indianapolis. **Natural Family Planning (NFP)** class, 7-9 p.m. Information: 317-865-5554.

February 25

Cathedral High School, 5225 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Shamrauction 2006, 5:30 p.m.-midnight, \$140 per person includes preview party. Information: 317-542-1481.

University of Indianapolis, Schwitzer Student Center, 1400 E. Hanna Ave., Indianapolis. St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers, Spirit of Women Day of **Dance event,** 9 a.m.-2 p.m., \$10 adults, \$5 Spirit of Women members and college students, \$2.50 youth, no registration required. Information: 317-865-5864.

St. Ambrose Parish, Parish Center, 325 S. Chestnut St., Seymour. Parish retreat, "Changed by His Glory," John and Katrina Rae Daughenbaugh, presenters, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., babysitting

available. Information: 812-522-

February 26

Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. Faith Formation Team, "Apologetics from A-Z," sessions for children 4 years and older, sessions for adults, 11:15 a.m.-11:55 a.m. Information: 317-636-4478.

St. Michael School, 3352 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. Open house, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Information: 317-926-0516.

St. Athanasius Byzantine Rite Church, 1117 S. Blaine Ave., Indianapolis. Educational seminar on Byzantine Rite liturgy, "Heaven on Earth," 1-4 p.m., free. Information: 317-632-4157.

Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, 1005 W. Main St., Danville. Music Department, concert, 3 p.m., free-will offering. Information: 317-745-4284.

February 26-27

Marian College, library auditorium, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. "Are Feeding **Tubes Morally Obligatory?** Dignity, Vulnerability and the Care of the Patient," Franciscan Brother Daniel P. Sulmasy, presenter, Sun. 3 p.m., Mon. noon, no charge. Information: 317-955-

February 28

Elbow Room, 605 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis. Theology on Tap, young adult speaker series, 7 p.m. Information: 317-748-1274

March 2

Primo-North Banquet Hall, 5649 Lee Road, Indianapolis. Catholic Radio 89.1 annual dinner, reception 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., \$50 per person, reservations due Feb. 25. Information: 317-870-8400, ext. 21.

March 4

The Atrium, 3143 E. Thompson Road, Indianapolis. St. Barnabas Parish, 40th anniversary celebration dinner/dance, 6 p.m., \$15 per person, reservations due Feb. 24. Information: 317-889-6561 or 317-889-6571.

March 15

Marten House Hotel, 1801 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. St. Elizabeth/Coleman Pregnancy and Adoption Services, "An Evening with Anne Ryder," reception 6 p.m., \$50 per person. To ensure a ticket, purchase by March 1. Information: 317-787-3412. †

Regular Events

Monthly

First Sundays

Marian College, Ruth Lilly Student Center, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. People of Peace Secular Franciscan Order, (no meetings July or August), noon-2 p.m. Information: 317-955-6775.

Sacred Heart Church, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis. Mass with contemporary appeal, 5 p.m. Information: 317-638-5551.

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

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

St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville. Holy hour of adoration, prayer and praise for vocations, 9:15 a.m. Information: 317-831-4142.

First Mondays

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

St. Bartholomew Church, 1306 27th St., Columbus. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Information: 812-379-9353.

Catholic Radio 89.1 FM to host fundraiser

Catholic Radio 89.1 FM in Indianapolis will host a nationally known speaker and author,



Servant of God's Love Sister Ann Shields, during a dinner fundraiser on March 2 at the Primo North Banquet Hall, 5649 Lee Road, in Indianapolis.

The reception begins at 6 p.m. followed by the

dinner at 7 p.m.

In addition to Sister Ann's presentation, Catholic Radio staff members will discuss the station's new features, including its streaming signal on the Internet and plans for future development.

Tickets cost \$50 per person or \$350 for a table of eight. The reservation deadline is Feb. 28. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 317-870-8400. †

First Tuesdays

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

Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. "Women: No Longer Second Class," program, 7-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-788-7581.

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 Wednesdays

St. Mary Parish, 317 N. New Jersey St., Indianapolis. Solo Singles, Catholic singles 50 and over, single, widowed, divorced, new members welcome, 6:30 p.m. Information: 317-897-1128.

St. Francis Home Health, 438 S. Emerson Ave., Greenwood. Cancer support group meeting, 6-8 p.m. Information: 317-257-1505.

St. Francis Hospital, 1201 Hadley Road, Mooresville. Cancer support group meeting, 6-8 p.m. Information: 317-257-1505.

First Thursdays

Immaculate Conception Church, 2081 E. County Road 820 S., Greensburg. Holy hour, 7-8 p.m. Information: 812-591-2362.

First Fridays

St. John the Evangelist Church, 126 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 12:45-5:15 p.m., Vespers and Benediction, 5:15 p.m. Information: 317-635-

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd., $\hbox{E. Dr., Indianapolis. } \textbf{Exposition of the Blessed}$ 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. Information: 317-356-7291.

St. Anthony Church, 379 N. Warman Ave., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 5:30 p.m. Mass, hour of silent prayer and reflection followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Information; 317-636-4828.

St. Joseph Church, 1375 S. Mickley Ave., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 4 p.m., rosary, 5 p.m., Benediction,

5:30 p.m., Mass, 5:45 p.m. Information: 317-

St. Rita Church, 1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave., Indianapolis. Sacred Heart devotion, 11 a.m., holy hour, 6-7 p.m. Information: 317-632-9349.

St. Charles Borromeo Church, chapel, 2222 E. Third St., Bloomington. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, noon-6 p.m.

Holy Name Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. Mass, 8:15 a.m., eucharistic adoration 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. Information: 765-647-6981.

St. Michael Church, 519 Jefferson Blvd., Greenfield. Mass, 8:15 a.m., exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until Benediction, 5 p.m. Information: 317-462-4240.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Caregivers support group, 7-8:30 p.m., monthly meeting sponsored by Alzheimer's Association. Information: 317-888-2861, ext. 29.

SS. Francis and Clare Church, 5901 Olive Branch Road, Greenwood. Mass, 8 a.m., adoration, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Sacred Heart Chaplet, 8:30 a.m., Divine Mercy Chaplet, 3 p.m. Information: 317-859-4673.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1752 Scheller Lane, New Albany. Adoration concluding with confessions at 6 p.m. Benediction, 6:45 p.m.

St. Mary Church, 212 Washington St., North Vernon. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Information: 812-346-3604.

St. Joseph Church, 113 S. 5th St., Terre Haute. Eucharistic adoration, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., rosary, noon, holy hour for vocations and Benediction, 4-5 p.m., Mass, 5:15 p.m. Information: 812-235-

First Saturdays

Holy Angels Church, 740 W. 28th St., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. 11 a.m.-noon. Information: 317-926-3324.

St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Church, Chapel, 4720 E. 13th St., Indianapolis. Apostolate of Fatima holy hour, 2 p.m. Information: 317-357-8352.

St. Anthony Church, 379 N. Warman Ave., Indianapolis. Reconciliation, 7:45 a.m., Mass, 8:15 a.m. followed by rosary. Information: 317-636-4828.

St. Michael Church, 519 Jefferson Blvd.,

Greenfield. Communion service, 9 a.m., rosary, meditation on the mysteries. Information: 317-462-4240.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Devotions, Mass, 7:30 a.m., sacrament of reconciliation, rosary, meditations following Mass. 317-888-2861.

St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville. Mass, 8:35 a.m. Information: 317-831-4142.

St. Nicholas Church, 6461 E. St. Nicholas Dr., Sunman. Mass, praise and worship, 8 a.m., then SACRED gathering in the school. Information: 812-623-2964.

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. Information: 317-259-4373.

Oaklawn Memorial Gardens, Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Chapel, 9700 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis. Monthly Mass (except December), 2 p.m. Information: 317-849-3616.

Second Saturdays

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

Knights of Columbus Mater Dei Council #437, 1305 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis. Breakfast buffet, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., adults \$5, children under 12 \$2.50. Information: 317-631-4373.

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Mass, 11 a.m., sign-interpreted. Information: 812-535-3131, ext. 434.

Third Mondays

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

Third Tuesdays

St. Francis Medical Clinic, 110 N. 17th Ave., Suite 300, Beech Grove. Chronic pain support group, 7-8 p.m. Information: 317-831-1177. †

Catholic Life Network fundraiser set for March 4

By Mary Ann Wyand

"The Triumph of Mary's Pro-Life Heart" is the topic of Father Thomas Euteneuer's keynote address for the second annual Catholic Life Network dinner on March 4 in downtown Indianapolis.

Father Euteneuer is the president of



Fr. Thomas Euteneuer

Human Life International, the world's largest prolife and pro-family organization, which is based in Front Royal, Va.

He will discuss the Marian core of the pro-life movement and how people can cooperate with Mary in defeating the cul-

ture of death in contemporary society. Servants of the Gospel of Life Sister Diane Carollo, director of the

archdiocesan Office for Pro-Life Ministry, said proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the Catholic Life Network's mission of promoting the sanctity of life and the teaching mission of the Catholic Church in central and southern Indiana.

Sister Diane said the archdiocesan prolife office, Gabriel Project and Catholics United for the Faith (CUFF) formed the Catholic Life Network two years ago.

Father Frank Pavone of Staten Island, N.Y., the founder and president of Priests for Life, was the keynote speaker for the network's first pro-life fundraisers held in Indianapolis and Columbus last year.

The fundraiser begins at 6 p.m. on March 4 with a reception at the Radisson Hotel, 31 W. Ohio St., in Indianapolis. Dinner starts at 7 p.m.

During the program, Catholic Life Network awards will be presented to five women and one family from parishes in central Indiana for their distinguished volunteer service to the cause of life.

Award recipients include St. Monica

parishioner Jeannette Andrews of Indianapolis, who will be honored for her years of post-abortion reconciliation ministry as a Rachel's Companions facilitator, as well as longtime Birthline volunteers Rosalind Mitchel, a member of Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis, and Libby Thomas, a member of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis.

