Archbishop Tobin will receive a rich symbol of faith from Pope Francis on June 29

By John Shaughnessy

As he kneels before Pope Francis at the Vatican on June 29, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin will receive one of the most special, humbling and uplifting symbols of the Church.

The pope will place a pallium—a circular band made from lamb’s wool—around the shoulders of Archbishop Tobin, who was installed as the leader of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis on Dec. 3, 2012.

The ritual will take place in St. Peter’s Basilica, during a special Mass when the pope gives a pallium to new archbishops from around the world—just as the pope does every June on the feast day of Sts. Peter and Paul.

For Archbishop Tobin, the pallium will symbolize his role as the shepherd of the Church.

The pallia for the new archbishops are made of wool from two lambs blessed by the pope, according to reports from the Catholic News Service.

The papal blessing of the two lambs takes place on January 21, the feast day of St. Agnes, a Christian martyr from the fourth century whose name is rooted in the Latin word, agnum, for lamb.

“Raised by Trappist monks on the outskirts of Rome, the lambs spent the night before the papal audience in the center of Rome on the rooftop terrace of the Sisters of the Holy Family of the Nazareth,” noted a 2011 Catholic News Service article describing the annual tradition. On the rooftop terrace, the sisters wash the lambs in a tub with baby soap. The animals are then dried with a blowdryer before they are placed overnight “in a covered pen with straw to keep them warm.”

Then Vatican workers arrive to take the lambs to the pope.

In the article, Holy Family Sister Hanna Pomianowska explained that on the morning of Jan. 21, a red blanket is placed on one of the lambs to represent St. Agnes’ martyrdom and a white blanket is placed on the other lamb to recall her virginity.

“They weave two crowns of flowers—one red and one white—and place them on their heads,” Sister Hanna said.

“And we tie bows around their ears.”

The article then noted that “the lambs are taken to Rome’s Basilica of St. Agnes Outside the Walls, where they are placed on the altar over the martyr’s tomb and blessed. Then Vatican workers arrive to take the lambs to the pope.”

This year, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI blessed the two lambs at the Vatican in the Chapel of Pope Urban VIII. But the journey of the lambs wasn’t finished.

Following the papal blessing, the lambs are “cared for by the Benedictine nuns of Santa Cecilia in Trastevere,” according to Sister of Mercy Mary Ann Walsh, director of media relations for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“The nuns care for them until Holy Thursday when the lambs are sheared,” Sister Mary Ann wrote in a blog post about the lambs.

The pallia for the new archbishops are then made from the wool of the two lambs. Before the archbishops receive them, the pallia are taken to a historic and symbolic place.

Archbishop Tobin has that role of metropolitan archbishop with the other four Archbishops who are not only the metropolitan archbishops for the people they lead in their archdiocese. Their union is explained in the ninth century, when Pope Leo IX created a new and special way “to unite Pope Francis and Archbishop Tobin in communion with the pope and the pastoral care he carries out for the people he leads in his archdiocese.”

“A special union

When Pope Francis places a pallium on Archbishop Tobin on June 29, the moment will connect them to a tradition in the Church that dates back to the fourth century—the same century that St. Agnes became a martyr for her faith. Just as significantly, the moment will unite Pope Francis and Archbishop Tobin in a new and special way.

The extent of that union is explained by Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, who received his pallium from Pope Emeritus Benedict in 2012.

“In the ninth century, it became customary for the pope to confer the pallium on metropolitan archbishops, that is, archbishops who are not only charged to watch over and care for their own archdioceses but who also have some responsibility for neighboring dioceses, grouped together in what is known as an ecclesiastical province,” wrote Archbishop Lori on the website, www.catholicreview.org.

Archbishop Tobin has that role of metropolitan archbishop with the other four
St. Barnabas parishioners work hard to defend religious liberty

By Sean Gallagher

St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis may seem a world away from the halls of power in Washington. But a group of parishioners in the Indianapolis South Deanery faith community is working hard to make fellow Catholics to make their voices heard in defense of religious liberty.

In January 2012, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that all businesses and nearly all religious organizations would be required to provide abortifacients, sterilizations and contraceptives to its employee health insurance plans. Soon after, these parishioners joined together to form the St. Barnabas Religious Liberty Action Committee.

Since April 2012, members of the committee have staffed a booth in the narthex of the parish’s church after each of its weekend Masses.

Information about challenges to religious liberty is offered at the booth and in the parish’s weekly bulletin.

“We’ve reached a lot of people at St. Barnabas,” said committee chairperson Chuck Stumpf. “It seems like the further we go along, the more people stop at the table and ask questions and pick up literature. Sometimes, they’ll take it to other families or members.”

The pamphlets and fliers offered at the booth are updated on a regular basis, and are largely drawn from materials from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Stumpf says sharing this information is key to getting more people to stand up to challenges to religious liberty.

“If you don’t know about it, you can’t react to it,” Stumpf said. “What we try to do is give them as much information as possible so that they know about it. If they know about it, maybe they’ll get active.”

The committee is also organizing a conference on Sept. 22 at St. Barnabas Parish to spread information about threats to religious liberty and action that Catholics can take to defend their freedom.

One of the reasons that Stumpf, 68, is so passionate about this cause is that he can’t believe how different the federal government views religious organizations from the time when he was a young adult. He doesn’t want this trend to continue.

“It’s quite shocking that we’re here talking about threats to religious liberty,” Stumpf said. “Never in my lifetime did I think that that would be necessary.”

Fellow committee member Steve Sullivan sees his work in defending religious liberty as helping the generations that are coming to the faith.

“Every generation should be concerned about how they’re leaving this world for their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren,” said Sullivan, 72. “That’s in all of our minds.

He and other committee members are looking out not only for their own descendents, but for future generations. That’s why it’s necessary to help other parishes form religious liberty committees similar to the one at St. Barnabas.

Sullivan is excited when he considers the prospect of spreading the work of defending religious liberty throughout central and southern Indiana.

“Plant the seed and let it grow,” Sullivan said. “It’s extremely important. It would be very rewarding.”

Stumpf thinks that members of the committee have learned enough over the first year and three months of its existence to be able to help Catholics in other parishes defend religious liberty.

“I think we’ve been active enough to share whatever wisdom we have and whatever process we’ve used with other parishes,” Stumpf said. “If people have access to information more readily and have a process they can follow, they’ll be more up to get involved.”

Msgr. Anthony Volz, pastor of St. Barnabas Parish, has preached on religious liberty concerns and encouraged parishioners to pick up the literature made available by the religious liberty committee.

At the same time, he recognizes that it’s vitally important that lay Catholics like those who make up his parish’s religious liberty action committee take the lead in this effort.

“I think it’s absolutely necessary,” said Msgr. Volz. “It’s impressive to see people in the Church who are passionate about their faith and who are dealing with it themselves and wrestling with the issues. Like St. Paul said, you preach the Gospel whether it’s convenient or inconvenient.”

Stumpf agrees with his pastor’s assessment.

“The solution to this is the laity getting informed and being motivated and doing it,” Stumpf said. “…The laity has to carry the ball.”

Do you have something exciting or noteworthy you want to be considered to be printed in The Criterion? E-mail us at criterion@archindy.org

Pope: Don’t pretend to be sinless; preaching Gospel demands humility

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—When boasting of having Jesus Christ as one’s savior, people shouldn’t pretend they aren’t guilty of sin, Pope Francis said in a morning homily.

The sincere and humble admission of one’s weaknesses, of having “a sliver of Satan in my flesh,” shows that the power of salvation comes from God, not oneself, the pope said at Mass on June 14 in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

The pope conceded Mass with Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, prefect of the Congregation for Clergy. Those in attendance at the Mass included members of the clergy office.

The pope highlighted the day’s reading from St. Paul’s Second Letter to the Corinthians in which the Apostle said, “We hold this treasure in earthen vessels that the surpassing power may be of God and not from us” (2 Cor 4:7).

In fact, the only way to truly receive the gift of salvation is “in an earthen vessel,” that is, in recognizing one’s own sinful nature with real humility, the pope said.

“…The dialogue of salvation” happens between Christ and people exactly “as we are,” he said. “…When St. Paul spoke to the people, he always referenced to his past mistakes and sinful nature, and never pretended to be sinless.”

He said St. Paul spoke to the people, he always referenced to his past mistakes and sinful nature, and never pretended to be sinless. “Now I am a saint. No. Even now a sliver of Satan in my flesh” remains.

“St. Paul is a sinner who welcomes Jesus Christ, Jesus speaks with Christ,” the pope said.

“…the key to sharing Christ with others is humility, which all preists should reflect, Pope Francis said.

“If we only boast about our resumé and accomplishments and nothing else, we will end up being mistaken. We cannot proclaim Jesus Christ the Savior because in the end we don’t feel it” if people don’t really experience salvation, he said.

†
Workshops make building evangelization teams ‘doable’

By Natalee Hoffer

GREENWOOD — It was 7 p.m. on May 30. The start of game five of the NBA Eastern Conference Championship between the Indiana Pacers and the Miami Heat was just 90 minutes away. The workshop on building parish evangelization teams would not end in time for the tip-off.

Sitting at the workshop in her Pacers jersey, Ann Berkemeier wasn’t worried. The decision to attend the workshop over making the start of the game was “not a struggle at all,” she said of her decision to attend the workshop. It was the last of seven workshops on parish evangelization team building held throughout the archdiocese by the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education (OCE).

Berkemeier was one of several members from St. Mark the Evangelist Parish to attend the event.

“I went to the workshop because I wanted to get more ideas. I want to do as much as I can to help bring people [along] in the faith. And also as an affirmation that we’re doing the right thing, to see what others are doing that is working for them.”

While sharing existing evangelization ideas was part of the evening, the majority of the event involved the presentation of tips, suggestions and encouragement from Peg McEvoy, associate director for evangelization and family catechesis in OCE.

She drew information from Disciples Called to Witness, a document produced in 2012 by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

As McEvoy outlined from the document, evangelization starts with Catholic parishes: “the conversion, a continually deepening relationship with Christ through the sacraments, catechesis and prayer.”

The fruit of this conversion calls Catholics to live fuller, more authentic Christian lives. This focus leads to evangelization—the spreading of the Good News, particularly to people who have not been baptized or have stepped away from their faith.

For an example of this process, McEvoy referenced the book Forming Intentional Disciples: The Path to Knowing and Following Jesus by Sherry A. Weddell.

Julie Johnstone, a member of St. Mary Parish in Indianapolis, is reading the book along with other leaders of the parish’s young adult group.

“What I’ve found recently is that building relationships with people is just awesome. … I think we’re too involved in getting people involved—to get them to come, instead of being focused on improving their relationship with Christ,” she said. “They have to be formed first before they’re going to be able to serve—that’s one thing I really took away [from the workshop].”

As for building evangelization teams, McEvoy outlined three steps, each of which should be founded on the cornerstone of prayer.

