Texas stiffens abortion restrictions; pro-lifers rally to support bill

AUSTIN, Texas (CNS)—The drama in Texas over abortion that drew national and international attention came to an end—for the moment—after the state House of Representatives then the state Senate voted to adopt tougher abortion regulations.

Gov. Rick Perry promised to sign the bill into law. The law prohibits abortions in the 20th week of pregnancy, requires abortion clinics to be certified as surgical centers, and increases regulations on doctors and abortion-inducing drugs.

Jeff Patterson, executive director of the Texas Catholic Conference, said the law, which was passed by the Texas Senate on July 12, protects life by requiring no termination of pregnancies after the first 20 weeks, and it improves standards for abortion facilities.

The conference is the statewide association of the Catholic dioceses in Texas and the public policy arm of the conference’s board of directors—the bishops—that represents Catholic positions on issues before the Texas Legislature, the Texas delegation in Congress and state agencies.

“Twenty weeks is five months—that’s late term and a point where babies can feel pain,” Patterson said. “The higher standards for abortion clinics are in case there are complications or problems that occur when providing abortions.”

The stricter regulations for doctors and the abortion-inducing drugs such as RU-486 are to ensure they follow Food and Drug Administration guidelines.

“A lot of doctors don’t follow the prescription guidelines,” Patterson said. “It means two separate visits, but that’s to make means two separate visits, but that’s to make-abortion clinics are in case there are complications or problems that occur when providing abortions.”

The stricter regulations for doctors and the abortion-inducing drugs such as RU-486 are to ensure they follow Food and Drug Administration guidelines.

“The tightening of the abortion laws in this state is a good and necessary step,” said Mike Patey, executive director of the Texas Catholic Conference.

The law will be enforced by a state board established to ensure compliance.

The bill was introduced by state Rep. Matt Gongarek, a Republican from Katy, and state Sen. Dan Patrick, a Republican from Houston.

The bill was passed by the state Senate on July 12.

Gov. Perry promised to sign the bill into law.

The law will take effect on Sept. 1.

The Texas Catholic Herald is the Official Catholic Paper of the Diocese of Dallas and is published by the Dallas Christian Heritage Foundation, Inc., an exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code, 501(c)(3).
get even closer,” she says.

Margarie Lademan, who will enter seventh grade at St. Michael School this fall, agrees.

“She’s a pair of team leads,” Kube explains. “They start freshman year and get the fifth graders, then have those girls for four years. They grow with the girls.

“The team leads handle the whole meeting. Adults chaperone, but they’re in the background. The team leads organize and lead the meetings. They have nice guide books that take them through it and suggest activities and projects,” adds Kube. “Plus they have formal training from consecrated women [of Regnum Christi] about three times a year.”

Margie Lademan is one such consecrated woman. After eight years of formation, consecrated women take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience to dedicate their lives to helping Catholics grow closer to Christ.

“Maybe it’d be more efficient to have older girls lead [the meetings], but it helps the younger girls to really want to listen and to learn because it’s someone closer to their age and yet someone they still look up to. It shows them it can be cool to be Catholic in high school,” said Megan.

“And for the high school girls, it can be such a grounder for them to have that responsibility and to keep doing something that keeps them involved and fervent in their own faith life,” Lademan adds.

Megan Kube, oldest daughter of Rosie Kube, appreciates the value of being a team leader.

“I think that by teaching virtue and by teaching all these different lessons, and showing [them to] the girls through service projects, I have learned them so much more for myself.”

“It’s one thing to just listen to someone tell you, but as a team leader it’s more real to me. I’ve really taken my faith as my own,” Megan Kube said.

While the high school girls do provide the core of the leadership, Msgr. William Stumpf, pastor of St. Michael Parish, also recognizes the impact of the program on the adults who become involved.

“Not only has it given me a deeper appreciation of the program and have their faith strengthened. There’s not just the role model of the older girls, but all the girls look to their mothers as role models.”

…”a great lesson to learn at a young age”

Msgr. Stumpf sees many other benefits to Challenge as well.

“I think it’s an excellent program. Girls have an opportunity to grow in faith—both younger girls who are participants and also the older ones who serve as role models,” he says. “And not just girls here in the parish and school, but also girls not in our school. It’s very inclusive.”

Abigail Chipp, a member of St. Nicholas Parish in Ripley County, appreciates being able to experience the service camp with the St. Michael’s group. As she heads off to East Central High School in St. Leon in the fall, she reflects on lessons that she has learned through Challenge.