Receiving awards for their longtime volunteer service to the Gabriel Project in Indiana, which helps mothers experiencing difficult pregnancies, are St. Joseph parishioner Gloria Lieb of Indianapolis, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishioner Michele Neely of Carmel, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese, and Michael and Lourdes Padilla and their children, Mikey, Mariel and Daniel, who are members of St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus.

During a pro-life seminar on Oct. 15 at the Marian Center in Indianapolis, Father Euteneuer noted that "the greatest power that we have in the Church is our spiritual and moral authority."

Father Euteneuer said "theologians say that all grace ... comes from the death of Jesus Christ. It flows out of Calvary. And our Lady is standing there at the foot of the cross. She has often been called the mediatrix of all graces, not because she is the source of grace, but because she is standing there from which all the graces flow—the font—and she mediates that grace to us.

"So from the center of the world, the center of all history, the center of all time, flows all that grace from the summit of a mountain called Calvary," he said, "and it is to Calvary that we must go if we are members of the pro-life movement."

(For more information or to purchase tickets, call the archdiocesan Office for Pro-Life Ministry at 317-236-1569 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1569, by Feb. 23. Tickets for the dinner are \$35 a person. Tables for 10 are available. Parishes may purchase nine tickets and receive one free ticket for their pastor or associate pastor.) †

'Holy Spirit University' is theme of Ar chdiocesan Youth Rally

By John Shaughnessy

With a crazed look in his eyes, Brad Farmer keeps juggling the balls faster and faster, leaving the audience of young people rolling with laughter.

Yet just when Farmer has the crowd grinning at the outrageous skits and the "death-defying juggling" he performs with his friend, Gene Monterastelli, he subtly shifts his focus.

Farmer shares a poignant story about his younger sister who was born with cerebral palsy. He tells the youths how his sister touched him by the way she lived her life despite the disorder that affected

her muscles and her movements.

He then recalls how he prayed the rosary for her at the time of her death.

"Brittany died two days before her 11th birthday," Farmer recalled. "I was a senior in high school at the time, in 1992. [She showed me] the deeper reality we need to find in everyone we encounter. No matter who you are, what struggles you face, what circumstances you find yourself in, you are a unique, unrepeatable reality and a loved child of

From laughs to tears, from comedy to faith, Farmer and Monterastelli take their audience on a journey of the spirit—a

journey they will share when they perform at the Archdiocesan Youth Rally on March 5 at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis.

"They're very, very entertaining," said Father Jonathan Meyer, the archdiocese's director of youth and young adult ministry. "We've seen them in quite a few different locations, and we just decided that it would be a great way to celebrate and rejoice in our Catholic faith."

The rally will begin on March 4 with a dance and talent show at Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis.

The theme of this year's rally is "Holy

Spirit University,' a tribute to the Holy Spirit's power to strengthen the faith of young people, said Father Meyer, who is also the associate pastor of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood.

"The break-out sessions' topics this year are new, bold and a little controversial, yet they are very relevant," Father Meyer said.

He noted that the Archdiocesan Youth Council selected the topics, which include discussions of human sexuality, death and dying, the impact of divorce and women's role in the Church.

Farmer and Monterastelli take a

See RALLY, page 17

LEGACY FOR OUR MISSION:



For Our Children and the Future



Wrapping students in Gospel values builds inner-city community

 ${
m F}$ or many people, the phrase "inner-city school" brings to mind negative, Hollywood-projected IMAGES OF GANGS, VIOLENCE AND SUBSTANDARD EDUCA-TION. St. Mary Catholic School in New Albany, however, is combating that stereotype with a dedication to superb academic programs, strong moral values and community service. And it's working.

In 2004, St. Mary was named a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence of the federal No Child Left Behind program. Students at the school earned higher ISTEP scores for the sixth year in a row, and enrollment has grown to 171 children in kindergarten through eighth grade.

With funding support from the Legacy for Our Mission campaign, St. Mary developed and introduced New Albany's very first Catholic preschool—Cougar Academy.

"St. Mary's exists to wrap children in Gospel values and to call them to bring those values and talents to active participation in the church and into all facets of their adult lives," Principal Kim Hartlage said.



"As an extension of the family, St. Mary's seeks to strengthen the total person by instilling feelings of self-worth and confidence in our students."



The Catholic school is at the heart of the Church's mission, and the messages of unconditional love are integrated throughout St. Mary. Hartlage believes the school provides more than an education - it creates a family. Using academic programs to develop and enhance students' natural abilities, the school builds a community among students and parents both in and out of



"As an extension of the family, St. Mary's seeks to strengthen the total person by instilling feelings of self-worth and confidence in our students," Hartlage said. "We challenge a diverse population of students to meet their full potential, by emphasizing academic excellence, strong moral values and a dedication to community service." St. Mary also utilizes a schedule that allows for smaller teacher-student ratios and the teachers collaborate to best meet the needs of all students, Hartlage said. This year, the curriculum has set an emphasis on writing as part of the school's improvement plan.

Each Friday, the student assembly gathers for "Word of Prayer," a skit, song or presentation by a classroom, which is followed by an all-school prayer, recitation of the Kindness Pledge, and the Pledge of Allegiance. Parents are invited to and often attend the afternoon assembly with students.

Funding is a challenge for St. Mary, just as it is for most small, inner city schools. With support from the parish, the school

community and the New Albany community at large, St. Mary continues to provide services for future generations.

The Legacy for Our Mission Campaign also provided a grant to St. Mary tuition assistance fund, which makes it possible for needy families who wish to-to send their children to a Catholic

"To mold the hearts, minds, and hands of children is paramount in our philosophy of education," Hartlage said. "We believe in Catholic education and faith for life."

Legacy for Our Mission, the archdiocese's upcoming capital campaign, is guided by the principles of Christian stewardship and addresses the needs of archdiocesan ministries such as Home Missions. By contributing to Legacy for Our Mission through your local parish, a portion of your gift will be allocated to Catholic education programs and distributed to organizations such as the St. Mary School in New Albany.

TRAGEDIES

toward the church.

"By eight-thirty [p.m.], there were 100 people coming into the church," Father Kirkhoff recalled. "It was all spontaneous. They were talking in small groups and praying. I decided we'd say the rosary. After those people left, about 75 more people came in. I said another decade of the rosary, and they stayed and talked.

"I thought it was a great commentary on the young people and their faith. Number one, they wanted to be together. Young people grieve with their peers. But the fact that they wanted to come together in the church—this symbolic place—shows their connection with God. They needed some place to turn. They needed some kind of reassurance that God was still part of their lives and God was in the midst of the tragedy."

Searching for God

That search for reassurance—and God's presence—has been a constant in the past year as some high schools in the archdiocese have particularly struggled with tragedies that have rocked their communities of students, parents, alumni and friends.

Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis has faced the death of a popular baseball coach.

Cathedral High School in Indianapolis has mourned the loss of a student.

The Bishop Chatard community has been tested by the deaths of 12 people connected to the school.

Consider the list of tragedies that have touched Chatard:

One young graduate committed suicide. Another young graduate died as the result of an accidental shooting. A young man who was a member of this year's senior class was killed in a traffic accident before the school year began. Parents of current students and parents of recent graduates succumbed to long-term illnesses. Other parents died suddenly.

The Kriers died when their small plane crashed in Dawson, Ga., as they traveled to their vacation home in Florida. Their three children—Theresa, Matthew and Andrew—survived the crash.

"There's been a lot of sadness," said Chatard's president, Holy Cross Brother Joseph Umile. "It's been one death after the other."



Cathedral High School seniors Antoine Smith, left, Will Hoffman and Gene Witchger, standing, showcase the Indianapolis school's "spirit bus" that honors the memory of Jeramy Schmitt, a senior and a football player who died in September.

Brother Joseph recalled one moment that overwhelmed him. It happened when he attended the funeral of a recent Chatard graduate, who committed suicide last May.

"I got to the Mass early and sat on my own," he recalled. "I was praying and not paying attention to who was in the church. It got to be Communion time. I received Communion and as I turned around, there were about 200 Chatard kids. I was just floored by the support. That's been the case every single time. The former students supporting the former students. The current students supporting the current students.'

Saying farewell to a friend

The community reeled again in the summer, just before the beginning of this school year, when a senior-to-be, Ben Fillenwarth, died in a traffic accident.

The news spread quickly. The tears flowed even faster. People struggled with the reality of another person dying

too young. Yet a church was once again filled with young people, who faced the sorrow of saying goodbye to a friend who had touched their lives.

A similar scene unfolded at Ritter after the Jan. 22 death of John McCracken, the head baseball coach and study hall teacher. About 3,500 people attended his viewing, which was held in the school's gymnasium, according to Jessica Lambert, Ritter's campus minister.

"When anyone suffers a loss, especially a teenager, it's hard to find your faith and believe in God," Lambert said. "But I've noticed how our students are able to find Christ in their fellow classmates in these moments of loss and despair. They depend on each other and each other's faith."

That reality has also marked the reaction of Cathedral students to the death of Jeramy Schmitt, a senior and a football player who died in September.

"The night of Jeramy's death, probably half the class was united in prayer here at Cathedral," said Charlene Witka, the school's campus minister. "I also direct senior retreats for the students. His death has changed the atmosphere on senior retreats this year. It's just been very healing for the kids to open up and be together, to cry together. They have questions and it's really hard for them to understand, but the way they're going about it shows they have faith."

Chatard students have turned to their faith traditions amid the tragedies, said Mary Schaffner, the school's director of campus ministry.

"All the rosaries and Masses for people have been packed," Schaffner said. "It's just a great witness to where we go when we're hurting as a community. The priests in the North Deanery have welcomed us with open arms through everything."

Standing on holy ground

Schaffner noted that even before the tragedies, Chatard had decided to follow a year-long theme based upon a Bible verse from Exodus 3:5: "For the place where you stand is holy ground."

"Its essence comes from an appreciation and respect for everyone who comes here—to respect the holiness and dignity of each of our lives," she said. "The good Lord had a greater plan. With all the loss we've had, there's been a tangible sense of that holiness."