First, leaders should identify their end goal. Next, this goal must be communicated and input sought from pastors and/or parish life coordinators and other parish leaders. Finally, a team should be developed to implement plans to achieve the end goal.

“I thought it was a very good program,” said Deacon Wayne Davis, who ministers at St. Michael Parish in Greenwood. “It was helpful in helping us to crystalize our thinking, and also just to kind of share and know that everyone is in the same boat.”

“I think the thing Peg brings to the process is she makes it more concrete, more intentional. A lot of these things parishes were doing but not doing as well as we could because we were not being as intentional as we could be,” Father John Hall is of the same opinion.

“We don’t want to reinvent the wheel, but to do what we’re doing better, maybe become more conscious of it,” said Faith Hall, pastor of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Martinsville and administrator of Our Lady of the Springs Parish in French Lick and Our Lord Jesus Christ the King Parish in Paoli.

The workshop came at the right time, added Deacon Davis.

“I think what the archdiocese is doing now to get us to think about [evangelization] will really pay dividends because I really think there’s a lot of excitement in the Church,” he said. “There’s a new pope, a new archbishop. I think there’s a lot of excitement that Catholics are willing to share. It taps at a good time in our archdiocese to do this.”

The workshop was first offered in the Terre Haute deanery at St. Joseph University Parish in Terre Haute on May 13. Donna McKenzie, pastoral associate for adult formation at St. Joseph University Parish, walked away from the workshop with a sense of “the importance of communication within the staff and [with] parishioners, the fact that teams take various shapes because there is not a one-type-fits-all way to do evangelization, and that the components of evangelization are doable by the committee and the parish.”

“It opened my eyes to the huge amount of work to be done through evangelizing. Being responsible for the faith of all those within our parish boundaries impacted me the most. Even though it is a big job, it does not need to be overwhelming.”

Obama nominates retired CRS president as U.S. ambassador to Vatican

WASHINGTON (CNS)—President Barack Obama on June 14 nominated Ken Hackett, retired president of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), to be U.S. ambassador to the Holy See.

Obama’s announcement about Hackett came late in the day, along with his nominees for ambassador posts in Brazil, Spain, Germany, Denmark and Ethiopia.

“With the exception of Brazil, the ambassadors who are going to those countries have not been formally announced yet,” the president said.

Hackett retired in December 2011 after 18 years as president of CRS, the U.S. bishops’ overseas relief and development agency.

If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, he will succeed Miguel Diaz, who left the post in late 2012. Diaz now is a priest of the Order of Saint Francis de Sales.

Ken Hackett, left, retired president of Catholic Relief Services, is pictured with Miguel Diaz, former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, at the presidential palace in Brasilia, Brazil. Obama has nominated Hackett as the next U.S. ambassador to the Holy See.

University of Dayton, Ohio.

Hackett was appointed president of CRS in 1993. During his tenure, he established a division focusing on outreach to dioceses, parishes, Catholic organizations, and colleges and universities, and laypeople were first appointed to the CRS board of directors.

Catholic Relief Services now operates in more than 100 countries, with a global staff of nearly 5,000.

“Ken’s dedication to the poorest and most vulnerable on behalf of the Church, and through programs often sponsored by the U.S. government, reflects his ability to engage both sides in serving those in need in highly complicated environments,” said Carolyn Y. Woo, CRS current president and CEO, in a statement on June 17.

Strengthening ties with the Catholic Church, both in the United States and at the Vatican, was one of the themes of Hackett’s tenure at the helm of CRS.

“Under his leadership, the agency renewed its spiritual core even as it grew into one of the largest nongovernmental aid agencies in the United States with a budget that exceeded $800 million,” the agency said in a press release.

Diaz said Hackett “brings a wealth of experience and perspective on issues related to global health and humanitarian assistance, as well as service to the poor, an international focus.”

In announcing that honor, Holy Cross Father John Jenkins, Notre Dame’s president, said in a statement: “Ken Hackett has responded to a Gospel imperative with his entire career. His direction of the Catholic Church’s outreach to the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick and unsheltered of the world has blended administrative acumen with genuine compassion in a unique and exemplary way.”

Hackett is a former North American president of Caritas Internationalis, the confederation of humanitarian agencies of the Catholic Church.

He also served on the board of the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the congressionally mandated independent development agency, from 2004 to 2010. He has received numerous honorary degrees.

After retiring from CRS, Hackett was named a consultant to the University of Notre Dame’s Institute for Global Development.

Julie Johnstone of St. Mary Parish in Indianapolis discusses evangelization ideas with people at her table during a parish evangelization team building workshop offered by the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education (OCE) at Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood on May 30.
Intimidation from the IRS

One of the scandals that has received much news lately is the targeting by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) of groups and organizations considered too conservative. The investigation and congressional hearings forced the firing of acting IRS Commissioner Steven T. Miller and the placing of Lois Lerner, who headed the IRS division overseeing exempt organizations, on administrative leave after she took the Fifth Amendment and refused to answer probing questions over the years.

Much of the publicity about this scandal has focused on tea party groups because the IRS' reports concerned the exceptionally long and detailed questionnaires the IRS sent to them when they applied for tax-exempt status. However, some Catholic organizations have not escaped this IRS harassment.

Organizations connected to the Catholic Church are careful to refrain from partisan political activities while emphasizing the Church's social justice teachings, including those related to the sanctity of life. However, as we have reported and editorialized about, the Obama administration has asserted the right to force Catholic organizations to do things that the Church considers immoral, thus putting them on opposite sides.

Furthermore, the Obama administration has consistently shown itself to be pro-choice on abortion, and is encouraging the redefinition of marriage in opposition to the Church.

It comes as no surprise to many people, though. Surveys show that people in the IRS would target pro-life groups for special attention.

For example, the national Catholic weekly Our Sunday Visitor reported in its June 2 issue that an IRS agent demanded that, in order for Iowa’s Coalition for Life to get its tax-exempt status approved, its board members had to sign a sworn declaration that they would not picket or protest outside Planned Parenthood facilities.

They turned to the Thomas More Society, a national public interest law firm dedicated to fostering respect in law for life, marriage and religious liberty. Coalition for Life eventually got its tax-exempt status approved, but it might not have happened without help from the Thomas More Society.

This was one of several cases handled by the Thomas More Society on behalf of pro-life organizations that ran into roadblocks with the IRS. On May 17, the society presented more than 150 pages detailing alleged political targeting of Christian and pro-life groups, to the U.S. House of Representatives’ Ways and Means Committee.

The allegations are that the IRS delayed the granting of tax-exempt status by sending long questionnaires. Sometimes they asked about the political activities of board members and what periodicals they regularly read.

In a pro-life group in Fort Bend County called Christian Voices for Life was questioned about its prayer meetings and educational seminars. Another pro-life group, called Small Victories, received phone calls from the IRS every two or three weeks during 2011.

Even an organization as prominent as the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association received intimidation, according to the article in Our Sunday Visitor by Billy Graham’s son. Rev. Franklin Graham, said that the IRS contacted his North Carolina-based ministry after the newspaper ads in April 2011 encouraging voters to support a state amendment against the redefinition of marriage.

Rev. Graham said the IRS told him it would review the ministry’s tax records for 2010. However, it eventually upheld its tax-exempt status.

Even individuals can sometimes be targeted, according to allegations. In 2010, Dr. Anne Hendershott, who currently researches the psychology, sociology and social work at Franciscan University of Steubenville, wrote articles that criticized the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The IRS contacted her and told her her business activities would be audited.

But when the audit occurred, the IRS was only in the money that she earned from articles in Catholic publications, not the rest of her income. Nothing came of the audit itself, but she had to fill out a detailed questionnaire and answer probing questions over the telephone.

These intrusions by the IRS into the ministry of Catholic and other religious organizations is just one more example of how governments at the federal, state and local levels are taking actions that threaten the religious liberty of all people of faith.

To raise awareness about these threats, the Church in the United States is observing its second annual Fortnight for Freedom beginning today and ending on July 4.

This two-week period of prayer and action is intended to motivate a growing number of Catholics across the country to defend the religious liberty that belongs to all people.

If more Catholics let their elected leaders know of the importance of religious liberty, perhaps the actions of the IRS against Catholic and other religious organizations that have come to light recently might become a thing of the past.

—John F. Fink, Editor Emeritus

Making Sense Out of Bioethics

Fr. Tad Pachelczyk

For a story on promotion of sexual activity in ways that are both healthy for society and true to the power and purpose of human sexuality, see page 5.

Parish closings, mergers are incredibly sad for affected families

writer says

What a disappointment to read about the church closings in southeast Indiana. Though supposedly not a “top-down” decision, I doubt very much that the members of these churches would have chosen this option for their home churches.

Having family in Cedar Grove, I have attended Masses at that beautiful church off and on and many times since I was very young. I’ve attended family weddings and funerals at Guardian Angels Church. It is the parish home and the center of the small town of Cedar Grove.

And I am sure I can say the same about the Church of the Immaculate Conception in these small towns.

Is there a belief that smaller parishes are more viable and able to carry out the Church’s mission? A parish is more than a group of people attending Mass. It is a family helping each other in times of joy and sorrow. Consolidated parishes will bring to an end the traditions and sense of community.

Have these parishes been given

See CLOSINGS page 3

Parish closures
Addressing U.S., global child malnutrition a top priority for advocates

WASHINGTON (CNS)—In 2008, the community dedicated to ending hunger globally was rocked when the prestigious medical journal The Lancet published its first series on maternal and child health nutrition, showing that more than a third of child deaths and 11 percent of the rate of disease worldwide was the result of mothers and children being malnourished.

“It gave the community its marching orders,” said Yesenia Garcia of 1,000 Days.

From the information gathered by the journal emerged an image of the vital importance and the impact good nutrition has on a child’s earliest development. “When you are trying to reach young, hungry children, it demonstrated that it’s more effective to prevent stunting”—underdevelopment in malnourished children—“before age 2, or it’s irreversible,” said Mary Hennigan, senior technical adviser in nutrition for Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the U.S. bishops’ overseas relief and development agency.

Beyond stunting, malnutrition slows children’s mental growth, making them 20 percent less able to read and handicapping them so that as adults they earn on average 20 percent less than their counterparts who had a healthy diet as children.

Armed with this information, the 1,000 Days campaign was launched. It’s a coalition of groups dedicated to promoting good nutrition from the minute a woman becomes aware of her pregnancy to her child’s second birthday—roughly the first 1,000 days of the child’s life.

Now five years later, The Lancet has published a follow-up study on maternal and child nutrition, which found that, among other things, malnutrition causes nearly 45 percent of all deaths in children under 5. The latest Lancet series inspired Bread for the World, a Christian anti-hunger lobby organization, to make nutrition the theme of its annual convention this year.