“While I have definitely brought me closer to God in a lot of ways, it teaches you about faith, meeting other people, learning about different ways to pray, getting used to praying in the morning, and then in the afternoon and the evening. It really sets you up for life.”

And that, says Lademan, is the essence of Challenge.

“Challenge is very orthodox. It definitely follows the teachings of the Catholic Church. It complements a Catholic education through helping the girls to have an experience of the truth of the faith, making it fun and to their age group,” she says. “That will grow into something that they believe in and something that is meaningful for them, so they will go on to act upon it, share it and live out their Catholic faith in a more personal and deep way.”

As a pastor, this is crucial to Msgr. Stumpf.

“It gives them wonderful footing for the years ahead as they enter high school and college. It’s shaped them in their personal values,” he says. “It’s deepened their personal relationship with Christ, and given them a solid foundation of the teachings of the faith.”

“That’s focused on charity and the command to love one’s neighbor, which is a very important lesson for all, but what a great lesson to learn at a young age.”

“For more information on Challenge, log on to www.challengersclubs.com.”
By John Shaughnessy

Two months into his drive to hit a golf ball across the country—from California to South Carolina—Luke Bielawski has experienced an incredible assortment of adventures.

The experiences for the 24-year-old Catholic have ranged from the thrill of hitting a golf ball across the Mississippi River to the fear he felt after having his truck break down on a dirt road known as “Smuggler’s Lane”—so named because Mexican drug cartels use the road to transport their contraband.

His “Tee to Shining Tee” journey has also led him to be featured on “CBS Evening News,” to a private meeting with former president George W. Bush, and to an unexpected encounter with “Christ’s Cowboys.”

And perhaps best of all, his golf-swinging summer has been a success so far in terms of the reason he is making the cross-country trek—in the hopes of raising at least $100,000 to help youths receive a Catholic education at Providence Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis, a college preparatory school that combines academics with a work-study program that lets its students from mostly low-income backgrounds experience different career possibilities.

“We’re on track to either hit our mark or be close to it,” Bielawski said on July 11 before teeing up for the day in Vicksburg, Miss. “We’re at $42,000 right now.”

A frightening and fulfilling experience

As of July 11, the 2007 graduate of Cathedral High School in Indianapolis said his score for the cross-country course was 36,490 shots, including the loss of 3,889 golf balls along the way.

At that point, he had also hit a golf ball 2,174.1 miles—across a desert, around mountains, over rivers and through numerous other natural and man-made obstacles while passing through the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and Louisiana.

Yet while the statistics he has accumulated are stunning, they don’t compare to some of the memorable moments that Bielawski has experienced since starting this rare round of golf on May 8.

Indeed, the journey’s most frightening experience also led to the most fulfilling moment for him.

After their truck broke down on “Smuggler’s Lane” in New Mexico—an area with no cell phone service—Bielawski and his cousin, Nick Bielawski, set off in a small John Deere utility vehicle to look for help.

“After having driven roughly 30 miles and not seeing a single sign of any town or city, Nick and I decided to stop at someone’s house to ask for directions and to possibly use their landline telephone,” recalled, Bielawski, a member of Holy Spirit at Geist Parish in Indianapolis, “They did a fantastic job,” Bielawski said. “It was kind of surreal seeing yourself on the national news. It’s helped us out, and it’s continued to help us with our fundraising efforts.”

Following the course of faith

Luke Bielawski is hitting a golf ball across the country from California to South Carolina in the hope of raising $100,000 to fund 12 scholarships at Providence Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis.

Luke Bielawski is hitting a golf ball across the country in August, Luke will be able to recite this Scripture verse in his mind-boggling pilgrimage of faith. 

What is the archdiocese’s official position on curriculum? 

Academic standards are not the curriculum. The curriculum is the total learning experience offered by a school, and standards are the proficiency targets or guidelines to which educators align when developing the school curriculum, both horizontally and vertically. 

Most important to us, now and always, is the teaching of our Catholic faith. Without question, our schools are known for the high achievement and progress of our students, which spans across all content areas as we focus on the spiritual, academic, social, emotional and physical growth of all students. 

Schools and their teachers embed Catholic identity and teaching into their planning and instruction across all content areas. By intentionally seeking to appropriate interdisciplinary links between religious instruction and all other course materials, we help ensure—with the help of God’s grace—that there is an engaging coordination between human learning and religious awareness. 