See TRAGEDIES, page 9





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TRAGEDIES

Chatard senior Erin McCalley has noticed a difference, too, among students.

'We've all grown in our faith and our whole community," said Erin, a member of St. Pius X Parish. "A lot of people look out for each other now. We turn to God more than we ever had.'

"Most 17- to 18-year-olds won't have to go through so much death this early in their life," said Aidan McKiernan, a Chatard senior and member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis. "Ben's funeral set the stage for the year. People aren't holding back from each other. It's made the senior class much stronger as a whole."

The impact can be seen in adults, too, according to Brother Joseph. After one funeral, a parent waved to him and said, "I'm going to go home and hug my kids."

The parents of Ben Fillenwarth set the example for everyone, according to Chatard senior Lauren Fohl.

"Initially, it was hard to understand, especially Ben," said Lauren, a member of St. Pius X Parish. "Then Mr. Fillenwarth got up at the prayer service and said he knew Ben was in a better place. We thought that was a powerful profession of faith.'

That response seemed to set a mood in the school com-

"If you say you're a community of faith, there are just sometimes in life's cycle where you really need to walk the talk," Brother Joseph said. "The circumstances have all been tragic. The responses have just been uplifting and inspiring."

Healing the wounds

Two days after the plane crash led Father Kirkhoff to open the doors to St. Pius X Church—so young people would have a place to meet and pray-he celebrated Mass, asking God for "the emotional and physical healing" of the Krier children.

More than 1,000 people attended the Mass, many of them young people home from college or home for the Christmas holidays.

The crowd was so large it flowed outside the doors of the church and into the parking lot. Father Kirkhoff also noticed the overflow of emotion and faith from young people that evening.

"I think there's a renewal of young people's interest in the faith," he said. "I don't think young people have written God off or the Church off. They're renewing it with their own focus instead of what older people think they should do. Sometimes we think that if they aren't at Mass on Sunday, they aren't interested. I think even those who don't go regularly are still interested in their faith." †

Speaker touches students' lives with powerful message of hope and faith

By John Shaughnessy

Debby McCalley looked into the faces of the youths, knowing they had received more heartbreaking news that someone from their school community had died.

Sitting in her wheelchair, McCalley worried that the talk she was about to give to the students at Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis wouldn't offer them the hope or the consolation they needed.

After all, what do you say to young people who have faced the deaths of a recent graduate to suicide, another recent graduate to an accidental shooting and a fellow student who died in a traffic accident—all within four months?

As McCalley prepared to address the students last fall, she figured the only

thing she could do was share her own struggles of faith as a youth. She recently shared her story again with more students.

"When I was a sophomore, just 16 years old, I noticed I had more trouble walking than my friends," recalled McCalley, a member of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis. "My parents took me to a large hospital called Mayo Clinic to discover why I couldn't walk well or climb stairs. I found out I had a degenerative muscle disease called muscular dystrophy.

"At 16, my future was to be in a wheelchair. I asked God why, what had I done to deserve this, and asked him to take it away. If he answered, I didn't hear it. I couldn't believe that the one life I had been given would be lived as a crippled-up person. I knew that a God who could do that to me wasn't a God I wanted anything to

Watching the students, McCalley saw that her blunt honesty had captured their attention.

She continued her story, mentioning that her disease worsened when she was a sophomore at Butler University in Indianapolis. Again, she said, she prayed to God to take the disease away. When he didn't, she figured she had to deal with her disease without God, she told the students.

'Life continued, I got married, had two kids. Just after Katie was born, my husband decided to leave and get a divorce. At this point, I realized it wasn't about me



Debby McCalley, left, shares her life story of adversity and faith with Bishop Chatard High School students, including junior Julie Scheidler.

any longer. I had two small children to raise. It was

"I tried God one more time, but this time instead of asking him to take this disease away, I asked him for the strength to endure it for the girls' sake. That was it. God helped me. He wasn't going to take this disease away, but he was going to help me deal with it."

That moment, that acceptance, changed her life, said McCalley, who is now 50.

"With God's help, my outlook changed almost immediately, and I began reading all I could about God, his will and his promises," she said. "Be assured, God did not forget about me or any of us. Over the years, we've heard the phrases 'life after death' and 'everlasting life' and 'living with God for all eternity.'

"That's what God had planned for us. The story of life doesn't end with death. It just changes with death. Life becomes better after death.'

McCalley's words connected with the students, including one teenager who called it "the most powerful talk I've heard," according to Mary Schaffner, Chatard's director of campus ministry.

"Everything that's happened in the past year has been a teaching moment for us," said Schaffner, who invited McCalley to speak to the students. "Not just to teach about Catholic principles on death, but how to live our lives with dignity." †

PARISHES

a pastor with at least one other parish, but less than 10 percent of dioceses had any formal training or guidelines for such

Canon law and almost all diocesan policies and procedures assume that each parish will have its own pastor, Mogilka said. As the number of Catholics in the United States continues to grow and the number of priests declines, that will become less typical.

Helping develop guidelines and recommendations was one goal of the symposium, which was sponsored by the Conference for Pastoral Planning and Council Development and the National Federation of Priests' Councils. It is part of the Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership Project.

Mogilka said the key has been to plan with the people in

the parishes.

'It's critical to engage and trust the people," said Mogilka. "You need the participation of lay leaders in planning and decision-making. When you do, good plans emerge and people can support and embrace them."

In the Diocese of Green Bay, there are several models for sharing, from having completely separate parishes sharing a priest, to clustering parishes that share some programs and resources, to combining parishes completely.

Dominican Sister Mary Montgomery, director of pastoral planning for the Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa, said her archdiocese has embraced a "cluster" model, where groups of three to five parishes would come together.

To get the support of parishioners, members of each cluster spend time working out an agreement on how the parishes will work together, she said, and they try to time it so the change happens when parishes are set to get new pastors.

"The time they spend doing the agreement helps them

work out any reservations they may have," Sister Mary said. "By the time they have the agreement, they have a new way of doing things."

On the other hand, it's also important to listen when parishioners are dead set against a cluster arrangement, she

Some parishioners find they get more pastoral attention when they stop having a resident pastor, Father Dorn said, because communities without their own priest often hire a pastoral care coordinator.

Such people—sometimes deacons, religious women or laypeople—don't have the other commitments that diocesan priests usually do, Father Dorn said.

Having fewer priests also has stirred growth among lay leaders, Sister Mary said.

"I think we are creating a new way of being Church," she said. "We are writing the next chapter of the Acts of the Apostles." †



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Growing in faith

Hundreds of archdiocesan Scouts receive religious awards

By Mike Krokos

Boy Scouts Kevin Owens and Robert Stroude are on journeys to grow in their

Girl Scouts Lauren Hummel and Sarah Siertle count themselves among those seeking to get closer to God as well.

The four youths from Indianapolis were among the more than 300 Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, Cub Scouts, Webelos and Scouting leaders honored on Feb. 12 for their dedication to the Catholic faith at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

"I commend you and congratulate you for taking your faith so seriously," Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein said at the beginning of the annual religious emblems ceremony.

Kevin, 14, a member of St. Matthew Parish in Indianapolis, and Robert, 17, a member of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish in Indianapolis, received Ad Altare Dei ("to the altar of God") awards.

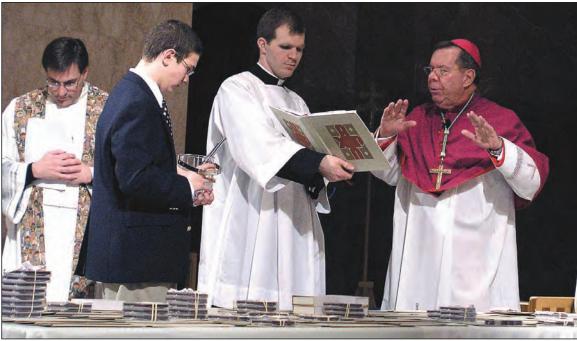
Scouting, Robert said, "helps me grow in faith and brings me closer to God."

Lauren, 14, and Sarah, 13, members of St. Lawrence Parish in Indianapolis, were awarded Marian medals.

'We learned about Mary, what she went through and the courage she had,"

They said their Girl Scout troop made a pilgrimage to Our Lady of the Snows Shrine in Belleville, Ill., as part of their formation.

The awards program included music, Scripture readings and a homily by Father Thomas Schliessmann, archdiocesan



Scouting is it reminds us [that] we have a duty to God," he added.

To make his point, Father Schliessmann asked the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts in attendance to recite their oaths. One by one, each group did.

The oaths, he said, show a commitment to God and country, "or as Jesus would say, 'to love God and country.'

"The oaths remind us every day to draw closer to God and to serve each other," Father Schliessmann said.

Archbishop Buechlein, who blessed the religious emblems and presented them to the Scouts, encouraged the youth to consider religious vocations.

We need some good, consecrated sisters. We need young guys who can serve as deacons, and especially to become priests," he said.

'Continue to keep the faith. Continue to grow in the faith," Archbishop Buechlein told the young people. †

Date of Birth

Annuity Face Amount: \$



in Edinburgh.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein

(far right) blesses the religious emblems that he presented to

hundreds of Scouts and Scout

leaders on Feb. 12 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indian-

apolis. Assisting the archbishop

are Michael Kubancsek, a mem-

wood Parish in Greenwood, and

archdiocesan director of youth

and young adult ministry and

the Greenwood Parish. At the

Schliessmann, archdiocesan

chaplain of Scouts and pastor

of St. Rose of Lima Parish in

Franklin and Holy Trinity Parish

far left is Father Thomas

associate pastor of Our Lady of

ber of Our Lady of the Green-

Father Jonathan Meyer, the

Girl Scouts from St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis applaud after Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein offers his congratulations to all who received religious emblems on Feb. 12 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

chaplain of Scouts and pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin and Holy Trinity Parish in Edinburgh.

Father Schliessmann told the Scouts that the ceremony marked something, specifically, that they keep trying to grow in their faith. He said two commandments—love your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself—can be directly correlated with Scouting.