For four days, representatives of dozens of organizations devoted to eradicating poverty and its effects, like 1,000 Days, Save the Children’s Food Resource Bank, gathered in the nation’s capital to discuss effective strategies and to lobby policy makers.

The importance of government action in addition to charity work was highlighted by speakers from the U.S. Agency for International Development, Ireland’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the presidential adviser from the Republic of Tanzania, a country that has made great progress in reducing childhood deaths related to malnutrition because of its president’s initiatives.

Frontline workers from all over the world discussed their challenges, such as making the issue of hunger matter to those personally unaffected by it and the struggles to meet growing times of political or social unrest.

Hennigan, of CRS, has seen firsthand the effects of malnourishment, especially in Burkina Faso, an African country that ranks as one of the world’s most impoverished.

“A malnourished baby is very listless, it’s just very sad,” she said. The program she is working on reaches 30,000 children there under the age of 2 and their mothers. These mother-child pairs and their communities are educated about the importance of hygiene, prenatal care, and childhood health facility, as well as the need for changes in their diet, like exclusive breast-feeding of an infant until he or she is 6 months of age and then afterward introducing nutritious, complementary foods.

“The difference between healthy and malnourished children is amazing,” Hennigan said. It has been three years since the program’s implementation, and things have changed dramatically for the children and their parents.

“Fathers have told me, ‘Normally I don’t want to be around my malnourished children, but how can I not be around this [healthy] adorable baby?’ Mothers tell us, ‘When we don’t have a sick baby, we’re not as worried—we plant better, we do more.’ ”

While the most widespread and devastating effects of child malnutrition can be witnessed abroad, the United States is not immune either: 1 percent of children suffer from chronic malnutrition, according to John Hopkins’ Children’s Center. While there are many organizations in place that battle hunger and malnutrition in this country, funds for a key federal program that helps to address that need—

the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps—are in danger of being cut by Congress.

The Agriculture Reform, Food, and Jobs Act of 2013—or the Farm Bill, a piece of legislation that comes to Congress every five years to set policies for agriculture and nutrition—proposes to cut SNAP funding by billions of dollars. The Senate version, which passed on June 11, cuts SNAP by about $4 billion, while the House version would cut the program by about $20 billion.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, CRS, Catholic Charities USA and the National Catholic Rural Life Conference on May 9 wrote to congressional leaders to protest the cuts.

“With continued high unemployment and a struggling economy, the need for adequate funding levels in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and other programs that help hungry people are essential. Congress should oppose attempts to weaken or restructure these programs that would result in reduced benefits to hungry people.”

The bishops and other faith leaders are part of the Circle of Protection, a coalition of Christian charities and religious leaders who are fighting for a “circle of protection” around the poor and vulnerable that keeps funding in place for programs benefiting them as members of Congress craft and debate a budget resolution and spending bills for the next fiscal year. Many of those hurt by the potential budget cuts will be families.

SNAP is a very effective program,” said Kathy Saille, USCBI director of domestic social development.

“That’s why I do this work—our faith gets deepened by it,” said Brian Backe, director of domestic programs at CRS. “It boils down to the deepest sense of love for our neighbors.”

He said the example of Pope Francis especially has inspired him.

“I keep a picture of him washing the feet of a woman. He’s a servant leader.”

One woman in a Q-and-A session at the gathering expressed disappointment at authorities who neglect or even harm those suffering from poverty. But she also said that no matter how discouraging it was, she wouldn’t let hunger and malnutrition win—not in her lifetime.”

Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin states the goal of the process was to help parishes “discern where God is leading the Church in central and southern Indiana, and to discuss how the Archdiocese of Indianapolis should change its structures in order to carry out its mission today and in the future.” What goals and missions are being fulfilled by the closing of these parishes?

There are a number of parishes in our archdiocese that are as small—or smaller—than the parishes being closed. What does the future hold for these parishes? Are there steps these parishes can be taking now to avoid a fate similar to that which has befallen the southeastern parishes?

The entire situation is incredibly sad and my heart goes out to the families affected by this decision.

(Mary Jo Duvall is a member of American Martyrs Parish in Scottsburg.)
St. John the Evangelist
June 22
music, games, entertainment.

Summer Social
1827 Kessler Blvd., E. Drive,
Christ the King Parish,
June 21-22
www.catholicbusiness
members, $21 non-members.

CEO of Walker Information,
Doing Well by Doing
“Business and Spirituality:
Catholic
Columbus Hall, 2100 E.
Northside Knights of
June 21
unborn. Both are adversely affected
freedom and the sanctity of life of the
Catholics are called to pray for religious
Fortnight for Freedom, a period when
during the beginning of the U.S. bishops’
americas and the pro-life movement.

decreed the patroness of the unborn, the
Guadalupe found on St. Juan Diego’s
replicating the image of Our Lady of
Our Lady of Guadalupe has been
Traveling image of Our Lady of
veneration and prayer from 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
church sanctuary. It is available for
all businesses and nearly all religious
by the U.S. Department of Health and
contraceptives in its employee health
insurance plans.
abortifacients, sterilizations and
doctrine’s, members, $21 non-members.

CEO of Walker Information,
Doing Well by Doing
“Business and Spirituality:
Catholic
Columbus Hall, 2100 E.
Northside Knights of
June 21
unborn. Both are adversely affected
freedom and the sanctity of life of the
Catholics are called to pray for religious
Fortnight for Freedom, a period when
during the beginning of the U.S. bishops’
americas and the pro-life movement.

decreed the patroness of the unborn, the
Guadalupe found on St. Juan Diego’s
replicating the image of Our Lady of
Our Lady of Guadalupe has been
Traveling image of Our Lady of
veneration and prayer from 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
church sanctuary. It is available for
all businesses and nearly all religious
by the U.S. Department of Health and
contraceptives in its employee health
insurance plans.
abortifacients, sterilizations and

St. John the Evangelist
Church, 126 W. Georgia St.,
Indianapolis. Fortnight for
Freedom Mass, followed by
rosary procession and rally,
after 12:10 p.m. Mass, through
the streets of downtown
Indianapolis to Monument
Circle. Information: fortun
defree.com

St. Mary Parish, 415 E.
Eighth St., New Albany,
29th Annual Street Dance,
7 p.m. to 1 a.m., games, music,
dance Sat. night with $5
cover charge. Information: 812-944-0417.

Michaels Farm, Hwy.
229, Oldenburg.
Sisters of St. Francis,
Natural Farming, dinner,
entertainment, $50 per
person, reservations required.
Information: 812-933-6464 or
csies@csis.net.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Parish, 126 W. Georgia St.,
Indianapolis. Fortnight for
Freedom Mass, followed by
rosary procession and rally,
after 12:10 p.m. Mass, through
the streets of downtown
Indianapolis to Monument
Circle. Information: fortun
defree.com

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Parish, 14958 Oakridge
Road, Carmel, Ind. (Diocese of Lafayette).
Children’s March for Life,
6:30-9 p.m. rain or shine.
Information: 317-605-2940 or
andrea@evangels.org.

June 23
St. Mark Parish,
5377 Acom Road, Toll City
150th Anniversary Mass,
10:30 a.m. Information:
812-836-2063.

St. Nicholas Parish, 6461 E.
St. Nicholas Drive, Sunman.
Parish picnic, fried chicken
and roast beef dinners,
famous turtle soup, games,
afternoon. Information:
812-623-2964.

Harrison County Fairgrounds,
343 S. Capitol Ave., Corydon.
St. Joseph Parish Picnic,
10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., food, games.
Information: 812-738-2742.

Holy Spirit Parish, 7243
E. 10th St., Indianapolis.
Farewell Party for Father
Chris Wadlenton, program,
3:30 p.m. followed by
reception. Information:
317-353-9044 or
parishoffice@holySpiritC.

St. Maurice Parish,
Decatur County, 1963 N.
St. John St., St. Maurice.
Parish picnic, 10 a.m.
Mass, chicken and roast beef
dinners, mock turtle soup,
sandwiches, games, country
store. Information: 812-663-4754.

Our Lady of Guadalupe has been
in the Hall of Fame Museum at the
Indiana Motor Speedway.

VIPS
Don and Lynda (Haas) McAtee, members of SS. Francis and
Clare Parish in Greenwood, will celebrate their 50th wedding
anniversary on June 22.
The couple was married on June 22, 1963, at the former
St. Catherine of Siena Church in Indianapolis.
They have three children, Patti McNeely, Bryan McAtee and
the late Jeff McAtee, and three grandchildren.

IL Gordon and Sharon Ann (Hirneise) Phillian, members of
St. Christopher Parish in Speedway, will celebrate their 50th wedding
anniversary on June 22.
The couple was married June 22, 1963, at St. Mary Church
in Marion, Ohio.
They are the parents of five children. Ann Hatcher, Christine Holt,
Theresa King, Josie Rakestrav and Gordon Phillian.
They have 17 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Sccina Class of 1963 members are invited for 50-year reunion
All members of the Scecina Class of 1963 and their guest are invited to
attend the 50-year reunion celebration on Sunday, June 23.
The event includes a golf outing on Friday with a casual get-together and
tour at Scecina in the evening. On Saturday at 5 p.m.,
a memorial Mass and dinner will take place at the Marriott East hotel.
A farewell brunch will take place on Sunday.
Help is needed to reach members of the Class of 1963.
Members are invited to share this information with classmates
to share contact information with the reunion committee.

For more information regarding cost
and reservations, log on to the Scecina website at www.scecina.org/
class-reunions, or contact Joe Walsh
at 317-888-9080 or by e-mail at
djwalsh@gmail.com, or Cathy Corsaro
at 317-888-9080 or by e-mail at
dljawalsh@gmail.com.

Traveling image of Our Lady of
Guadalupe at St. Luke through June 23
A traveling 4-foot-by-6-foot painting
replicating the image of Our Lady of
Guadalupe found on St. Juan Diego’s
tilma or cloak is on display for veneration
until June 23 at St. Luke the Evangelist
Church, 7575 Holiday Drive East, in
Indianapolis.
Our Lady of Guadalupe has been
declared the patroness of the unborn,
the Americas and the pro-life movement.
The image will be in Indianapolis
during the beginning of the U.S. bishops’
Fortnight for Freedom, a period when
Catholics are called to pray for religious
freedom and the sanctity of life of the
unborn. Both are adversely affected
by the U.S. Department of Health and
Human Services’ (HHS) decision that
all businesses and nearly all religious
organizations be required to provide
abortionists, sterilizations and
contraceptives in its employee health
insurance plans.
The image will be located in the
curch sanctuary. It is available for
veneration and prayer from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
For more information about the image,
log on to lkm.w3fusion.net/missionary-image.
For more information about visiting the image
at St. Luke the Evangelist Church, call
317-259-4373.†

Harrison County Fairgrounds,
343 S. Capitol Ave., Corydon.
St. Joseph Parish Picnic,
10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., food, games.
Information: 812-738-2742.