Our educational professionals recognize the rigor that the Common Core standards encompass, but see these and the Indiana Academic Standards as a basic roadmap.

Our students have historically performed well above state averages on standardized assessments, and our innovations are among the top-rated school systems in Indiana. Our graduation rates are among the highest in the state, and the preparation for college and career are evident in the number of Catholic school students who graduate from college and are gainfully employed. 

Archdiocesan schools will follow the guidelines set forth by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) with continued professional development in research-based best practice and technology integration. The Office of Catholic Education will provide support in professional development for administrators and teachers, including helpful resources for parents. 

The archdiocese compiled much research that supports movement to a standards-based reporting system in an effort to effectively communicate a student’s growth and progress. Just as assessment aligns with curriculum, a reporting system should communicate the total growth of a student. 

All kindergartens through second-grade classrooms will utilize the new report card this year, and several schools will pilot the grades, 3-5 report card. A series of videos that explain the research behind, and decisions about, the report cards are being created for parents. Discussion between parents and school staff is encouraged. 

The report card is one component of a more comprehensive reporting system that is currently being developed through our online student management system. Our hope is to provide parents and students with layers of data and resources that further enhance our partnership in helping students be successful at all levels. 

In short, archdiocesan schools will implement standards to align with state expectations, but just as an athlete continues to focus on best practice in our classrooms and continued growth and achievement of our students. 

Moving forward, in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Catholic schools will continue to implement the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in kindergarten and first grade fully with implementation of both CCSS and the Indiana Academic Standards (IAS) in other grades as levels as identified in the IDOE’s transition documents. 

Student further adoption as state standards is yet to be determined, we have developed a professional training model for our Catholic school administrators and teachers that aligns with both the IAS and the CCSS, ensuring that there that are no gaps in curriculum. This approach will continue to ensure the outstanding success of our students on standardized assessments based on these or any other standards the state chooses to adopt. 

We also believe this approach will enhance the success of our students on national assessments, since both the SAT and the ACT, the two most common standardized measures of college readiness, are aligning their assessments to the CCSS. 

Catholic schools are all about best practice. The Archdiocese of Indianapolis will remain progressive in our approach to comprehensive professional development, rigorous curricula, technology integration, and data analysis to ensure optimal student achievement, no matter what standards are adopted in Indiana or anywhere else.

(Gina Fleming is superintendent of Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.)
Archbishop encourages Catholics to seek wisdom, witness to their faith

Archbishop Chaput said.

"Nothing is more compelling than a good man, or a good woman, in an evil time. Wisdom is the pursuit of the true, the right and the good. In the record of Scripture and the witness of the Church, all these things find their source in the heart of Christ," he said in his talk in the basilica's Crypt Church.

He told those gathered that the pursuit of wisdom—seeking the true, the right and the last—"is the pillars of the world and the tripods that supports a meaningful life." And those elements come together in Christ, he said. "We can love and be loved by Jesus Christ. We can meet and be met by God's Son. The true, the right and the last meeting in a Man. Our task is to follow him, no matter what the cost, and to lead others to do the same," he said.

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Events Calendar

July 19
Northside Knights of Columbus Hall, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis. Catholic Business Exchange, Mass, breakfast and program. "From faith-based origins to 21st century approaches to social problems," Jim McClelland, president and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Indiana, presenter. 6-30 a.m. — 9 a.m., 315 members, 521 non-members. Reservations and information: www.catholicbusinessexchange.org.

July 20
St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. Helpers of God’s Precious Infants, pro-life Mass, Father Patrick Beidelman, celebrant. 8:30 a.m., followed by rosary outside abortion clinic and Benediction at church. Information: 722-5384.

July 21

July 24

Office of Multicultural Ministry offers day of reflection for African-American Catholics on Aug. 16 at Gabriel Parish

The archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry will offer a day of reflection at St. Gabriel Parish, 6000 W. 34th St. in Indianapolis, for African-American Catholics from 8 a.m. — 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 16.

The event, titled “Into the Mirror: An Introspective Look at Ourselves,” will feature keynote speaker Dr. Gary Ager, an adjunct faculty member of Anderson University School of Theology and author of a Crys for Justice: Daniel Rodal and His Life in Black Catholicism, Journalism and Activism, 1954-1993.