"Love one another as I have loved you. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. It has to do with loving God and loving our neighbor," Father Schliessmann said.

"One of the great things about

Got Questions? Find the answers in the new, 2006 edition of the **Directory and Yearbook** for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Available beginning in January. he new directory contains up-to-DIRECTORY AND YEARBOOK 2006

date information about parishes, pastors, parish staff, schools, school staff, religious education staff, archdiocesan administration, offices and

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Jesus embraced countercultural values and actions

By Dan Luby

In a beef cattle town, a couple opens a vegan

A teenager from a long, proud line of military officers registers as a conscientious objector.

A supervisor at a company renowned for collaboration promotes competition among employees in her department.

Do actions such as these that buck prevailing values and customs serve as examples of being countercultural or are they merely contrarian?

It's a distinction that matters for followers of Jesus. Culture is a kind of template by which communities order their lives. It includes human phenomena, such as language, social norms, relationship patterns, structures of family life, symbols, expectations and a host of other elements. It is the social skin and bones in which human societies are embodied.

The Church recognizes culture as a gift from God, indispensable for bringing the Gospel to life in the world. At the same time, it insists that culture and the Gospel are not one and the same.

There are times when faith requires us to honor and utilize culture, and there are times when that same faith demands that we stand in opposition to culture, that we be countercultural.

This kind of balancing act is challenging.

If we adopt an attitude of suspicion, treating culture as irretrievably tainted, we will be paralyzed in our effort to proclaim the Gospel to the very people who need it most.

If we adopt the values and expectations of our culture uncritically, we risk violating the Gospel's integrity.

Jesus is the model par excellence of one who maintained harmony between valuing the blessings of culture and challenging its dark side.

By becoming human, incarnate, God in Christ entered fully into human culture. He used the language, customs, and social and religious traditions of his time and place as the means through which he proclaimed God's unquenchable and transforming love.

In fact, the Church's *General Directory for Catechesis* describes the Incarnation as the very first act of inculturation.

At the same time, Jesus is profoundly countercultural. He questioned, challenged and resisted many elements of the culture of which he was a part.

In a society that marginalized women, he prized their friendship and included them among his closest disciples, affirming their intrinsic equality with men. Against the cultural values of domination, violence and revenge, Jesus proclaimed humble service, rejected revenge, proclaimed love of enemies and practiced a radical depth of forgiveness.

Jesus healed on the Sabbath and befriended public sinners, raising eyebrows in his surrounding culture. His notion of leadership entailed the humble service of washing the feet of the Apostles.

But when Jesus embraced countercultural values and actions, his behavior was not without cost. Actually, in

the end, only his mother and a few intimate friends stood by him during his last hours.

As disciples of Jesus, we too must navigate the narrow passage between an unthinking rejection of our culture on the one hand and an uncritical acceptance of it on the other.

Like Jesus, we are called to use the most effective means of communication available in the effort to proclaim God's love. We are asked to channel the power of technology and science toward healing the sick and feeding the hungry, toward setting people free from the captivity of homelessness, poverty and ignorance.

Like Jesus, we are also required to question and challenge and resist those elements of our culture which run against the grain of God's all-embracing love.

To the extent that our culture is, in the words of Pope John Paul II, a "culture of life," we are called to offer support and encouragement.

And to the extent that our culture opposes the Gospel by justifying racism, opposing economic justice, ignoring abortion, promoting consumerism, glorifying war and condoning religious intolerance, we are called to become countercultural.

The impact of such opposition upon the dominant culture can prove troubling and threatening for us as it was for Christ. It is a hard path to follow.

That's why it is so important when parishes and parishioners offer encouragement to those struggling against the currents of culture. In adult catechesis, in Sunday preaching, in Bible study groups, adult education courses and parish retreats, people can be helped to recognize the connection between discipleship and the culture they live in, including the need for countercultural ways of thinking and acting.

The good news is that after Good Friday comes Easter. The victory of grace over power, of love over indifference, of life over death is already assured. The transformation of all things—including our culture—will be accomplished in the power of Christ.

(Dan Luby is director of the Division of Christian Formation for the Diocese of Fort Worth, Texas.) †



In a society that marginalized women, Jesus prized their friendship and included them among his closest disciples. Jesus continually demonstrated countercultural actions by questioning, challenging and resisting many elements of the culture of which he was a part.

Christians need to be countercultural

By Christopher Carstens

The term "countercultural" was invented in the '60s to describe hippies. Back then, people liked to say that "Jesus was countercultural."

Yes, Jesus had long hair and a beard, but he was not a hippie any more than he was a Democrat or a Republican. He was beyond our ordinary categories. He stood outside the values of his times and named them for what they were—the good as well as the wicked.

Christians are in the world, but not of it. This isn't easy. We walk around with a bundle of assumptions about how people operate, what is valuable and what things mean in life.

When a bundle of assumptions is shared by a large number of people, it is called a culture.

"Countercultural," in a positive sense, means standing back and evaluating those assumptions rather than just acting upon them.

Culture used to be passed down from one generation to the next. Now we pick it up from television, movies, the Internet, music and popular magazines.

The "Consumerist Credo" drives the great engine of buying things, is woven into the fiber of modern culture and conceals a variety of misleading values.

Consumerism incorporates the fundamental lie that buying things brings happiness. It's an endless cycle of loss and decay. Christians should not live that way. Christians need to be countercultural.

(Christopher Cartsens is a psychologist in San Diego, Calif.) †

Discussion Point

Parents should monitor TV time

This Week's Question

Do you monitor your children's television viewing? If so, how and why do you do so?

"I monitor [television programs] for my 15-year-old because TV has a big influence on kids, more than they think. We watch together, and I explain that situations on TV are more like fantasy than reality, and the ways people handle things are often not the way a Christian would." (Gloria Scott, Rockport, Texas)

"People want to blame TV for everything. But if you spend time with your children, they won't be watching television. That goes for parents and grandparents." (Dolores Mesa-Lopez, Garden City, Kan.)

"We have 17-year-old twins. The first way we monitor

[television programs] is that we don't have cable or satellite, just local stations and public television. ...
[We] make sure we know what they're seeing. The reason we do it is because if you fill kids' minds with garbage, that's what will come out." (Marsha Cerar, Moorehead, Minn.)

Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: Describe an occasion when you tried to offer hope—through words or actions—to a suffering person.

To respond for possible publication, send an e-mail to <u>cgreene@catholicnews.com</u> or write to *Faith Alive!* at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. †



Perspectives

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

Jesus in the Gospels: Greatest in the kingdom

See Luke 22:14-15 & 24-30, John 13:1-20

We are now at the Last Supper in this series of columns. Of the four Gospels,



Luke's and John's introduce the meal most solemnly. Luke says that Jesus told his Apostles, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for, I tell you, I shall not eat it again until there is fulfillment in the

kingdom of God."

Apparently, his mention of the kingdom set off sparks among the Apostles because Luke says, "Then an argument broke out among them about which of them should be regarded as the greatest." The Gospels seldom present the Apostles in a favorable light, and here we see them at their most pathetic, arguing about which of them was the greatest just when Jesus told them that he was about to

suffer. Perhaps seeing John reclining next to Jesus, just as John's mother asked not long before, set off the argument.

How could Jesus not feel exasperated as often as he had tried to teach his disciples that the greatest in the kingdom was the one who served the others? He tried once more, telling them that the greatest among them had to like the youngest, the leader as the servant.

Yes, he said, he did intend to confer a kingdom on them. They not only would eat and drink at his table in his kingdom, as they were doing that evening, but also they would "sit on thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel." He would, in effect, rule his kingdom through them.

Then he spoke directly to Peter, telling him that Satan wanted to sift Jesus' disciples like wheat, but that Jesus had prayed that Peter's faith would not fail and that he would strengthen his brothers. God would preserve Peter from false doctrine. Thus, the question of the greatest in the kingdom seemed to be settled.

But not quite. First, Jesus had to get his

point across that the greatest in the kingdom is the one who serves. The leaders in his kingdom had to see themselves as servants. Drastic action was called for.

This time, Jesus did it with an acted parable: He washed his Apostles' feet. He poured water in a basin, washed their feet and dried them with a towel he had wrapped around his waist. Could there be a more servile action? It could not be required of the lowliest Jewish slave, but here was their master washing their feet.

Naturally, Peter objected. He understood what Jesus' action signified, but he couldn't imagine someone in authority washing the feel of a subordinate. Then when Jesus told him, "Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me," Peter went to the opposite extreme by saying, "Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."

Jesus then went back to verbal instruction. He told the Apostles plainly that he had given them a model to follow: What he had done to them, so they also must do. †

Research for the Church/

James Davidson

The Church is a Church, not a sect

Sociologists believe there are many differences between a "Church" and a "sect."



Both are legitimate forms of religious expression, but they represent two fundamentally different approaches to religion. An understanding of these approaches might help Catholics who are trying to interpret some

of the issues facing the Church these days.

By nature, a Church has a positive view of society. It sees itself as functioning within existing social and cultural arrangements, but is willing to critique these arrangements from time to time. A Church believes that it offers a balanced world view that both affirms society and retains the core elements of its religious tradition. It believes it is able to survive—indeed, flourish—within the society, while maintaining its integrity as a religious institution, including doctrines that challenge the society.

Membership in a Church is inclusive, meaning that a Church hopes to attract followers from all walks of life. Membership standards make it fairly easy for people from varied backgrounds and with diverse world views to join the Church.

Members of a Church see themselves as a heterogeneous mixture of saints and sinners who are no better or worse than other members of society. Churches endorse their members' desire to be actively involved in many spheres of life, and they create behavioral norms that make this possible.

A sect starts out as a subset of Church members who believe that their Church has made too many compromises with the larger society and, in the process, has sacrificed much of its integrity and many of its core teachings. These members believe there is a need to adopt a countercultural view of society and to reclaim the fundamental truths of their faith.

Membership in the new sect is exclusive. It is restricted to those adults who are willing to embrace the group's countercultural views of society and the faith. Sect members draw a clear line between insiders (the "saints") and outsiders (the "sinners"). Sects encourage their members to withdraw from the society and make the sect the center of their lives.