Holy Spirit Parish, 7243
E. 10th St., Indianapolis.
Farewell Party for Father
Chris Wadlenton, program,
3:30 p.m. followed by
reception. Information:
317-353-9044 or
parishoffice@holySpiritC.

St. Maurice Parish,
Decatur County, 1963 N.
St. John St., St. Maurice.
Parish picnic, 10 a.m.
Mass, chicken and roast beef
dinners, mock turtle soup,
sandwiches, games, country
store. Information: 812-663-4754.

July 4
St. Mary Parish, 317 N.
New Jersey St., Indianapolis.
Fourth of July (G) Festival,
music, food, games, view
downtown fireworks, 3-11 p.m.
Information: 317-637-3983.

July 11-13
Holy Spirit Parish,
7243 E. 10th St.,
Indianapolis. Parish festival,
Thurs. 5-11 p.m., Fri. 5-11 p.m.,
Sat. 1 p.m.-midnight, food,
music, entertainment.
Information: 317-353-9040.

July 12
St. Benedict Parish,
111 S. Ninth St., Terre
Haut. Community festival,
5-9 p.m., games, food,
food, $12 adults, under 21 free.

July 13
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Parish
Life Center, 399 South
Meridan St., Greenwood.
Second St. Francis de Sales
All School Reunion, noon,
$30 per person. Mail RSVP and
check to St. Francis de Sales, P.O. Box 1905, Indianapolis,
IN 46219-9005. Information:
“St. Francis de Sales Catholic
Church and Grade School
Indianapolis IN” on Facebook,
or call 317-987-6315.

July 14
St. Lawrence Parish,
542 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg.
Parish festival, chicken
dinners $10 per person,
bid-n-buy booth, hidden
treasures booth, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Information: 812-537-3992.†

Race day at St. Augustine Home
Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard provides sight to St. Augustine Home for the Aged resident
Peggy Karress for the walking relay during the home’s annual Mini 500 celebration held at the
facility in Indianapolis on May 22.

St. Augustine Home for the Aged resident Lillian Cooper hangs on to her hat while volunteer
Mike Diuglas pushes her in the wheelchair relay of the home’s annual Mini 500 celebration held at
the facility in Indianapolis on May 22.
Pope says false ideas of freedom spawn threats to human life

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Ideologies and practices that destroy human life arise from false ideas of freedom without God, Pope Francis told a crowd in St. Peter’s Square, including thousands of pro-life activists from around the world.

“When we want to assert ourselves, when we become wrapped up in our own selfishness and put ourselves in the place of God, we end up snuffing death,” the pope said in his homily during the Mass on June 16.

The Mass was the culmination of a week dedicated to “Evangelium Vitae” (the “Gospel of Life”), a pilgrimage organized for the Year of Faith and named after the 1995 encyclical by Blessed John Paul II on the “value and inviolability of human life.”

“All too often,” Pope Francis said, “people do not choose life, they do not accept the ‘Gospel of Life,’ but let themselves be led by ideologies and ways of thinking that block life, that do not respect life, because they are dictated by selfishness, self-interest, profit, power and pleasure, and not by love, by concern for the good of others.”

“It is the idea that rejecting God, the message of Christ, the Gospel of Life, will somehow lead to freedom, to complete freedom, but in the end bring new forms of slavery and death.

“Let us say ‘yes’ to love and not self-interest,” Pope Francis concluded. “Let us say ‘yes’ to life and not death. Let us say ‘yes’ to freedom and not enslavement to the many idols of our time.’

The pope did not mention any specific threats to life, but in an address at the end of Mass, Archbishop Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization, alluded to abortion and euthanasia.

“From the very beginning in the womb of a woman, until the very last moment when a person’s breath speaks of his or her presence in the world, this life is human, even if it develops into an immense array of conditions of weakness, suffering and demands for help,” said the archbishop, whose office organized the weekend pilgrimage.

Archbishop Fisichella drew attention to the presence in the square of “witnesses to Evangelium Vitae” from some two dozen countries, activists dedicated to the defense of “children left alone, abandoned women, the chronically ill, those with the most diverse disabilities and handicaps, people who are dying, the marginalized [and] the excluded.”

After Mass, Pope Francis followed his usual practice of individually greeting a number of disabled persons among the congregation.

One of the pilgrims in the crowd, Mary J. McClusky, a special projects director with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, praised Pope Francis for reminding listeners that forgiveness is available for even the worst sins.

“It’s what the world needs to hear, the assurance that whatever we do, God will always love us,” she said. “That’s what’s going to break hearts open and allow that love to flow in.”

McClusky was one of five USCCB staff members who traveled to Rome to help organize special activities for English-language pilgrims on June 15, including an academic conference featuring an address by U.S. Cardinal Raymond L. Burke, head of a Vatican tribunal, and a holy hour of Eucharistic adoration led by U.S. Archbishop Joseph A. Di Noia, vice president of the Pontifical Commission “Ecclesia Dei.”

In his address, Cardinal Burke warned against the “anti-family agenda of the pervasive mass media,” and urged his largely American audience to participate in “family politics.

“The culture of death advances in good part because of a lack of attention and information among the public in general,” he said. †

By Brandon A. Evans

This week, we continue to examine what was going on in the Church and the world 50 years ago as seen through the pages of The Criterion.

Here are some of the items found in the June 21, 1963, issue of The Criterion:

- Secret conclave opens balloting for pontiff (Ballet: Two ballots were cast in the papal election on Thursday before Criterion press time. Both were unsuccessful.)
- VATICAN CITY—Four more Churchmen charged with electing a new Bishop of Rome calmly sealed themselves off; and automatically created an air of tension and expectation in the world they left behind. The conclave to elect the successor to Pope John XXIII began beneath Michelangelo’s massive painting of the Last Judgment in the Sistine Chapel on the evening of June 19.
- Justice Stewart dissent: Public school prayer barred by High Court
- “WASHINGTON—The U.S. Supreme Court has ended a year of nationwide suspense by barring devotional Bible reading and recitation of the Lord’s Prayer from public schools. These practices and the laws requiring them are ‘unconstitutional under the Establishment Clause’ of the First Amendment and violate the ‘wholesale neutrality’ of the Supreme Court’s First Amendment decision in 1963.”
- “Question Box: Why did God let Pope John die?”
- “Clears Catholic stand on shared-time project”
- “To the surprise of no one, but to the chagrin of many, the Supreme Court has put an end to Protestant influence in public schools. The reading of Bible verses and the reciting of the Lord’s Prayer were the last vestiges of the one-time close union between Protestant Christianity and the public schools.”
- “From the very beginning in the womb of a woman, until the very last moment when a person’s breath speaks of his or her presence in the world, this life is human, even if it develops into an immense array of conditions of weakness, suffering and demands for help,” said the archbishop, whose office organized the weekend pilgrimage.

What was in the news on June 21, 1963? The papal conclave opens, and the Supreme Court bans prayer in public schools.

By Brandon A. Evans

This week, we continue to examine what was going on in the Church and the world 50 years ago as seen through the pages of The Criterion.

Here are some of the items found in the June 21, 1963, issue of The Criterion:

- Secret conclave opens balloting for pontiff (Ballet: Two ballots were cast in the papal election on Thursday before Criterion press time. Both were unsuccessful.)
- VATICAN CITY—Four more Churchmen charged with electing a new Bishop of Rome calmly sealed themselves off; and automatically created an air of tension and expectation in the world they left behind. The conclave to elect the successor to Pope John XXIII began beneath Michelangelo’s massive painting of the Last Judgment in the Sistine Chapel on the evening of June 19.
- Justice Stewart dissent: Public school prayer barred by High Court
- “WASHINGTON—The U.S. Supreme Court has ended a year of nationwide suspense by barring devotional Bible reading and recitation of the Lord’s Prayer from public schools. These practices and the laws requiring them are ‘unconstitutional under the Establishment Clause’ of the First Amendment and violate the ‘wholesale neutrality’ of the Supreme Court’s First Amendment decision in 1963.”
- “Question Box: Why did God let Pope John die?”
- “Clears Catholic stand on shared-time project”
- “To the surprise of no one, but to the chagrin of many, the Supreme Court has put an end to Protestant influence in public schools. The reading of Bible verses and the reciting of the Lord’s Prayer were the last vestiges of the one-time close union between Protestant Christianity and the public schools.”
- “From the very beginning in the womb of a woman, until the very last moment when a person’s breath speaks of his or her presence in the world, this life is human, even if it develops into an immense array of conditions of weakness, suffering and demands for help,” said the archbishop, whose office organized the weekend pilgrimage.

What was in the news on June 21, 1963? The papal conclave opens, and the Supreme Court bans prayer in public schools.
Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin will join Catholics from across central and southern Indiana on a pilgrimage to Italy from June 25 through July 2.

Mass will be celebrated each day during the pilgrimage with each liturgy having a special intention connected to it.

All Catholics in the archdiocese are invited to pray for those intentions, which are listed below, during the time of the pilgrimage.

**June 26—9 a.m.** Rome, North American College chapel. For the pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

**June 27—11:30 a.m.** Orvieto Cathedral, with Father Rick Ginther as the celebrant and Fathers Frank Eckstein and Larry Richardt as concelebrants. For the sick, the homebound and the dying.

**June 28—7–7:15 a.m.** Rome, St. Peter’s Basilica, for the faith community advancing faith in the public square as a powerful force for justice, compassion and the common good.

**June 29—9 a.m.** St. Agnes, Rome, Trappist monks, religious sisters, popes, St. Peter, St. Paul, Archbishop Tobin and all the faithful of the Church—a bond that all leads back to the life of Christ, the Good Shepherd.

**June 29—9:30 a.m.** Rome, St. Peter’s Basilica, pallium Mass with Pope Francis.

**June 30—12:15 p.m.** Siena Cathedral. For lay ministers in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

**July 1—7:30 a.m.** Rome, St. Alphonsus Liguori Church. For the priests, deacons and religious of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

---

**Report says ‘witch hunt’ tactics hurting CCHD’s outreach to poor**

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the U.S. bishops’ domestic anti-poverty arm, should “resist efforts” that isolate Catholic-fund-backed activist coalitions that are improving the lives of low-income citizens, according to a new report examining threats to CCHD’s funding.

The report, released June 19, called for extensions in the words of the head of one CCHD-funded group that had its grant pulled, the “witch hunt” tactics by CCHD’s opponents.

The report was published on June 11 by Faith in Public Life, which bills itself as “a strategy center to the U.S. Bishops’ Anti-Poverty Mission.”

According to the report, the American Life League had compiled a dossier noting the connections between the nonprofits, posted it online and sent it to Minnesota bishops and to CCHD officials in Washington. Project director Mark Shultz, according to the report, “believes the American Life League’s ‘witch hunt’ tactics created an atmosphere of fear and paranoia that cast doubt about [its] fidelity to Catholic teaching despite its long history of working with CCHD.”