The morning features a choice of four speakers on the topics of “Holiness of Life” and “Faith Informed.” The afternoon offers a choice of four speakers on the topics of “Reaching Out to the Next Generation” and “Human Sexuality.” The event, which costs $10, also includes lunch, Mass and Benediction.

For questions or to RSVP, contact Francesca Sister Jeanette Pruitt via e-mail at ephjpruitt@archindy.org or by phone at 317-236-1474 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1474.

Parishes adjust Mass schedules for Brickyard 400 race weekend

Due to the Brickyard 400 race on July 28, Mass schedules for parishes on the near-west side of Indianapolis are as follows on July 27 and 28:

- St. Christopher Parish, 5301 W. 16th St.—4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Masses on July 27 and 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses on July 28, but no noon or 3:30 p.m. Mass on July 28.
- St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, 6000 W. 34th St., Indianapolis—5 p.m. and 7 p.m. (Spanish) Masses on July 27 and 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Masses on July 28, but no 5 p.m. Mass on July 28.
- St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis—4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Masses on July 27, but no Mass on July 28.
- St. Anthony Parish, 337 N. Warren Ave., Indianapolis—4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Masses on July 27 and 8:30 a.m. (Spanish) and 11:30 a.m. Masses on July 28, but no 10 a.m. Mass at Holy Trinity Parish on July 28.
- Holy Trinity Parish, corner of N. Holmes and St. Clair St., Indianapolis—see above for St. Anthony Parish Mass schedule, and no 10 a.m. Mass on July 28.

Two novices join the Sisters of St. Benedict in Beech Grove

Benedictine Sisters Susan Nicole Reuber, left, and Sister Gayla Marie Aspromonte joined the Sisters of St. Benedict at Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove as novitiates on June 22.

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TheCriterion staff report

Benedictine Sisters Susan Nicole Reuber and Gayla Marie Aspromonte were recently received as novices into Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove. They will enter a year of intense study and integration of the monastic way of life. The sisters will begin what is called their canonical year as they meet the requirements set forth by canon law. Their time outside the monastery is limited as they continue their discernment of religious life. They will study the Rule of St. Benedict and take classes on monastic vows.

Sister Susan Nicole was born in Evansville and is the daughter of Paul and Linda Reuber. She earned a bachelor’s degree in secondary education/English from Franklin College and a master’s degree in education from Indiana Wesleyan University. Sister Susan Nicole attended at Switzerland County Middle School and most recently, at Roncalli High School in Indianapolis. Sister Gayla Marie was born in Dungar, Colo., and is the daughter of Sheila Ann Aspromonte and the late Dominick Aspromonte. She studied pre-pharmacy at Fort Lewis College in Colorado, and earned a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy from the University of Colorado. Prior to her entrance to Our Lady of Grace Monastery, Sister Gayla Marie worked as a hospital pharmacist.

In addition to the two first-year novices, the Benedictine community at Our Lady of Grace Monastery has one sister in her second year as a novice and a sister in temporary vows.

(Criteria for more information on the Sisters of St. Benedict at Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove, log on to www.benedictine.com)
Summer camp gives Palestinian children joy in a conflict-filled life

TUBA, West Bank (CNS)—In this tiny South Hebron Hills encampment of tents and cave dwellings, where camels clung to the sandy hillside and hardy goats scrounged for shoots of brush and desert grasses, it is summer camp time for the children.

It is not yet 10 on a late June morning and the heat is already intense. There is no shade. Camp counselor Amjad Addarah, 24, of nearby At-Tuwani village, has the boys lined up for a traditional Bedouin dance in one part of the encampment. In another area, the girls, most with their hair covered, are practicing a song with counselor Intisar Addarah, 23. Later, the two groups will combine for a short performance.

Afterward, clutching blue helium-filled balloons, the children trek up a rocky, thorn-covered hill where they release them skyward. “The balloon is going really far,” said 12-year-old Yousef, pointing to his colorful orb above the horizon.

“It is extraordinary how the boys need to help with shepherding the goats, and the girls help the mothers. But for two weeks they get to play,” said Matteo, a volunteer from Operation Dove, the nonviolent peace corps of the Italian-based Pope John XXIII Community.

He and the other camp volunteers asked that their real name not be used to avoid visa problems entering or leaving Israel. After the two-week camp concludes, the children will spend time recounting the activities with their friends, said Murthar Jundihe, 50, who had five grandchildren participate in the camp.

“The children are very happy … but in two weeks time, they will be back to their routine and will be bored with nothing to do,” she said.