Using such criteria, social theorists and researchers agree that the Roman Catholic Church is a Church, not a sect. But, within the Church, there have always been some people who are more sect-like in their thinking. While these groups, such as the Franciscans and Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity have been willing to abide by the standards of the Church, even as they adhere to a countercultural set of beliefs and practices, they have not posed a serious problem. Indeed, by calling attention to selected core values, they have been a leavening influence that contributes to the overall well-being of the Church.

Under these circumstances, they have been affirmed by Church leaders and viewed as one among many legitimate expressions of faith. However, when groups such as Father George A. Stallings' African-American Catholic Congregation and Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre's Society of St. Pius X have tried to substitute their sectarian standards for Church standards, they have been rebuffed by Church leaders and become schismatic sects.

The Church-sect distinction might be of some assistance as Catholics try to assess the legitimacy of various groups in today's Church. Catholics should celebrate sect-like groups that want to be part of the Church. We should beware of sect-like groups that want to transform the Church into a sect.

(James D. Davidson is professor of sociology at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind.) †

Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewes

Faith and values: Belief in me and the her e and now

The other day, I read an article in *The Indianapolis Star* titled, "In no god they trust." Huh? I always thought that



trust implied belief in someone or something. You can't trust what or who is not there

Not only that, this piece was included in the "Faith & Values" section of the newspaper. I guess it was more about values than faith.

At any rate, Reba Boyd Wooden, the spokeswoman for what she called the "secular humanist" view, conducts a chapter of the Center for Inquiry Transnational. This is an organization that "traces its roots to a group of skeptics who began investigating claims of the paranormal in the 1970s." Apparently, the idea of God fit into their definition of paranormal.

Wooden's group is composed of about 50 members, including atheists and agnostics as well as secular humanists. They conduct meetings and social events something like Church functions, and eventually she hopes to establish "a family group that would be like a secular

Sunday school." What kind of school would that be?

Instead of studying or relying on the Bible for inspiration (if that term is even applicable here), the group studies books like *Freethought Across the Centuries: Toward a New Age of Enlightenment* by Gerald A. Larue. They emphasize science and reason.

Indeed, the implication throughout the article was that people who do not accept the idea of God think that religion and science/reason are mutually exclusive. Wooden plans to host a "Darwin Day Conference" to "showcase the scientific evidence for evolution" in March.

Well, they don't have to convince me. As I've written many times before, I don't think there's any ... er—reason why religion and science should conflict at all. Popes and scientists and many others, who are a lot more learned than I am, have believed the same.

Science is the material evidence about our origins and purpose that humans can obtain through their own reason and intelligence. Religion is the transcendent evidence about our origins and purpose that humans obtain through faith in powers beyond their own possibilities.

But members of her group are not just mistaken eccentrics, Wooden said. "They treasure science and reason, value common decency toward others and believe people must solve their own problems." They value "honesty, personal integrity and tolerance." Makes me wonder why it's necessary to reject God when they believe in the same values that we do.

Still, Wooden said, they're hard to mold into a community. "They are all independent. They want to go in different directions. A lot of them are really kind of loners and are happy being loners." How sad. Even the loners in a religious community know that God is always with them.

Wooden left the Methodist Church and God when she discovered that Scripture scholars argue about the origins and authenticity of the Bible. She thought this kind of disagreement among humans automatically denied the idea of a God who must've inspired them.

So she and her group rely solely on human ability, with action substituting for prayer. They quote philosophers rather than Scripture, and think it's all over when we die. Now, that's really sad. Let's pray for them.

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

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

A 'hidden child' from World War II shares his story

Near the end of the '90s, my husband, Paul, and I visited the U.S. Holocaust



Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Our principal purpose was to deliver a suitcase of personal papers belonging to former Jewish neighbors who escaped Austria during the German occupation and World War II. Our

museum tour exposed heinous crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Nazi regime. However, I do not dwell on such horrors here. Instead, I concentrate on two lessons: one from the museum; the other a recent edifying reminder.

The lesson: One room in the museum held photos and information about the men and women who saved lives during the Holocaust, many who were Catholic. Years before, I read *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Corrie ten Boom's *The Hiding Place* and Elie Wiesel's *Night* (a current Oprah Book Club selection), but the museum filled in the gaps about the

extinction of Jews and others deemed "undesirable" by Hitler.

Second, the edifying reminder: I received a remarkable book by a retired California university professor, Paul A. Schwarzbart, who by pure happenstance chose a Bloomington, Ind., publisher (AuthorHouse) for his book *Breaking the Silence: Reminiscences of a Hidden Child.* Schwarzbart shares his Jewish background, family and memories as a "hidden child."

He recalls how the Austrian flag hanging over his Viennese school was replaced with a Nazi flag: "From that moment on, everything deteriorated rapidly."

Schwarzbart's 10-year-old life changed in the spring of 1943 when, through the Jewish Underground, he was hidden at a Catholic boys' castle-school owned by the Sisters of Charity near Luxembourg. For two years, he assumed the role of a Belgian Catholic named Paul Exsteen. A model student, he became an altar boy and a Cub Scout leader—and was even baptized in secret. His experiences are extraordinary.

Schwarzbart's diaries assure the book's

authenticity. Abundant photographs add to the reality of his experiences, which inspired a television documentary, "Shattered Dreams: A Child of the Holocaust," by Ken Schwarz. For this, Schwarzbart returned to the scenes and the acquaintances of his childhood, adding a special depth to his book.

An important part of his story is the first Hidden Children's Conference held in New York in 1991, with more than 2,000 survivors attending from all over the world (even Australia and Korea). Subsequent conferences have been held, too.

Schwarzbart has spoken at nearly 300 venues, including schools (some of them Catholic), colleges, organizations, businesses and synagogues. He will present his program on March 9 at St. John the Baptist Church in Napa, Calif., and on March 16 at St. Thomas More Church in San Francisco. *Criterion* readers can pass this information on to West Coast relatives and friends.

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

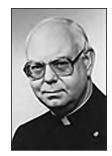
Seventh Sunday of in Ordinary Time/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Feb. 19, 2006

- Isaiah 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25
- 2 Corinthians 1:18-22
- Mark 2:1-12

The Book of Isaiah is the source of this weekend's first reading.



Understanding this passage, and extracting from it its fullest lesson, requires knowing the historical context in which this book was written. These verses come from the second section of Isaiah.

At the time from their composition, the

long, dreary exile of Jewish survivors from the Babylonian conquest of the two Jewish kingdoms generations earlier had ended. The exile had been to Babylon, located in modern Iraq, no longer a living community.

Exiles, or their descendants, were in Babylon for 80 years. They were strangers in an unfriendly land. Of course, they yearned for their homeland. The opportunity to return came when the Persian emperor, Cyrus, overwhelmed Babylonia and allowed the exiles to go home.

The religiously devout among the exiles saw God as the true deliverer. Cyrus merely was the instrument of God in this process. So, in this reading, speaking through the prophet, God declares, "In the desert I made a way." God accuses the people of unfaithfulness. Despair had overtaken them in Babylon. Still, regardless, God was true to the Covenant.

Nevertheless, their return was bittersweet. The land to which the exiles returned was desolate and unaccommodating. The prophets faced the task of sustaining the people's faith in spite of their disappointments upon arriving home.

St. Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians provides the second lesson for this weekend's liturgy.

Corinth was one of the chief cities of the Roman Empire. With a large population, including people from throughout the Mediterranean world, Corinth received its share of pioneer Christian missionaries. Converts were made in Corinth. A Christian community was formed there.

However, evidently these converts were the source of some anxiety for Paul. He wrote to them at least twice. His two known letters to Corinth are in the New Testament as the inspired Word of God.

The people quarreled among themselves. They strayed into sin and pagan practice. Paul firmly called them to uncompromised loyalty to the Gospel.

He himself was not always well received. Some challenged his credentials as an Apostle. In this reading, Paul reasserts his role, and moreover he reaffirms his purely spiritual intentions.

For its last reading, the Church presents a passage from St. Mark's Gospel.

Healing this paralyzed man was marvelous, and the extraordinary circumstance of lowering him through the roof of the house made it all the more dramatic. However, the scribes present at the event took offense. Jesus said the paralytic's sins were forgiven. The scribes saw blasphemy in this statement. Only God can forgive sins because sins offend God.

To understand the reading requires an awareness of the context. Pious Jews at the time looked upon physical maladies as the result of sin. Perhaps the victim of the maladies had sinned. Perhaps his or her ancestors had sinned. But, in any case, all physical distress ultimately came from sin.

Incidentally, roofs at the time were quite flimsy by modern standards. They were wooden beams laid horizontally from a wall to the directly opposing wall of a house. Then thatch was laid on these beams, loosely held together by mud. It kept out the hot rays of the sun, which was more of a problem for people in the Holy Land than rainwater.

Reflection

The Church's emphasis is on Jesus as Savior and Son of God. He acts as God. He forgives sin. This is the marvel, exceeding even the cure of the paralytic.

In this understanding, the passage has relevance for us today. We sin. Jesus forgives us if we sincerely and humbly seek to be forgiven.

Jesus is God's gift to us, a gift of perfect love. God provides for our escape from the effects of sin, just as God rescued the exiles in Babylon. Sin is our prison. †

My Journey to God

The Sower and the Seed

The parable of the sower and the seed is easy for me to envision on these odd pseudo-winter days.

As I step out to get the mail, I've noticed some tiny flower seeds have started to sprout. Although I know well that more cold days will wither the early shoots, recent winters have shown that other speck-sized seeds lay buried, waiting patiently for the right conditions to bring forth flourishing blossoms to deliver joy to humans and critters alike.

I wait in hope knowing that after my vigilant care of the flower bed, the miracle of growth is truly out of my hands.

This parable is a reminder for balance in my approach to faithful living and building God's Kingdom. Yes, God plants the seeds of faithfulness in me and in those around me. I must tend these as a gardener tends her flower beds, regularly and carefully, with prayer and deed.