The grant was pulled after the Land Stewardship Project refused to resign its membership. After word spread of the revocation, other donations more than made up for the forfeited grant money.

The Minneapolis-based Land Stewardship Project, founded in 1982, trains new farmers, challenges large-scale factory farms that have poor records on labor rights, and advocates for more sustainable local agriculture. It has received CCHD grants since the late 1980s, and $190,000 since 2007. After getting a $48,000 grant last year, it was told to resign its membership in two organizations that did not endorse the Minnesota bishops’ efforts for an anti-poverty arm, should “resist efforts” that isolate the group from others, two former presidents of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and six U.S. bishops, a former USCCB associate general secretary, two former CCHD directors and several CCHD employees.

The report is dedicated to his memory.

The 10,000-word report was endorsed by, among others, two former presidents of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and six U.S. bishops, a former USCCB associate general secretary, two former CCHD directors and several CCHD employees. Eighteen organizations, 17 Catholic and nondenominational, also endorsed the report. Retired Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan of Brooklyn, N.Y., endorsed the report before he died on June 7, and the report is dedicated to his memory.

“Be Not Afraid!” Guilt by Association, McCarthyism, Catholicism and Growing Threats to the U.S. Bishops’ Anti-Poverty Mission.

It accuses such groups as the American Life League and the American Life League’s ‘Be Not Afraid!’ of misrepresenting CCHD’s strong support for marriage and traditional families, as well as other Catholic organizations.

The report recommends that CCHD should “resist efforts” that isolate Catholic-fund-backed activist coalitions that are improving the lives of low-income citizens, according to a new report examining threats to CCHD’s funding.

The report, released June 19, called for extensions in the words of the head of one CCHD-funded group that had its grant pulled, the “witch hunt” tactics by CCHD’s opponents.

The report was published on June 11 by Faith in Public Life, which bills itself as “a strategy center to the U.S. Bishops’ Anti-Poverty Mission.”

“A pallium is fitted on Pope Francis during his inaugural Mass in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican on March 19. On June 29, he will give pallia to archbishops from around the world appointed in the past year, including Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin.”

---

**Prayer intentions for 2013 archdiocesan pallium pilgrimage**

**Catholics in the archdiocese are invited to pray for these intentions, which are listed below, during the time of the pilgrimage:**

- **June 26—9 a.m.** Rome, North American College chapel. For the pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.
- **June 27—11:30 a.m.** Orvieto Cathedral, with Father Rick Ginther as the celebrant and Fathers Frank Eckstein and Larry Richardt as concelebrants. For the sick, the homebound and the dying.
- **June 28—7–7:15 a.m.** Rome, St. Peter’s Basilica, for the faith community advancing faith in the public square as a powerful force for justice, compassion and the common good.
- **June 29—9 a.m.** St. Agnes, Rome, Trappist monks, religious sisters, popes, St. Peter, St. Paul, Archbishop Tobin and all the faithful of the Church—a bond that all leads back to the life of Christ, the Good Shepherd.
- **June 29—9:30 a.m.** Rome, St. Peter’s Basilica, pallium Mass with Pope Francis.
- **June 30—12:15 p.m.** Siena Cathedral. For lay ministers in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.
- **July 1—7:30 a.m.** Rome, St. Alphonsus Liguori Church. For the priests, deacons and religious of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

---

**Catholic News Service**

**Prayer intentions for 2013 archdiocesan pallium pilgrimage**

Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin will join Catholics from across central and southern Indiana on a pilgrimage to Italy from June 25 through July 2.

Mass will be celebrated each day during the pilgrimage with each liturgy having a special intention connected to it.

All Catholics in the archdiocese are invited to pray for those intentions, which are listed below, during the time of the pilgrimage.

- **June 26—9 a.m.** Rome, North American College chapel. For the pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.
- **June 27—11:30 a.m.** Orvieto Cathedral, with Father Rick Ginther as the celebrant and Fathers Frank Eckstein and Larry Richardt as concelebrants. For the sick, the homebound and the dying.
- **June 28—7–7:15 a.m.** Rome, St. Peter’s Basilica, for the faith community advancing faith in the public square as a powerful force for justice, compassion and the common good.

**Plan of the report:**

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the U.S. bishops’ domestic anti-poverty arm, should “resist efforts” that isolate Catholic-fund-backed activist coalitions that are improving the lives of low-income citizens, according to a new report examining threats to CCHD’s funding.

The report, released June 19, called, in the words of the head of one CCHD-funded group that had its grant pulled, the “witch hunt” tactics by CCHD’s opponents.

The report was published on June 11 by Faith in Public Life, which bills itself as “a strategy center to the U.S. Bishops’ Anti-Poverty Mission.”

It accuses such groups as the American Life League and the American Life League’s ‘Be Not Afraid!’ of misrepresenting CCHD’s strong support for marriage and traditional families, as well as other Catholic organizations.

The report recommends that CCHD should “resist efforts” that isolate Catholic-fund-backed activist coalitions that are improving the lives of low-income citizens, according to a new report examining threats to CCHD’s funding.

The report, released June 19, called, in the words of the head of one CCHD-funded group that had its grant pulled, the “witch hunt” tactics by CCHD’s opponents.

The report was published on June 11 by Faith in Public Life, which bills itself as “a strategy center to the U.S. Bishops’ Anti-Poverty Mission.”

“I think it’s given us an opportunity to share those teaching and those beliefs in a bolder way.”

Some bishops have opted out of the nationwide CCHD collection, preferring instead to conduct their own drives. “Each diocese is different,” McCloyd said. “There are no two that are alike … But we’re open to conversation with anyone” about having them rejoin CCHD.

Michael Hebhorn, director of the American Life League’s Defend the Faith project, described the initiative as “assisting bishops across the country defend the Catholic Church from attacks both from within as well as from within.” He said the report seems to focus on CCHD guidelines on coalitions. “We simply applied those guidelines. So if they have a complaint about the guidelines, I don’t know why they’re pointing a finger at us about that.”

Hichborn also dismissed as “totally inaccurate” the “witch hunt” characterization in “Be Not Afraid!” “First of all, we’re not looking for witches, we’re not looking for bad organizations just because” the group wants to, he said. “We’re looking for organizations that receive money that are working directly against the Catholic Church.”

Unfortunately, there are some folks who really don’t understand it,” McCloyd told CNS, referring to the agency’s mission. “There are others who have yet to experience it in a way, and appreciate the way the CCHD has over the years and over the decades worked with groups in low-income communities, to hear firsthand what some of the needs are.”

“It seems like the most zealous guardians of Catholic identity are so busy playing purity police that they miss the larger essence,” said John Gehring, who wrote the Faith in Public Life report. Those groups, he added, should focus on “the spirit of the law more than about the letter of the law.”
Bishop Bruté Days brings together young men considering priesthood

By Mike Krokos

It started for Nick McKinley six summers ago.
The then junior high school student decided to attend Bishop Bruté Days, a camp that allows teenagers considering priestly vocations to spend time among like-minded peers.

Nick liked the faith-based experience so much he came back the following year.

And in 2010. And in 2011. And in 2012. And again this year.

“It’s a great program to just really connect with your faith, and really develop a relationship with God,” Nick said, “and just ask him what he wants me to do with my life.

“I’ve always found it very profound and helpful,” added Nick, a member of St. Christopher Parish and 2013 graduate of Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School, both in Indianapolis.

This year, the 19-year-old served as a seminarian counselor to assist the approximately 40 young men in junior high and high school who took part in the eighth annual camp, which was held on the campus of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis for the first time on June 10-13.

Nick, who will be a freshman at the college seminary this fall, said it is exciting to begin his formation to the priesthood.

“I’m very happy to finally come here,” he said.

The soon-to-be college seminarian said the time spent attending Bishop Bruté Days helped him grow in his life of faith.

“(I really liked) the deep sense of prayer that everyone maintains, and there’s a brotherhood that develops.”

Nick said, “It’s a close bond that helps you grow not only with yourself but with a community.”

During Bishop Bruté Days, archdiocesan priests, transitional deacons and seminarians gave presentations on the faith. Priests celebrated Mass each day and heard confessions. The campers took part in a eucharistic procession, and also participated in all-night eucharistic adoration.

As in years past, there were social activities as well, including a trip to an Indianapolis Indians baseball game.

Members of the Knights of Columbus and the Indianapolis Serra Club provided meals for campers.

Father Robert Robeson, rector of the seminary, said that the breakdown of this year’s campers was split between first-time participants and the other half who had attended in years past.

“They’re here to engage in prayer and, of course, to have fun.” he said.

“This is probably a well-above-average group when it comes to their knowledge of the faith,” he added after giving a talk on the sacrament of marriage on June 12 and answering several thoughtful questions. “They’re all pretty committed to their faith.”

Thomas Benkert, a member of SS. Francis and Clare Parish in Greenwood, came back to the retreat and camp-like atmosphere for a second straight year because he enjoyed the experience in 2012.

“It was a chance to bring you closer to God after the [school] year had ended, the hectic life of school,” he said of last year’s experience. “It centered your life on God, and it shut out everything else, and I really like that.”

Thomas, who will be a sophomore at Center Grove High School in Greenwood this fall, said his life of faith benefitted again from this year’s vocations camp.

“I especially liked adoration because [Jesus] is actually there,” he said. “It’s a plus because it’s in the seminary and there are less distractions.”

Camper Ernie Mobley, 13, a member of St. John the Apostle Parish in Greenwood, said he was attending the camp for the first time because he is discerning whether a call to the priesthood is in his future.

“I really enjoyed the talk (by Father Robeson),” said Ernie, who will soon be a home-schooled ninth grader, “and I liked adoration and the feeling of being in the presence of God.”

While Father Robeson admitted that the camp “has been pretty fruitful for the seminary” in terms of attracting vocations, he said that assisting the young men in their lives of faith is the ultimate goal.

“We hope they concentrate on growing in holiness as a Christian, Catholic man, and once you know that you’ll know your vocation,” he said, echoing a message shared with the campers by transitional Deacon Daniel Bedel. “If you’re focusing on deepening that relationship with Christ and becoming holy and more fully the person God created you to be, following his will, then you’re going to end up where God wants you.

“Regardless of what their vocation is [in life], this is going to hopefully help them learn about their faith.”

Father Robeson continued, “and not just learn about their faith but really take responsibility for their faith, and own their faith, and help them better understand the sacraments and live the sacraments better.”

(For more information on Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, log on to www.archindy.org/bsb)
‘Hope Award’ recipient sees God in those with special needs

By Natalie Hoefer

In her 30-plus years of working with those with special needs at St. Vincent New Hope, Susan Robinson has seen many situations that most people would describe as hopeless. Robinson sees the opposite. “I have a love for people with developmental disabilities,” she says. “They are so faith-filled, so giving, so trusting. They make us better than we ever could be.”