It is the 11th year in which the South Hebron Hills Popular Resistance Committee and the Alternative Information Center, a joint Palestinian-Israeli non-governmental organization promoting cooperation, have run a summer camp for the children of Tuba and four other villages.

The European Union funds the program. The camp is usually held in At-Tuwani, the largest of the South Hebron villages. It’s where the children attend classes during the school year.

To get to At-Tuwani, the children of Tuba must walk past the Israeli settlement of Ma’on and next to chicken coops the settlers have built. At times, the settlers attack and harass the children, making for a perilous journey.

During the school year, Operation Dove volunteers walk with the children and monitor their progress in order to dissuade attacks.

Only the children are permitted to go this way. Palestinian adults must take a longer route through the village of Yatta.

An Israeli Defense Forces escort is supposed to protect the children, but the soldiers do not always show up and seem not to take their job seriously, Matteo said.

This year, the camp met for two days in each village, giving all of the children a chance to host their friends. The camp is a special treat because of the distance between the villages and the danger in passing the Israeli settlement. Normally, there are no afterschool or summer visits with friends.

“They always have to travel very far to get to school in At-Tuwani,” said EPA Abu Jundieh, 47, a father of five. “Now all the children are playing in the village with their friends. They are so happy to have their friends coming to them.”

Three Operation Dove volunteers working in At-Tuwani have been helping with the logistics of moving the children to each village.

“In these two weeks of summer camp, our presence is more important,” volunteer Pascal said.

Creating a sense of unity among the children scattered among the villages is important, said Hafez Huraini, leader of the South Hebron Hills Popular Resistance Committee.

So the parents in these communities allowed their children to spend the night in the other villages. The boys and girls are separately. The boys slept outside, while the girls slept inside of one the tent homes.

They didn’t fall asleep until late at night, said Tuba resident Mariam Omara, 16, grinning shyly.

“They don’t know about the way to get here, and if they were scared coming here,” she said.

Eight of the villages are situated in a region designated as Area C, which remains under full Israeli military and administrative control. Israel has declared the area a firing zone and the villages face threats of evacuation and demolition. Some of the villages have been destroyed repeatedly only to be rebuilt. Residents confront violence from the surrounding Israeli settlers and are denied access to their agricultural land.

They have no electricity or running water even though the neighboring Israeli settlements do.

“They are all targeted for eviction,” Huraini said. “What the army does after they confiscate the land is they build a settlement. There is settlement expansion to control the land, which the people depend on for grazing their sheep. The people here are all peasants and day after day they are losing their land. We are doing the best we can to let the children feel like children. Seeing their houses demolished is not easy.”

At noon, when the heat has become unbearable, the children from At-Tuwani, along with Operation Dove volunteers, pile into a trailer pulled by a tractor—the only vehicle the villagers have—and are driven down the valley toward the path past Ma’on. They have called the Israeli Defense Forces and expect the escort to arrive soon.

But the children are anxious to return home and decide not to wait for the soldiers. Pascal calls Matteo, who is watching from above, along with Jundieh and Huraini. They anxiously watch as the group makes its way past the chicken coops. The adult monitors lose sight of the kids for a while as they round a bend past a grove of trees. Then there is a phone call from two other volunteers in At-Tuwani. They have sighted the group. The children are safely on their way.

Four women profess perpetual vows as Sisters of Providence

Four women professed perpetual vows as Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on June 30. From left, Providence Sisters Deborah Campbell, Lauren Parker, Patty Wallace and Beth Wright stand before the gathered assembly immediately after professing their vows.

Four women profess perpetual vows as Sisters of Providence in the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on June 30. From left, Providence Sisters Deborah Campbell, Lauren Parker, Patty Wallace and Beth Wright stand before the gathered assembly immediately after professing their vows.

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Brand-Fisher
Lindsey Marie Brand and Joshua Clay Fisher will be married on July 20 at St. Mary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Michael and Mary Brand. The groom is the son of Doug and Jeanne Fisher.

Breen-Lubbers
Claire Breen and Matthew Lubbers will be married on Jan. 25, 2014, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Joseph and Laurie Breen. The groom is the son of Michael and Lisa Lubbers.

Bulach-Elbert
Katie Bulach and Derek Elbert will be married on Sept. 21 at Queen of Peace Church in Hamilton, Ohio. The bride is the daughter of Ron and Beth Bulach. The groom is the son of Steve and Rhonda Elbert.