Yet there is an element of holy watchfulness. I must acknowledge with

humility and patience that it is God that causes growth in love and faithfulness. I cannot by any deed force growth. It comes in God's time.

I know there are seeds and shoots of faithfulness planted deeply within the soul-soil of the people around me each day-even in me!

Some days, I see growth peeking out and I wonder if it is hardy enough. Other days, I am impatient to see some progress. Each day, I try to tend gently with prayer and remember we are like flowers in God's garden—each one growing on God's timetable toward a sturdy and beautiful kingdom, brilliantly colored with love, mercy and justice.

Where do the seeds of faith in your life need some gentle tending?

Where is it tough for you to have patience with God's timetable?

By Michelle Vander Missen

(Michelle Vander Missen is a member of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis and a regular contributor to the parish's Daily Reflections ministry sent by e-mail to more than 5,500 people throughout the world. This Scripture reflection was based on the Gospel reading for Jan. 26 (Mk 4:26-34). To subscribe to St. Monica Parish's Daily Readings, log on to the parish Web site at www.stmonicaparishindy.org.)

Daily Readings

Monday, Feb. 20 James 3:13-18 Psalm 19:8-10, 15 Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday, Feb. 21 Peter Damian, bishop and doctor James 4:1-10 Psalm 55:7-11, 23 Mark 9:30-37

Wednesday, Feb. 22 The Chair of Peter, Apostle 1 Peter 5:1-4 Psalm 23:1-6 Matthew 16:13-19

Thursday, Feb. 23 Polycarp, bishop and martyr James 5:1-6

Psalm 49:14-20 Mark 9:41-50

Friday, Feb. 24 James 5:9-12 Psalm 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12 Mark 10:1-12

Saturday, Feb. 25 James 5:13-20 Psalm 141:1-3, 8 Mark 10:13-16

Sunday, Feb. 26 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Hosea 2:16b, 17b, 21-22 Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13 2 Corinthians 3:1b-6 Mark 2:18-22

Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen

God wanted people to multiply, fill the earth

I always pray for divine help to make us be of one faith, one Lord, living



together in love as brothers and sisters of This makes me

wonder why, in the book of Genesis, in the story of the tower of Babel, the Lord says, "Let us go down and confuse their language so they will not

understand each other" and be scattered over the world.

This only causes people to be of different nationalities and customs, and leads to animosity toward one another. Can you explain why God would do this? (New York)

Obviously, God did not desire ani-Amosity between people but, according to the story as we hear it in Genesis, there was a reason the Lord wanted the people spread out.

At creation, God told the first humans to multiply and fill the earth.

As Jesuit Father Richard Clifford points out in the New Jerome Biblical Commentary, until Chapter 9 of Genesis, the emphasis was on multiplying then attention was given to "filling the earth."

To make this happen, we read that God assigned to each branch of the people a particular area of land and told them to take possession of their inheritance. (See, for example, Dt 32:8-9.)

The people refused to go, however. They were comfortable where they were, and rather than possess their lands they chose to band together, build a huge city and top it off with a tower that would reach to the sky.

As the story goes, their defiance of God, their proud intention to "make a name for ourselves" rather than scatter over the earth (Gn 11:4), brought God's punishment by fulfilling his creative intent in another way: making it impossible for them even to communicate with each other.

Of the many ziggurats—sacred temple towers made of bricks-built in Mesopotamia, the one in Babylon, not far from present-day Baghdad, was especially renowned at the time.

Part of the great temple of the god Marduk, it had several terraces and reached nearly 70 feet high. Perhaps it was the model for the tower proposed in Genesis.

The Babylonians claimed that the

name of their city meant the "gate of God," which may be where the biblical people got the idea of a tower that would reach to the heavens.

The Hebrew name for Babylon, however, was Babel, also literally the gate of God, but which they also explained as coming from the Hebrew word that means to confuse or to mix. Thus, their tower became a place of confusion.

Another and different level of the tower story in Genesis, however, is that it could explain the wide variety of languages on the earth. The belief that there was once a common language for all early human beings was widespread in the ancient world. And they were always anxious to know the origins of people, places, customs and speech.

Genesis 11 served not only as their explanation of these diversities. It also was another of the lessons which abound in Genesis that the God of the Hebrews is beyond all gods, supreme on the earth and supreme among nations, and that disobedience to him and violence against his created harmony always results in disaster and destruction.

It is one of the functions of myth to reveal such cosmic realities. Whatever history does or does not underlie it, the Babel account is one of the great mythic stories preserved in the Scriptures.

(A free brochure on ecumenism, including questions on intercommunion and other ways of sharing worship, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 5515, Peoria, IL 61612. Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address or by e-mail at jjdietzen@aol.com.) †

Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith or experiences of prayer for possible publication in the "My Journey to God" column.

Seasonal reflections also are appreciated. Please include name, address, parish and telephone number with sub-

Send material for consideration to "My Journey to God," The Criterion, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or e-mail to criterion@archindy.org. †

Turin cardinal continues pastoral duties during Olympic games

TURIN, Italy (CNS)—Being the archbishop of the host city for the Olympic Winter Games has not pulled Cardinal Severino Poletto from his regular pastoral

Instead of heading to the rinks to see skating or to the mountains to watch the luge competition, the Turin cardinal said he was busy with business as usual.

On the weekend after he attended the ceremonies that opened the XX Olympic Winter Games, the 72-year-old cardinal told Catholic News Service he had appointments to visit a hospital, a nursing home and several parishes to meet with youth and celebrate Mass.

Having the Olympic Games in his backyard was not going to keep him from his 359 parishes that make up the third-largest diocese in Italy, after Milan and Rome.

Cardinal Poletto said he had a special tie to this Olympics. While serving as bishop of Asti, he was appointed archbishop of Turin on June 19, 1999, just an hour before Olympic officials announced that Turin would host the 2006 Winter Games

When he met the newly appointed head of Turin's Olympic organizing committee, the cardinal said he told him, "We have begun a challenge together: Mine is a pastoral one and yours an Olympian."

Born near Venice, Cardinal Poletto said he skied a bit in his youth, dabbled in soccer like every Italian boy and

today continues to love walking in the mountains. He told CNS on Feb. 11 that sport enriches a person's

life and faith. "Sport is a great gymnasium for practicing sincerity and honesty," he said.

Cheating, double-crossing or breaking the rules is not condoned, and collaboration is exalted through teamwork, he said.

Sport also celebrates the sometimes breathtaking capabilities of the human body, said the cardinal.

"The person who dances on ice or flies through the air over the snow uses his [or her] body as a means of expression and at the same time exalts the value of the body," he said.



Marcy Hinzmann and Aaron Parchem from the U.S. perform during the figure skating pairs free skate at the **Olympic Winter** Games in Turin, Italy, on Feb. 13. In a recent interview with CNS, Cardinal Severino Polletto of Turin said that sports are "a great gymnasium for practicing sincerity and honesty."

Cardinal Poletto said it was "the prophecy of the body" that the Son of God took on human flesh, indicating that the body, too, had enormous value.

He said the many sacrifices that athletes make in order to win earthly rewards are a healthy reminder to the faithful that there are many sacrifices involved in "winning the eternal prize" of life in heaven. †

SPRED to host dinner dance fundraiser

By Sean Gallagher

The archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education's Special Religious Education program (SPRED) will host a dinner dance fundraiser on March 18 at the Marten House Hotel, 1801 W. 86th St., in Indianapolis.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7 p.m. and dancing starting at 8 p.m.

Veronica Wyld, the archdiocesan coordinator for the program that serves the religious education needs for Catholics with special needs, said the event, which also includes a silent auction, is the primary annual fundraiser for SPRED.

Tickets to the event cost \$50 per person and must be purchased by March 4.

Occurring the day after St. Patrick's Day, this year's dinner dance will have an Irish theme. Kevin Gregory, chief meteorologist for WRTV Channel 6 in Indianapolis, will serve as the master of ceremonies.

Wyld said participants in all the SPRED groups in the archdiocese ordinarily attend, and come from parishes in and around Indianapolis, Richmond and Batesville.

"The dance floor is packed," she said. "We are wall-to-wall. Once the music starts, that's just the highlight of the evening. It is so fun to see people out there dancing."

In addition to supporting SPRED financially through the purchase of fundraiser tickets or participation in its silent auction, Wyld said the event is an opportunity for supporters to bring Catholics with special needs in the archdiocese more into the life of their parishes.

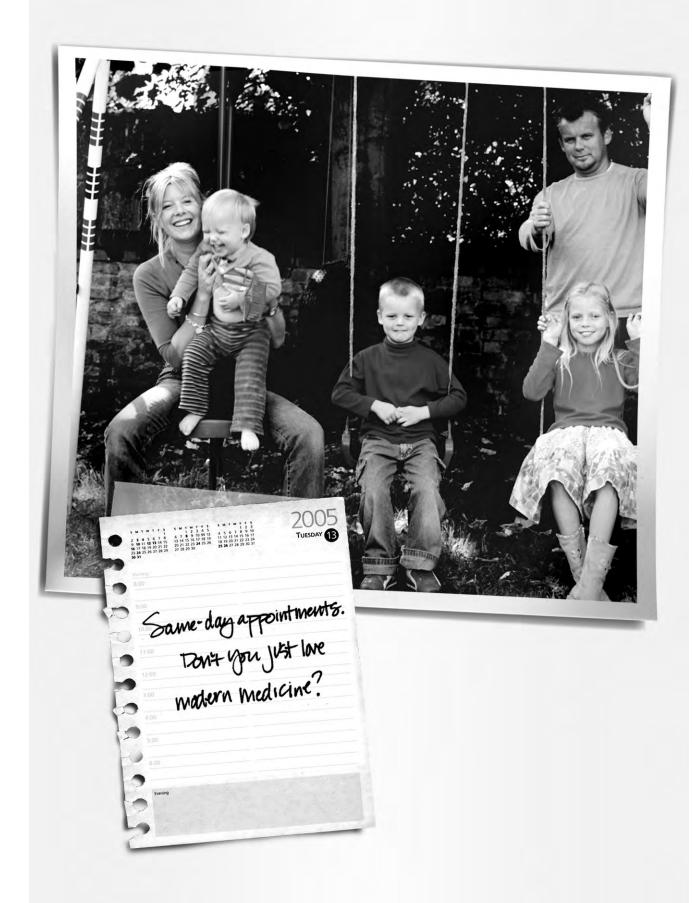
"There are so many people with special needs in our archdiocese who don't have the opportunity to be involved in the community life of their parish," Wyld said. "We see SPRED as the best way for people with special needs to become involved, not only in the liturgical part of their parish, but also in the community life of their parish.