New Hope is a ministry of St. Vincent Health in Indianapolis. It provides comprehensive support services to people with developmental disabilities, as well as counseling services to families in crisis. Last year, New Hope created the “Hope Award” to be given annually to those who have provided stellar support for the ministry.

“When it came to picking this year’s recipient, there was just no question about it—she was the automatic choice,” says Kathy Rae, manager of staff development and mission integration at New Hope. Robinson was presented with the second annual “Hope Award” at a ceremony at St. Vincent New Hope on March 27.

“A few years before retiring, I met a nun in Limerick who was a leader of SPRED [Special Religious Development],” recalls Robinson. “She introduced me to joining the archdiocesan SPRED advisory council, and helping organize the annual SPRED dinner/dance for many years. Kara Fava, assistant director for special religious education in the archdiocese, says that, when talking about the SPRED members, Robinson often says, “They get it, Karen! They are so close to God’s heart (that) they fill you with the gift of the Holy Spirit when you’re in their presence.”

As director of religious education for St. Monica Parish, Mary Jo Thomas Day also sees Robinson’s gift of companionship for those with special needs. “She is really inclusive. She looks at everyone as a child with God in them, especially those with developmental disabilities,” says Thomas Day. “She has a strong love for them. She knows God is part of their life, and she wants to grow that in them. And she is so humble in all she does.”

Embodying that humility, Robinson referred to the Daughters of Charity when asked about her thoughts on receiving the Hope Award. “The Daughters of Charity’s mantra is ‘faith, hope and love.’ They’ve always lived out hope,” she said. “For me to receive this award, it’s a reflection of that deepest belief in my heart that there’s always hope.”

While Robinson was presented with the award, she was not the only one honored. St. Vincent’s Anne Brotzman, director of volunteer services, was also honored for her dedication to New Hope clients of New Hope.

She returned to Indianapolis and started a SPRED meeting at St. Monica, her home parish. Once again, her faith intertwined with her vocation—all but one of the members in her SPRED group were also clients of New Hope. Her involvement with SPRED extended to joining the archdiocesan SPRED advisory council, and helping organize the annual SPRED dinner/dance for many years.

The Daughters of Charity’s mantra is “faith, hope and love.” They’ve always lived out hope,” she said. “For me to receive this award, it’s a reflection of that deepest belief in my heart that there’s always hope.”

Susan Robinson, center, smiles with Daughters of Charity Sister Rosaria Raidl, left, and New Hope participant Dana Zunk after Robinson received the St. Vincent New Hope “Hope Award” at St. Vincent New Hope in Indianapolis.
Ties that bind us to others offer us a chance to grow

By David Gibson

The workaday world in which most people earn their living would look a lot different if it unfailingly honored the dignity that all members of the human family share and that binds them together. Pope Francis suggested as much in a May 1 speech. Actually, the ties that bind us all are a matter of no small consequence. Our God-given connections with others are meant to serve as a vital force for the good.

The readily observable fact is, of course, that we have a choice in how we act upon the ties that bind. Whether in marriages and families, parishes, neighborhoods, workplaces or society at large, people can choose whether to turn toward each other or away from each other.

Turning toward each other creates the chance of knowing each other better. Then we can catch a glimpse of each other’s hopes and dreams, learn of each other’s unique capabilities and discover good reasons to work and live constructively alongside each other.

Turning away from each other offers the chance to concentrate on a private universe in which our own hopes and dreams are paramount. The risk this creates is that focusing so intently on personal goals will allow little opportunity to consider others’ needs and aspirations or even to be touched by their goodness.

Pope Francis frequently addresses such concerns. Repeatedly, he urges people to turn toward the need to fight against the corrosive effects of indifference and of retreating to an isolated, individualistic lifestyle.

Three saints were canonized on May 12 by Pope Francis. One, St. Isidore Montoya, became the first canonized saint from the nation of Colombia. She founded the Missionary Sisters of Mary Immaculate and St. Catherine of Siena.

Mother Montoya was “a spiritual mother” of Colombia’s indigenous peoples, Pope Francis said. He described her as a saint who teaches us to overcome “indifference and individualism,” which “corrode Christian communities and eat away our heart itself.”

In his earlier May 1 remarks on problems encountered in today’s workplaces, indifference to the ties that bind people together was decidedly not the solution the pope desired. Expressing concern about high unemployment rates, he took issue with those convinced that earning the greatest profit in business outstrips all other interests.

“Work, to use a metaphor, ‘anoims’ us with dignity, fills us with dignity, makes us similar to God, who has worked and still works,” Pope Francis said.

But he was thinking, he explained, about “how many, and not just young people, are unemployed, many times due to a purely economic conception of society, which seeks selfish profit, beyond the parameters of social justice.”

Then, immediately, he extended an invitation to solidarity to everyone. In other words, he seemed to encourage all involved with present-day workplace challenges to turn toward and not away from each other in their search for solutions.

He concluded that giving new impetus to employment is a matter of caring for the dignity of the person.

How important are the ties that bind the members of human communities together? Another Church leader, Archbishop Vincent Nichols of Westminster, England, addressed this issue recently.

The British archbishop insisted in an April 11 speech that “as human beings we are not just individuals. We are each born into a human community and find our deepest fulfillment as persons in relationship to others and, I would add, to God.”

Turning attention to business and finance, the archbishop shared his conviction that “there is great potential for good in people which far too many employers do not release or encourage when they see themselves simply as there to maximize short-term profit.”

The archbishop hardly denies the necessity of profits. He said, however, that a good business is a community as well as an organization. Moreover, a business “contributes to the formation or undermiring of society by the way people are treated.”

It is important, Archbishop Nichols said, to realize that “respecting others and seeking their good is essential to my own good.”

Pope Francis similarly holds that the ties binding us to others offer us a chance to grow.

He thinks we shrink as persons and our world grows smaller when we turn away from others, when we retreat to a self-centered zone that shelters us from the hopes reflected in others’ faces.

That was another of the points Pope Francis made during the May 12 canonization Mass in Rome. One of those canonized, from Mexico, was St. Maria Guadalupe Garcia Zavala. She founded the Handmaids of St. Margaret Mary and of the Poor.

This new Mexican saint invites us to love as Jesus loved us,” Pope Francis said. But he added, “this does not entail withdrawal into ourselves, into our own problems, into our own ideas, into our own interests, into this small world that is so harmful to us.”

Rather, he continued, it entails coming “out of ourselves” and caring for others who need our attention.

Then, in a homily two days later, Pope Francis told worshippers in a Vatican chapel that an isolated, individualistic lifestyle “eventually ends badly.”

(David Gibson served on Catholic News Service’s editorial staff for 37 years.)

Sin of greed can hurt others and keep us from salvation in the kingdom of God

By Richard McCord

More than a thousand clothing workers were killed in Bangladesh when their factory collapsed in April, focusing attention on standard working conditions abroad.

Just as the horrifying story was emerging, I heard an insightful radio interview with Elizabeth L. Cline, author of Overdressed: The Shockingly High Cost of Cheap Fashion. It couldn’t help but wonder about the connections between cheap clothing in U.S. stores and the exploitation of workers who make them.

The author admits buying clothes and shoes that seemed too cheap to pass up. She later admits most of her purchases went out of fashion before she could wear them and ended up as Goodwill resales.

Cline wonders why she and others have become “fast-fashion junkies” whose consumer behavior can damage the environment, the economy and even our souls. Can we no longer distinguish between impulsive desires and needs? Is greed and a race to consume even more “stuff” consuming us?

Overdressed shows how something as apparently harmless as buying a shirt can develop into an excess leading to unintended consequences.

Greed is the excessive desire to acquire power, possessions, prestige, etc. The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls it a capital sin.

What can we learn about greed from meditating on God’s word in sacred Scripture? Old Testament prophets frequently condemn greed as a symptom of Israel’s unfaithfulness to God’s covenant. In the New Testament, Jesus teaches about the relationship of one’s possessions to salvation in the kingdom of God.

The prophet Amos takes aim at the power in Israel who, motivated by greed, “trample upon the needy and destroy the poor of the land” (Am 8:4) when they sell even what is left over from the wheat harvest rather than letting it be collected by the poor. The prophet Hosea is particularly severe on priests who use their office for gain and who thrive on idolatrous practices (Hos 4:4-5). In the Old Testament, greed is often seen as a form of idolatry. It substitutes finite objects for worship of the true God. Furthermore, avaricious behavior is despised because it oppresses the poor with whom Yahweh strongly identifies.

Jesus does not condemn possessions or shun wealthy people, but warns, as we see in Luke, “to take care to guard against all greed, for though one may say... “one’s life does not consist of possessions” (Lk 12:15).

In parables and other teachings, Jesus illustrates the fate of those whose wealth blinds them to the poor at their doorstep, such as in Luke 16:19-31. In Mark 10:17-31, he challenges a rich young man not to let himself be prevented by worldly possessions from following the Lord.

When he confronts people who want to cling to power, possessions or prestige and who strive to acquire even more no matter what the cost, Jesus challenges them to think about what kind of treasure would ultimately satisfy them.

The only lasting treasure is our willingness to depend on God who knows what we truly need (including clothing), and who will grant it if our hands and hearts are open to receive and share, not to grasp and hold.

(Richard McCord is the former executive director of the U.S. Bishops’ Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family, Life and Youth.)
Coming of Age/Karen Osborne
Putting the talents of parish youth to work
When I was a teenager, my mother worked as the youth director at our Catholic parish, so I ended up going to every service project and every volunteer service we hosted. We weren’t a big group. There was a girl on the core committee, another girl with a committee, and another who needed service hours for confirmation or graduation. I remember them all, thinking, “You haven’t had a lot of fun.”

While we ran service projects, such as collecting coats for the homeless in the fall and painting Halfway Houses in the spring, a lot of other groups in the parish requested our help, too. Often, they’d say, “How can weële fit?” and we would be happy to help. Mom always made it clear to the parishioners that whatever the kids were involved in, adults had to fit in, too. When I look back on that, I think it was the right way to do it.

Volunteers couldn’t just use as “cheap labor” to do the things they didn’t want to do. She thought it was important that everyone in our own community work on the things that make our community thrive and come at a price—side effects.

Catholic Education Outreach/Ken Ogorek
The other St. John and Catholic education
St John the Baptist. St John the Apostle and Evangelist, St. John Neumann? Our chief shepherd and catechist, ArchdioceseJoseph W. Tobin, and fellow Redemptorist—belonging to the faith. St. John Neumann, the author of the Year of Faith: What are indulgences?

Year of Faith: What are indulgences?

From the Editor Emeritus/Stephen Kent
The American local system has something similar. Sometimes a judge will sentence someone who has committed a crime to so many hours of community service. The good work the criminal does helps atone for the evil that he or she committed.