Dant-Naville
Alyson Ann Dant and William John Naville II will be married on Sept. 7 at St. Mary Church in Navilleda. The bride is the daughter of Darin and Kathy Dant. The groom is the son of Bill and Pam Naville.

Dillon-Graf
Katherine Ann Dillon and Matthew Dwane Graf will be married at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Indianapolis on Oct. 18. The bride is the daughter of Steve Sr. and Theresa Dillon. The groom is the son of Rick Raible and Norma Graf.

Dominguez-Scheidler
Katelyn Marie Dominguez and James Patrick Scheidler will be married on Aug. 31 at Christ the King Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Robert and Deborah Dominguez. The groom is the son of John and Jamie Scheidler.

DuBois-Taylor
Ashleigh Kyle DuBois and Jacob Ryan Taylor will be married on Oct. 12 at Christ the King Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Marck and Deborah DuBois. The groom is the son of Dennis and Sharon Taylor.

Johnstone-Reyes-Arriaga
Julia M. Johnstone and Adalberto Reyes-Arriaga will be married on Nov. 30 at St. Mary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Ed and Eileen Johnstone. The groom is the son of Minerva Arriaga-Rivera and Adalberto Reyes-Ramírez.

Locke-Krutz
Erin Locke and Toby Krutz will be married on Aug. 17 at St. Kateri Church in Santa Clarita, California. The bride is the daughter of Robert and Marilyn Locke. The groom is the son of Miles and Robin Krutz.

Maled-Smith
Kristen Michelle Maled and Dustin Andrew Smith will be married on Aug. 31 at St. Christopher Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dan and Sharon Maled. The groom is the son of Kevin and Nancy Maled.

McCollom-DeGuglielmo
Jill Nicole McCollom and Jeff Anthony DeGuglielmo will be married on Sept. 21 at Most Holy Name of Jesus Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Jenny McCollom and the late John DeGuglielmo. The groom is the son of Frank and Debra DeGuglielmo.

McElroy-Rogers
Alyssa Marie McElroy and Thomas Leonard Rogers will be married on Sept. 14 at St. Roch Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Thomas and Robin McElroy. The groom is the son of Max Rogers and Amy Welsh.

McHugh-Trumble
Laura Michaels McHugh and Conner Patrick Trumble were married on June 7 at St. Roch Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Michael and Beth McHugh. The groom is the son of Raymond and Clare Trumble.

McGrath-Ford
Jennifer Anne McGrath and Michael Edward Feel were married on July 13 at St. Patrick Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Tim and Marianne McGrath. The groom is the son of Rob and Susan Ford.

Menard-Scott
Heleane M. Menard and William L. Scott will be married on Oct. 26 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of the late Matilda Alice Vidrick and the late Joseph Mattzikar. The groom is the son of the late Dr. Michael and Catherine Gertrude Scott.

Miskowiec-Blazekovich
Liz Miskowiec and Steven Blazekovich were married on July 6 at St. Barnabas Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Thomas and Leslie Miskowiec. The groom is the son of Robert and Diana Blazekovich.

Miskowiec-McHugh
Ann DeSisti. The groom is the daughter of Pete Peterson and John Fredrick Peterson. The bride and daughter of Kevin Peterson and Ann DeSisti. The groom is the son of Jack and Rose Mather.

Miskowiec-Scott
Ashleigh Morgan Peterson and John Fredrick Mather will be married on Dec. 28 at St. Roch Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Pete Peterson and Ann DeSisti. The groom is the son of Jack and Rose Mather.

Peterson-Mather
Ashleigh Morgan Peterson and John Fredrick Mather will be married on Dec. 28 at St. Roch Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Pete Peterson and Ann DeSisti. The groom is the son of Jack and Rose Mather.

Rhonda Elbert.

Continued on next page
WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pre Cana Conference, Tobit Weekend and One in Christ program prepare engaged couples for marriage

Three marriage preparation programs offered in the archdiocese—the Pre Cana Conference, Tobit Weekend and One in Christ—help prepare engaged couples for the sacrament of marriage as well as the challenges of married life.

Pre Cana Conference programs are scheduled during 2013 on July 21, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Oct. 6 and 20 at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis.

The program, sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education, is presented by a priest and trained volunteer couples. It begins with check-in at 1:15 p.m., Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis.

Registration is required. A $46 fee per couple helps cover meals and materials.

The cost is $220 and covers meals and materials.