"People who ... come to the dance support that," Wyld said. "They allow more individuals to become part of their parish communities, to be connected."

(To purchase tickets for the March 18 SPRED dinner dance fundraiser or for more information, call 800-382-9836, ext. 1448, or 317-236-1448.) †

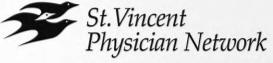


Dancing during a March 13, 2004, dinner dance fundraiser for the archdiocesan Special Religious Education program (SPRED) are Mark Bogle, a member of St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg and a participant in that parish's SPRED group, and Amy Follmar, a catechist for St. Malachy's SPRED group.



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When troubles arise, seek Jesus' help in prayer, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—When troubles arise in life or temptations appear, it is best not to try to figure out why, but to seek Jesus' help in prayer, said Pope

At his weekly general audience, the pope quoted the advice of a sixth-century desert monk, St. Barsanuphius of Gaza, who advised another monk not to fear trouble and temptation or to worry about their source, but to hold fast to the Lord.

Departing from his prepared text, the pope said, "These words ... are valid for us in our daily difficulties, problems, temptations.

'Do not try to conduct a theoretical reflection about their source, but do something positive: Invoke the Lord," the pope told an estimated 8,000 people overflowing the Vatican's audience hall.

In the face of struggle, the pope said, "Cry out to Jesus, 'Jesus, help me.' We are certain he will hear us because he

is near to those who seek him.

"Let us not be discouraged, but let us run toward him, certain that we will reach the goal of our lives, Jesus the Lord," Pope Benedict said.

The pope's audience talk focused on Psalm 145 and its recognition of God both as Lord of the universe and as a loving Father particularly concerned for the poor and the

"God expresses his kingship by bending down to his most fragile and defenseless creatures," the pope said.

God's justice, which includes judgment, is primarily aimed at freeing people from sin and saving them, he said.

Pope Benedict said the psalm also lists the basic characteristics of a true believer: "He invokes the Lord in trusting prayer; seeks him in life with a sincere heart; fears his God, respecting his will and obeying his word; but, most of all, loves him, certain of being welcomed under the mantle of his protection." †



Pope Benedict XVI waves to the faithful during his weekly general audience in Paul VI hall at the Vatican on Feb. 8. The pope said when troubles arise, people should seek Jesus' help in prayer.

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lighter approach to matters of faith. Still, their goal is the same concerning APeX Youth Ministries, a national touring program they started 10 years ago to make a difference in the lives of young people.

"We hope to challenge them to consider their life in light of spiritual realities, and re-examine the way they consider themselves and other people," Farmer said. "We also plan to laugh a lot."

The name "APeX" comes from a juggling term, but it also applies to a larger connection with Jesus Christ, according



Brad Farmer

Web site. "When learning the

to the group's

basics of juggling, there is a particular area that you should direct your focus, that being the 'apex' of each throw," the Web site notes. "If you only watch one of the objects,

you miss the other two, and if you watch your hands, you miss everything that's

happening with each throw. When you watch the apex of each throw, you are more able to keep the whole pattern in focus and in more control.

"In our lives, we juggle all sorts of different things: school, sports, work, family, spirituality. If you only focus on one of these, the others will fall to the ground. If you only focus on yourself, you miss the real pattern and it all falls apart. You must focus on the apex. We believe in our lives that 'apex' is the life of Jesus Christ. Keep your eyes on him and everything else becomes more manageable and in the appropriate balance."

While Farmer and Monterastelli try to touch the lives of youths, it's also clear their efforts have deepened their own faith.

"We are around young people who love their faith, and adults who love young people," Farmer said. "It is very inspiring. I think anyone who continually strives to grow deeper in relationship to God will begin to see those sorts of things all around them. But in the sort of work we do weekly, it's very plain and in your face, as well as in the details."

(Registration for the Archdiocesan Youth Rally on March 4-5 continues until the days of the rally. The cost is \$30 a person through Feb. 23. After that date, the cost is \$40 a person. For more information, call the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 317-236-1477 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1477.) †

Pope, curial officials discuss proposal to reconcile with Lefebvrites

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI presided over his first major meeting with top Roman Curia officials, an encounter that sources said focused on a proposal to reconcile with followers of the late French Archbishop Marcel

More than 20 heads of congregations and pontifical councils attended the Feb. 13 meeting, which was to be followed up by a similar session in late March. No details of the February meeting were made available by the Vatican press office.

A Vatican source said the pope and other department heads listened as Cardinal Dario Castrillon Hoyos outlined a possible solution to the 18-year-long impasse with the Society of St. Pius X, a self-styled traditionalist order founded by Archbishop Lefebvre. Its members reject

modern liturgical practices and several teachings of the Second Vatican Council.

One possible step being discussed was establishing an apostolic administration, a special juridical structure that would allow the Lefebvrites to offer pastoral care to their followers around the world.

Another element being discussed was the possibility of granting wider permission to use the Tridentine Mass, the pre-Vatican II liturgy, the source said.

For its part, the society would have to make clear its acceptance of Vatican II's basic teachings on ecumenism, religious liberty and other matters.

Several Vatican sources said that while Cardinal Castrillon strongly supported a solution based on these points, opinions were sharply divided among curial members on any concessions to

the Lefebvrites.

Cardinal Francis Arinze, head of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, said in a recent interview with Catholic News Service that while he favored reconciliation it could not be offered at any price.

"[The pope] cannot disown Vatican II in order to make the Lefebvrites happy," Cardinal Arinze said.

The pope met last August with Bishop Bernard Fellay, superior general of the Society of St. Pius X and one of four bishops ordained against papal orders in 1988 and declared excommunicated by the Vatican. The papal audience prompted a flurry of speculation about reconciliation.

Afterward, Cardinal Castrillon said in an interview with the Italian magazine 30 Giorni that the Lefebvrites should not

be made to fear that they would be silenced if they reconciled with the Vatican. He said they were rightly concerned about liturgical abuses in the postconciliar period.

Others at the Vatican said they believed Pope Benedict has no illusions about the Lefebvrites. As Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, he unsuccessfully tried to reconcile with them in 1988, and later said the group had closed itself off in a type of "fanaticism of the elect."

One Vatican source said he thought the pope wanted to make one big push for reconciliation at the beginning of his pontificate.

"I think it's now or never for the Lefebvrites. As time passes, an agreement will become much more difficult," he said. †

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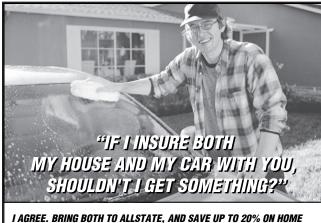
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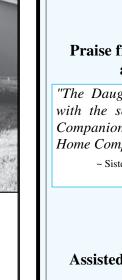
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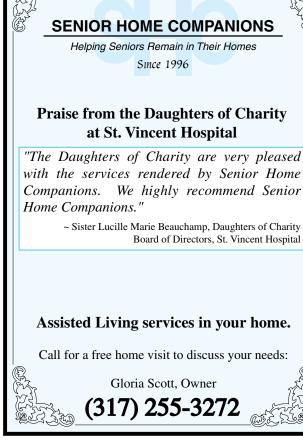
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Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Thursday before the week of publication; be sure to state date of death. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in The Criterion. Order priests and religious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

BREEN, John, 79, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Dec. 23. Father of John Thomas Breen. Brother of Ann Holler and Joseph Breen. Grandfather of one. Great-grandfather of one.

BRUNNER, Maxine, 85, St. Mary, Aurora, Jan. 31. Mother of Bonny Prudhomme, Mary Jo Sloan, Helen Stow, Jim Sedler, Bob, Kerry, Marc and Ron Brunner. Half-sister of Libby Gaskins and Marcus Mattox. Grandmother of 14. Great-grandmother of 11.

BUENING, Ida H., 90, St. Mary, Greensburg, Feb. 5. Mother of Joann Burkhart, Rita Meyer, Carl, James, Maurice, Paul and William Buening. Grandmother of 25. Greatgrandmother of 36. Step-greatgrandmother of nine. Stepgreat-great-grandmother of

DESATNIK, Marie, 87, St. Andrew, Richmond, Jan. 21.

DOUGHERTY, Joseph

William, 81, St. Mary, New Albany, Feb. 6. Husband of Betty (Simpson) Dougherty. Father of Katherine Sears, David, Edward, John, Joseph, Kevin and William Dougherty. Brother of Marjorie Joy, Ann Kraus and James Dougherty. Grandfather of 18.

EHRGOTT, Joan F., 76, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Jan. 23. Mother of Mary Clevenger, John, Richard and Steve Ehrgott. Sister of Margaret Hennessey, Dorothy Riley, Patricia Weaver and James Pruden. Grandmother of 14. Great-grandmother of 17.

ENGLISH, Mary, 86, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, Jan. 31. Mother of Rosemary Howard, Ann Prather, Patricia Van Ness, Mary Vrabel, Franciscan Sister Marjorie English and Mark English. Sister of Providence Sister Anita Bechert and Ann Ewing. Grandmother of 11. Greatgrandmother of three.

FATICA, Edith D., 90, St. Pius X, Indianapolis, Feb. 2. Mother of Carol Mavris and Chuck Fatica. Sister of Jennie Coccaro and Carmen Angelone. Grandmother of one.

FAY, Verlee, 82, St. Paul, Tell City, Jan. 21. Wife of Ralph Fay. Mother of Gary Fay. Sister of Marie Faulkenberg.