For indulgences to make sense you have to accept the Catholic concept of sin. The Catholic Church teaches that sin has a dual consequence—an eternal penalty that, for grave sin, deprives us of communion with God, and a temporal punishment that must be paid either here on Earth or after death in the state of purification known as purgatory. Indulgences mean forgiveness of sin for those who have died and who might still be in a state of purification before they can enter heaven. Of course, the disposition of indulgences applied to the dead rests with God.

How can the Church decide that a certain penance, or confession, or prayer is good for the intentions of the pope—will remit temporal punishments due to sin? The Church believes there are two aspects of this behavior. The first is an outward appearance of good works. But the second is the internal grace being offered by the Church to those who stand in need. The Church believes that being young is about more than just the body. This is where the boring homilies and boring communities grow wider and deeper, and involve the parish in their service projects. In these places, teenage enthusiasm lights up adult cynicism.

In these places, the generation raised on constant access to information and new technology can offer new perspectives and solutions that others may not have thought about. In these places, teenagers are included and made to feel they’re a part of something bigger. It doesn’t sound like your parish or school, you can change that by getting involved. There have to remain adults of their worth by stepping up, getting involved in their communities and reminding everyone that being young isn’t always growing, that being young is about getting ready to change the world in the future. It’s about changing it in the present.

(Karen Osborne writes for Catholic News Service.)

Consider This/Stephen Kent
Listening to the Holy Spirit while contemplating consequences
It is difficult to ignore them on the evening television news programs. After an uninterrupted depressing 15 minutes or so of the day’s news of civil war in Syria, political bickering in Washington, political disasters, we are treated to scene after scene of happy, hard working, cheerful things.

Couples stroll hand-in-hand down country lanes while their children play on a dock fishing with grandchildren. None of this would be possible, we are told, were it not for the plurals of a family’s support. Antheinorganic, inflamed muscles, malfunctioning organs from hearts to livers, all can be remedied. The doctors can ensure, comes at a price—side effects.

While the screen shows people in states of joy and pleasure, a quiet, reassuring voice concludes, it is difficult to recall what ailment the product is meant to overcome.

The warnings of side effects so dire make some consider enduring the disease rather than the cure.

Our son’s brother-in-law, who recently learned he has a malignant tumor, keeping the family informed by his blogs. Recently, he described the side effects he is experiencing as his treatment continues. “The doctor will prescribe a medication for treatment, but the medication causes nausea,” he wrote. “We have not been prescribed something for the nausea, but the anti-nausea medication has side effects of its own. The side effects are overwhelming—side effects of all the countermedications to deal with those side effects. Where?” Therefore.

There is a nugget for a good, applicable sermon in these somewhere,” later.

There is a lesson here. It’s about the consequences of actions, unintended or otherwise. “For example, what are the side effects on you and others for the choices you make?” the doctor may say. “Or what have you experienced in your life when you’ve drifted away from God?” Finally, on a more positive note, how does your walk with the Lord affect those around you?”

Deductions. Insightful points for meditation. It makes us think of the consequences of our actions. Who is

Comforted, inspired? Who is injured or demoralized? Pope Francis offered an antidote to these side effects several times this month with his repeated emphasis on the Holy Spirit. “The poor Holy Spirit is always in last place and doesn’t find a prime place in our life,” the pope said at May 13 Mass. The Holy Spirit is “God active in us,” the one who “wakes up our memory,” he said. Two days later, the pope asked the crowd in St. Peter’s Square whether they pray and are open to the Holy Spirit every day. They can be “more sensitive to the things of God. “Let’s ask ourselves what steps we are taking so that the Holy Spirit continues to live in us.”

In the words of the Most Holy Congregation of the Most Holy Salesian of the Most Holy Redeemer,
An American saint named St. John Neumann, also a Redemptorist priest, served as the fourth bishop of Philadelphia and has much to teach us about Catholic education, welcoming strangers and going the extra mile. St. John Neumann saw great value in parochial schools—centers of Catholic education where all knowledge would be put to the service of knowing to God and his holy Church. This saint worked very hard to establish diocesan newspapers in Omaha and Seattle. He can be contacted at: considerk@gmail.com

†

St. John Neumann, our archbishop knows the importance of welcoming strangers, St. John himself was an immigrant to the young United States of America. He saw in his work as a priest, a teacher, a bishop, the need to help those who strived to become dioceses of Indianapolis, with principals as spiritual leaders of the faith communities that are their schools. Catholic education still includes the vision of St. John Neumann of welcoming all who strive first to make disciples of Jesus and build communion with his Church while doing a great work of reaching out, writing, arithmetic and all major areas of knowledge.

Our archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education collaborates with various departments and agencies in serving those recently arrived to the United States, and by God’s grace will keep doing so.

Our archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education collaborates with various departments and agencies in serving those recently arrived to the United States, and by God’s grace will keep doing so.

As for welcoming strangers, St. John Neumann saw it to that immigrants who had access to the Word of God, to the sacraments, to a Catholic way of life that the needs of both Catholic U.S. and, by God’s grace would keep doing so.

Our archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education collaborates with various departments and agencies in serving those recently arrived to the United States, and by God’s grace will keep doing so.

As for welcoming strangers, St. John Neumann saw it to that immigrants who had access to the Word of God, to the sacraments, to a Catholic way of life that the needs of both Catholic U.S. and, by God’s grace would keep doing so.

Our archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education collaborates with various departments and agencies in serving those recently arrived to the United States, and by God’s grace will keep doing so.

As for welcoming strangers, St. John Neumann saw it to that immigrants who had access to the Word of God, to the sacraments, to a Catholic way of life that the needs of both Catholic U.S. and, by God’s grace would keep doing so.

Our archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education collaborates with various departments and agencies in serving those recently arrived to the United States, and by God’s grace will keep doing so.

As for welcoming strangers, St. John Neumann saw it to that immigrants who had access to the Word of God, to the sacraments, to a Catholic way of life that the needs of both Catholic U.S. and, by God’s grace would keep doing so.
incomprehensibility of suffering is part of the incomprehensibility of God.

The easiest answer to the atheist happens also to be the most honest one: We don’t know. To pretend that we have, while on this side of heaven, a clear and comprehensive “theology of tornadoes” is foolish.

Moral evil, even, is easier to understand than natural disasters. St. Augustine, among others, argues that God allows our evil actions because to prevent them would undermine our freedom, and the benefit of free will outweighs all of its ill effects. But disasters, such as earthquakes and hurricanes, are more difficult to explain. Clearly we believe that God could control them if he wanted—in Chapter 4 of Mark’s Gospel, after Jesus had calmed the waves, the Apostles ask, “Who then is this whom we have followed? Who do you say that I am?” It might seem that echoing the words of Peter would be easy. It is not. The Lord, speaking in the Gospel, tells us that true fidelity to Jesus has its cost. Very often the cost is high. Paying the price is as daunting as carrying the cross. Jesus reminds true believers that they must follow on the road to Calvary. †

INCOMPREHENSIBILITY OF SUFFERING IS PART OF THE INCOMPREHENSIBILITY OF GOD.

A question that we all face: Why? Is it because the additional phrase was continue on with “for thine is the kingdom,” “deliver us from evil,” while Protestants—have never appended the additional verse, and Catholic and Protestant commentators are in general agreement that it was never a part of the original text. As early as the year 100 A.D., though, the doctrine beginning “for thine is the kingdom” had been added to some manuscripts, and it was included in the Doule, a first-century manual of morals, worship and doctrine in the Church. (A doxology is a short hymn-like verse that salutes the King of God.)

The doxology found its way into the standard Protestant version of the Lord’s Prayer, following the 16th century Reformation in England under Queen Elizabeth I. and has remained a part of it ever since. In the Mass, “deliver us from evil” was restored as an alternative to the last petition, and in general agreement that it was never a part of the original text. 

I have been asked many times why Catholics insist on the Lord’s Prayer “deliver us from evil,” while Protestants continue on with “for thine is the kingdom,” etc. Is it because the additional phrase was not said by Christ when he taught the prayer to the Apostles? (North Myrtle Beach, S.C.)

The original manuscripts of the Gospel (Mt 6:9-13) end the Lord’s Prayer, as taught to the Apostles by Jesus, with “deliver us from evil” (Mt 6:13), and thus has been the Catholic version of the prayer. All the official “Catholic” texts of the Bible down through the centuries—including the Vulgate, the Douay-Rheims, the Confraternity Edition and the New American Bible—have never appended the additional verse, and Catholic and Protestant commentators are in general agreement that it was never a part of the original text.

What’s in a word?

By Cathy Lamperski Dearing

He used the word two times in two sentences when speaking about the way they reached out in the manner in which they welcomed. He said it was intentional. So I looked it up.

It means planned, deliberate. Weighted in advance, done on purpose. It literally means “to stretch out.” From the Latin intendere—Stretching, straining, leaning towards. I like the pre-mediated and active nature of that word. Intentional. It should precede and be seen in all we do; in the way we love, pray, and give, listen, dream, commit; in every single aspect in the way we live we should lean and feel the stretch. Every saint and martyr lived like this. But no one did it better than Jesus. EverythingEVERYTHING He did Was intentional. Every parable, every teaching. Every sacrifice, every healing. Every blessing, every step. He did with plan and purpose. The Eucharist. His suffering and death. The Holy Spirit—all intentional Gifts.


VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The goal of politics and economics is to serve all of humanity, starting with the poorest, the most vulnerable and the unborn, Pope Francis told British Prime Minister David Cameron, president of the Group of Eight industrialized nations. “Money and other political and economic means must serve, not rule,” the pope said, adding that “in a seemingly paradoxical way, free and disinterested solidarity is the key to the smooth functioning of the global economy.” The pope also urged the world leaders, including U.S. President Barack Obama, to help broker an immediate cease-fire in Syria and bring warring sides to the negotiating table. The leaders were holding their annual summit at Louge Erne resort in County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, on June 17-18. “In the midst of a fierce and fast-changing world, we must bear in mind that peace demands a far-sighted renunciation with particular attention to the poorest,” the pope wrote. †

Let your clunker earn cash with SvWP

The donation of your used vehicle—even if it doesn’t run—can be turned into money to provide basic necessities to the needy in our Central and Southern Indiana communities, particularly within the donor’s neighborhood.

The donation process is easy. Call 800-322-8284 or go to www.svdusacars.org to arrange the donation of your vehicle.

Pope: Politics, economics must serve all people, protect poor and unborn

Can I have a ride?

Pope Francis greets a Harley-Davidson biker as he meets with pilgrims who have disabilities following Mass in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican on June 16. Hundreds of bikers lined the main road leading to the Vatican before the liturgy to participate in a part of a celebration of the 110th anniversary of the founding of Harley-Davidson.
Obama administration drops fight to limit age restrictions on Plan B

WASHINGTON (CNS)—U.S. Catholic officials expressed disappointment with the June 10 announcement that the federal government will comply with a judge’s ruling to allow girls of any age to buy the morning-after pill without a prescription.

The decision reversed a recent course of action by the federal government. On May 1, the Justice Department announced that it would appeal a ruling by a federal judge in early April that said the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) must make emergency contraceptives available to all ages by May 6.

In a June 10 letter to U.S. District Judge Edward Korman in Brooklyn, N.Y., department officials said they will submit a plan for compliance with his ruling and will drop their appeal. The letter also said the FDA has advised the drug’s manufacturer to submit an application to make Plan B One-Step available over the counter without restrictions.

News reports on June 11 said the Justice Department also told the judge it will not make available over the counter the two-pill Plan B product, which it described as being significantly different from the one-pill version. Two-pill generic versions of Plan B would remain behind store counters and require a prescription and ID for those under the age of 17.

Plan B, known generically as levonorgestrel, uses large doses of birth-control pills to prevent conception up to 72 hours after unprotected sex. According to the FDA, it will counteract and require a prescription and ID for those under the age of 18.

One-Step available over the counter without restrictions.

The decision, and some groups advocating women’s rights called "not stop a pregnancy when a woman is already pregnant, and there is no medical evidence that the product will harm a developing fetus."

Catholic officials faulted the federal government’s decision, and some groups advocating women’s rights called it a step forward and a public health benefit.

Deirdre McQuade, spokeswoman for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Secretariat for Pro Life Activities, said in a June 11 e-mail to Catholic News Service: “Many studies have shown that wider access to ‘emergency contraception’ among young people does not reduce pregnancy or abortion rates, but can contribute to higher rates of sexually transmitted disease. No public health consideration justifies the unregulated distribution of such drugs to children.”

Jeanne Monahan, president of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund, called the decision “hugely disappointing and not in the best interest of young women’s physical and emotional health.”

John DeCamillo, an ethicist with the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia, called the government’s decision “a great disservice” that “brings profound moral harm to our society.”

In a June 11 e-mail to CNS, he said the wider availability of levonorgestrel in its pill form “continues to promote and entrench the contraception and abortion mentality that undermines the culture of life.”

He noted that the National Catholic Bioethics Center “is not a scientific research body and does not itself determine whether Plan B or other levonorgestrel-based ‘emergency contraceptives’ are abortifacients.” But he said a close analysis of the scientific and pharmacological literature indicates that this drug “can and very likely does act as an abortifacient when taken after ovulation has already occurred.”

A June 11 Washington Post article said a senior administration official who spoke to the newspaper on the condition of anonymity insisted President Barack Obama did not change his position about the drug and still opposes over-the-counter access to emergency contraceptives for young girls. The official said the reason the Justice Department dropped its appeal was because of multiple setbacks the department experienced in federal courts.

In early June, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit said it would immediately permit unrestricted sales of the two-pill version of the emergency contraception until the appeal was decided.

That ruling, the senior administration official said, indicated that the court did not expect the legal challenge of the appeal to succeed. In a June 11 press briefing, White House spokesman Jay Carney said the Obama administration decided it would prefer to allow the simpler Plan B One-Step to be available without a prescription than the two-pill product.

“We have been through a legal process and the court has ruled against the administration. . . It was the decision, given the court ruling, to proceed with making the simpler version of Plan B available,” he said.

In 2006, the FDA approved over-the-counter sales of Plan B to women 18 and older. Three years later, a court ruling made it available to women 17 and older without a prescription.

The FDA was ready to lift all age limits on emergency contraceptives and let them be sold over the counter in late 2011. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius changed the FDA’s course, saying that even though some girls as young as 11 are physically capable of bearing children, they shouldn’t be able to buy the pregnancy-preventing pill on their own. A Feb. 21 statement by the German bishops said the “morning-after pills,” or Plan B, can be dispensed at Church-run hospitals to prevent rape victims from becoming pregnant.

Women who have been victims of rape of will, of course, receive human, medical, psychological and pastoral help in Catholic hospitals—this can include administration of the ‘morning-after pill’ as long as it has a preventative rather than abortive effect,” the German bishops’ conference said.

They added that “medical and pharmacological methods that result in the death of an embryo may still not be used.” Referring to the German bishops’ statement, DeCamillo said: “The only instance in which it could be licit to administer levonorgestrel emergency contraception is in the case of sexual assault victims in which appropriate testing has been done which affords moral certainty that the sole immediate effect is not abortifacient. In other words, there must be adequate medical evidence that the woman is not pregnant and that ovulation has not yet occurred and is not imminent.”

---

"Many studies have shown that wider access to “emergency contraception” among young people does not reduce pregnancy or abortion rates, but can contribute to higher rates of sexually transmitted disease. No public health consideration justifies the unregulated distribution of such drugs to children."

Deirdre McQuade, spokeswoman for the USCCB’s Secretariat for Pro Life Activities

---

For Sale

One to eight spaces in Garden of Roses section of the Oaklawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery, 9100 N. Allisonville Road. $1,400 per space. Call (317) 888-8208.

Four (‘LC Level, Pallet 7), Crygs in St. Joseph Cemetery Mausoleum of Daniel Savings! 944-944-9420 (Hearing Impaired - Let phone Ring)

Vacation Rental

BEACHFRONT CONDO, Madera Beach, FL, 2BR/2BA, pool & 25ft balcony overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. Meet Indpls. owner. See White, maps. Call Robin at 317-506-8516.

Finance

You can provide a total of $25,000 in term life insurance for children*, all the way to age 23.

For just $30 per year

* For more information, please log on to www.archindy.org/layministry

---

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis has partnered with the University of Notre Dame and Catholic Distance University (CDU) to offer not-for-credit online theology classes.

Courses on the Catechism of the Catholic Church from CDU:

• All 12 classes for a Certificate in Lay Ministry available online
• 20% discount for all employees, volunteers, and parishioners
• Employees also receive reimbursement upon course completion

For more information, please log on to www.archindy.org/layministry

---

Chimney’s cleaned & inspected $99.00

Brick & Concrete Specialist, Home Electrical Work, Fencing & Carpentry Work

Serving the Eastside since 1976

www.HuserHomeCare.com

For information about rates for classified advertising, call (317) 296-1645.
Scecina’s softball team wins state championship

By John Shaughnessy

Even the struggle of fighting a heavy cold couldn’t limit the joy of Cory Gray.

“It was just the kids,” Gray said. “It was just their fight. It was just their will to come out on top.’’

Gray to hold a lengthy meeting with the players.

“It’s intended to honor the idea that parents are the best ones to understand new areas. It focuses on helping them understand this world where their kids are.”

Nicolakis said the process of launching FaithAndSafety was “a herculean effort that took almost two years from the point of conception until today: identifying what the hot-button topics are going to be, finding strategic partners with common areas of interest, being able to build out the technology on the web and allow the platform to move forward.”

The site has also engaged a slew of bloggers and commentators to weigh in on current events. Among them are Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Communications Committee, and Bishop Christopher J. Coyne of Indianapolis, another committee member.

FaithAndSafety will be shown to audiences in June at the Catholic Media Convention in Denver, and at the “Theology and Communication in Dialogue” conference in Santa Clara, Calif., jointly sponsored by the U.S. bishops and the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

Nicolakis said he would be happy if other faith communities wanted to join with the Catholic and Orthodox Churches in building up the website. The current collaboration, though, has been “wonderful,” he added. “I don’t think I’ve ever been in a partnership that’s ever been so open and wonderful.”

Catholic teaching, the Greek Orthodox teaching is that all advice, but also provide it through the understanding that Catholic teaching, the Greek Orthodox teaching is that all communities wanted to join with the Catholic and Orthodox Churches in building up the website. The current collaboration, though, has been “wonderful,” he added. “I don’t think I’ve ever been in a partnership that’s ever been so open and wonderful.”

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Roman Catholics and Greek Orthodox in the United States have collaborated on a new website to instruct Web users, primarily parents, on how youth can navigate the online world, taking advantage of its promise while steering away from its pitfalls.

The site, www.faithandsafety.org, was activated in the middle of June, which is Internet Safety Month. The site’s subtitle is “Technology Safety Through the Eyes of Faith.”

Even in its first days, it is loaded with news about sites that parents want to know about. Teens use, eyebrow-raising details about children’s first exposure to online pornography, suggestions on how to use technology safely at home, and tips on negotiating the mobile-app scene.

The site was two years in the making. Its genesis was during a brainstorming session as part of a summit meeting of the Religious Alliance Against Pornography attended by Catholic and Greek Orthodox leaders.

“We were challenged to come up with actionable items as a result of the summit,” said Theo Nicolakis, chief information officer for the Greek Orthodox Church in the United States. “One of the items I came up with was that we were going to come up with an initiative that would give the voice of faith in regard to online and technological safety.”

“That’s where everything took off,” Gray said. “I think it made a lot of them look in the mirror and think they weren’t working as hard as they could.”

The path to the state championship was also paved with the return of two key players. Gray said that starting centerfielder Darcella Blakely was out for 15 games during the season because of a concussion, but returned to the field right before the sectional tournament.

The other important “return” was connected to the team’s star pitcher, Michelle Rogers, who won the state championship game.

After Michelle’s father lost his job in Indianapolis, there was the possibility of the family moving to Louisville when her father found a new job there, according to Gray.

Yet when Michelle said she wanted to stay at Scecina, her father made the commitment to keep the family in Indianapolis and drive to work in Louisville.

That sense of sacrifice, commitment and family was also the trademark of Scecina’s softball team.

“It was just the kids,” Gray said. “It was just their fight. They worked so hard that it was just very gratifying for them to come out on top.’’

The other important “return” was connected to the team’s star pitcher, Michelle Rogers, who won the state championship game.

After Michelle’s father lost his job in Indianapolis, there was the possibility of the family moving to Louisville when her father found a new job there, according to Gray.

Yet when Michelle said she wanted to stay at Scecina, her father made the commitment to keep the family in Indianapolis and drive to work in Louisville.

That sense of sacrifice, commitment and family was also the trademark of Scecina’s softball team.

“It was just the kids,” Gray said. “It was just their fight. They worked so hard that it was just very gratifying for them to come out on top.’’

Gray to hold a lengthy meeting with the players.

“It’s intended to honor the idea that parents are the best ones to understand new areas. It focuses on helping them understand this world where their kids are.”

Nicolakis said the process of launching FaithAndSafety was “a herculean effort that took almost two years from the point of conception until today: identifying what the hot-button topics are going to be, finding strategic partners with common areas of interest, being able to build out the technology on the web and allow the platform to move forward.”

FaithAndSafety is also on Facebook and Twitter.

‘It’s just the kids.
It was just their fight.
They worked so hard
that it was just very
gratifying for them
to come out on top.’

—Coach Cory Gray

Members of the Scecina Lady Crusaders girls’ softball team are all smiles after winning the Class 2A state championship on June 8.