FITZGERALD, Karen Marie Rose, 55, Holy Name, Beech Grove, Jan. 20. Mother of Karen Fitzgerald. Sister of Linda Burkus, Madonna Hosimer, Rosemary Milligan, James and John Fitzgerald.

FLECK, John, 56, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Nov. 30. Husband of Benita Fleck. Father of Angela, Jennifer and Christopher Fleck. Son of Thurman Fleck. Brother of Mary Doty, Donna Frank, Carolyn Greimann, Helen Kinney, Deborah McBride, Sharon Taylor, James, Joseph, Michael, Robert, Thurman III and William Fleck. Grandfather of one.

HARRISON, Johanna Gertrude, St. Mary, New Albany, Feb. 4. Sister of Theodora Pachala, Huberdina Richter and Hubertus

Brockmans.

HESS, Elizabeth (Clark), 89, St. Mary, New Albany, Feb. 7. Mother of Mary Pat Doehrman. Sister of Howard Clark. Grandmother of three. Great-grandmother of two.

KLAVE, Frank L., Sr., 87, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Jan. 26. Husband of Marie (Decker) Klave. Father of Cheryl Blevins, Donna Kirschbaum, Jacquel Young and Frank Klave II. Brother of Herbert Klave. Grandfather of seven. Greatgrandfather of 14

LOCKREM, Susan, 57, St. Pius X, Indianapolis, Jan. 28. Mother of Joseph and Michael Lockrem. Daughter of Bernice Sheridan. Sister of Bishop Michael J. Sheridan. Grandmother of four.

McALLEN, Anne, 76, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Dec. 14. Mother of Julie Null, Roseanne Petry, Mary and Kevin McAllen. Grandmother of eight.

McCLEERY, Marjorie A. McCoy (Hessman), 74, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Jan. 28. Mother of Dorothy Gray, Sondra McBee, Christopher, Jack, James, Peter and Thomas Hessman. Sister of Loretta Fillenwarth and Michael McCoy. Grandmother of 17. Great-grandmother of 10.

McINTOSH, Leslie E., 49, Holy Name, Beech Grove, Jan. 22. Husband of Karen (Fenton) McIntosh. Father of Tony McIntosh. Grandfather of

MYERS, Margaret, 91, Nativity, Indianapolis, Jan. 13. Mother of Rosemarie Hickle and Marilyn Laughlin.

POWELL, J. Anita, 85, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany, Jan. 27. Mother of Marcia Hubbert, Lisa Trudeau, John and Ron Powell. Sister of Dorothy Popp, Evelyn Powell and Francis Hubbuch. Grandmother of six.

RITTER, Joseph L., 84, St. Matthew, Indianapolis, Jan. 29. Husband of Mary Jane Ritter. Father of Lucy Cahill, Linda Ritter and Julie Wylonis. Brother of Romilda Bertram, Dorothy Newman, Helen Ritter, Theresa Starks and Mary Weingardt. Grandfather of eight. Great-grandfather of two.

RODRIQUEZ, Georgina, 85, St. Mary, Richmond, Jan. 23. Wife of Pedro Rodriquez. Mother of Peter Rodriquez. Sister of Aida Gali and Concepcion Nodal.

SALER, Rita J., (Fischer), 81, St. Mary, Greensburg, Feb. 6. Wife of Fred Saler. Mother of Helen Froehling, Nita Hauser, Dee Kilgore, Marti Lux, Diane Myers, Dot Steward, Jerry and Jim Saler.

Sister of Lillian Rosiello, Marian Sutton and Richard Fischer. Grandmother of 21. Great-grandmother of 21.

SCHMIDT, Cora, 87, St. Paul, Tell City, Jan. 29. Mother of Jean Goffinet and Edward Koseck. Grandmother of seven. Great-grandmother of six.

SCHORK, Al, 78,

St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, Jan. 23. Father of Pamela Jo Meyer, Al Jr., David, Gary and Larry Schork. Brother of Charlotte Crum, Lydia Mae Wilbert, Charles and Raymond Schork.

SMITH, Kenneth L., 79, St. Mary, New Albany, Feb. 1. Father of Kimberly Bieber, Lindsey Ferguson, Lori Hodges and Kenneth Smith. Brother of Janice Dunham, Joyce Kaufer and Lawrence Smith Jr. Grandfather of eight. Greatgrandfather of eight.

STALEY, John D., 55, St. Michael, Greenfield, Jan. 21. Husband of Beverly Bowron-Staley. Father of Julie Buis, Kathleen, Rebecca and John Staley. Son of Jean (Strickland) Martin. Brother of Leslye Cathell, Kathye Reily and Norman Staley. Grandfather of one.

SULLIVAN, Geraldine, 79, St. Pius X, Indianapolis, Jan. 26. Mother of Geraldine Sullivan-Jarman, Mary Ann Sullivan-Moore, Patricia, Gerald, Kevin, Michael, Terence, Timothy and Thomas Sullivan. Grandmother of eighteen. Great-grandmother of

VAN WINKLE, Aaron E., 49, St. Pius V, Troy, Jan. 31. Father of Amanda, Aaron and Alexander Van Winkle. Son of Frances (Purnhage) Van Winkle. Brother of Carol Goffinet and Sheila Tempel. Grandfather of one

WAGNER, Mary Jane, 62, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Jan. 28. Wife of Julian Wagner. Mother of Amy Begley, Nancy Leming, Paula Rogers, Denise Waidlich and Chris Wagner. Grandmother of five.

WHITE, Robert L., Sr., 93, Annunciation, Brazil, Jan. 31. Father of Joan Whittaker and Robert White Jr. Grandfather of 21. Great-grandfather of 58.

YEAGER, Dorothy, 88, St. Mary, Richmond, Jan. 23. Mother of Nancy Rheuble. Sister of Larry Pool. Grandmother of one. †

Bereavement specialist says help grieving people by listening

By Mary Ann Wyand

How do you cope with the traumatic loss of a loved one? What do you say to people who have lost loved ones through a variety of sudden death experiences?

Steven Tibbetts, a nationally known psychotherapist, educator and funeral director from Minneapolis, discussed "Understanding and Responding to Traumatic Loss—Understanding the Assumptive World" and "Interventions for Traumatic Loss—How to be Supportive, Do's and Don'ts" during the archdiocesan Catholic Cemeteries Association's fourth annual Mission Day on Feb. 1 at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis.

Traumatic loss differs from other types of grief experiences, Tibbetts said, because bereaved people initially respond in different ways to the shocking news that their loved one has died unexpectedly as a result of violent or dangerous circumstances, such as accidents, suicide or murder.

It's better to listen first then offer condolences later, he said, because traumatic loss numbs the grieving person's

"Psychological trauma is produced by overwhelming the [person's] coping mechanisms," Tibbetts said. "The [person's] denial system acts like a filtering mechanism. It helps the person let go of reality slowly. Denial is used for letting go, not holding on."

Tibbetts explained that when people are told bad news, they often say, "I can't believe it."

This verbalization of denial doesn't mean that they don't believe the bad news, he said. It simply means that they haven't had enough time to process the loss and respond to it because of psychological numbing.

"In grief, it's the event, the death, [that people struggle with], but with trauma, it's the emotions," Tibbetts said. "People remain numb after a traumatic event anywhere from 72 hours to a week, depending on what they witnessed or experienced.'

To help people cope with traumatic loss, he said, ask them, "Tell me what that's like for you?" Then be prepared to listen for as long as necessary.

National statistics indicate that grief can cause physical and mental illnesses, Tibbetts said. "Fifty percent of all the people who have major medical procedures will have [experienced] the death of a loved one within the last five years. Twenty percent of all the people ... in doctor's offices every day have had a major loss within a year. It's staggering."

Denial is "a very important piece" of grieving, he said. "Oftentimes, clinicians or helpers become concerned when people have a strong denial system. [But they need to] leave it alone. Let them have their reality as they see their reality ... [unless it is] extremely distorted."

People have "built-in anesthesia" that helps them cope with traumatic loss, Tibbetts said. "People will say, 'I don't feel anything.' In crisis [situations], people don't panic for the most part. Only about 10 percent of the people panic. Some of the rest are numb. Some are in denial. But others rise to the occasion of dealing with whatever has happened. That's pretty phenomenal."

Post-traumatic stress disorder is the phenomenon that occurs as a normal response to an abnormal situation, he said, and people experience flashbacks, nightmares, "hyperstartle" responses and anxiety.

"But what's traumatic for you may not be traumatic for me," Tibbetts said. "We know that from studying the survivors of the New York disaster [on 9-11]. In the general population, about 7 or 8 percent of the people will have post-traumatic stress disorder at some time in their life."

People process grief and trauma by searching for meaning in life, he said, but there is no closure in bereavement because survivors miss their deceased loved ones every day for the rest of their lives.

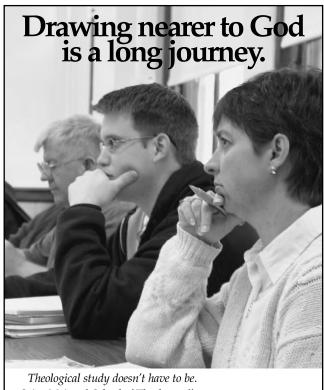
"How do you find meaning when you're numb?" Tibbetts asked. "The survival instinct gets us through the motions, but we don't have any way of getting the meaning back."

The process of dealing with trauma, like the process of dealing with grief, involves finding meaning in the loss, he said, and beginning reconstruction of the bereaved person's life in new and different ways.

"The Catholic [funeral] rituals are very rich," Tibbetts said. "The more rituals that are associated with the death, the more [that survivors] participate in the rituals, the better people fare. We learned this from studying and interviewing the bereaved. Ritual is extremely important in [processing] the realization of what death means."

To accept the death of loved ones, he said, it's important for grieving people to spend an adequate amount of time with their loved one's body before the funeral and to receive support from family members, friends and professional counselors.

"Grief is a continuum that goes on forever," Tibbetts said. "Just as love is forever, grief is forever." †



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