The wedding announcement form is available online by clicking on the “send us engagement or marriage information” link then the “weddings” link.

There is no charge for the engagement or marriage announcements.

Couples may announce engagement or marriage

Engagement announcements for couples that are planning to be married at a Catholic church during the spring and early summer months will be published in the Feb. 14, 2014, issue of The Criterion.

Couple’s engagement announcement was not published before the wedding date.

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130th Anniversary Sale

FREE LABOR

On the installation of a
Air Conditioner, Furnace or Heat Pump

Carbon filter included with any other offer. Must be presented at time of order. Expires 8/3/13

1/2 OFF SERVICE CALL

Save $45 with Paid Repair

Expires 8/3/13

130th Anniversary Sale

FREE 10 YEAR WARRANTY

On Parts & Labor

High Efficiency Air Conditioner, Heat Pump or 90% Furnace. Call for details.

Expires 8/3/13

130th Anniversary Sale

TUNE-UP

Air Conditioner or Heat Pump

$59.95

Expires 8/3/13

The Catholic Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Joseph and Gabriela Halstead. The groom is the son of Claude and Ursula McGarvey.

Volunteer couples. It begins with check-in at 1:15 p.m., Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis on July 21, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Oct. 6 and 20 at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House during 2013 on July 26-28 and Sept. 13-15. The registration fee of $292 includes the program presented by trained facilitators, meals and overnight accommodations for the weekend.

Registration is required. A $150 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of registration. To register, log on to www.archindy.org/fatima.

One in Christ three-day marriage programs are scheduled for Oct. 26-27 and Nov. 2 at St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis.

The first and third days are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the second day is from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The cost is $220 and covers meals and materials.

For more information, or to schedule a $79 TriVascular Screening at St. Vincent, call 317-583-7793 or visit stvincent.org/trivascular.

Clogged, weak or damaged blood vessels can lead to stroke, aneurysm and other deadly vascular issues. A $79 TriVascular Screening can detect these problems before a health crisis could save your life.

Who should receive a $79 TriVascular Screening?

People over 55 and with two or more of the following risk factors:

• Current or past smoker
• Diabetes
• High blood pressure
• High cholesterol
• Obesity
• Family history of arterial disease

Couples who were married at a Catholic church in recent months may announce their marriage if an engagement announcement was not published before the wedding date.

The wedding announcement form is available online at www.criteriononline.com by clicking on the “send us engagement or marriage information” link then the “weddings” link.

An engagement or wedding photo may be submitted by e-mail. Digital photos must be clear, high-resolution color images.

There is no charge for the engagement or marriage announcements.

A simple $79 test could save your life.
Be generous givers of mercy, not condemnation, disapproval, pope says

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS)—God wants people to be generous and merciful, not full of condemnation toward others, Pope Francis said.

God is well aware “of our miseries, our difficulties, even our sins, and he gives all of us this merciful heart,” capable of “our miseries, our difficulties, even our sins, and he gives all of us this merciful heart,” capable of

Catholic woman makes her way to interview for a job at a medical center, where experiments on human embryos are performed.

The idea for the book came to me after reflecting one day on the evil of terrorism. My brother [Steve] lives on the East Coast. I grew up there and travelled on the trains. He travels on them regularly. I’m always concerned for my brother. He was there when they brought down the twin towers—the 9/11 attack.

In an interview with The Criterion, Sister Diane, who works as director of religious education at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, discusses the origins of the story line, her purpose in writing the novel and what she hopes her audience walks away with after reading the book.

Q. How did you come up with the idea for the story?

A. I never know what’s going to happen to the characters. The characters begin to take on a life of their own. They become real as I write. I never know how it’s all going to turn out until the end unfolds before me.

Q. Why did you feel it was important to write on the topic of the “four last things”?

A. “Going back to the idea that we live in a culture that attempts to trivialize life—[those who buy into that culture] think life becomes something negotiable and controllable. The ‘four last things’ turn us toward God’s truth and our final destination. When you clear out all the lies that are perpetrated in this society, all the God-substitutes, the fact remains that we come into the world and we have to exit it, and that exit is for all eternity. The four last things turn our attention to God and our eternal salvation, eternal life. What’s more important than God and the salvation of our souls?”

Q. What do you hope readers walk away with after reading your book?

A. “I would hope that they desire eternal life with God and want to be holy or be saints—whatever word they identify with. I hope that they want to be closer to God and want to do his will.”

Q. Who is your intended audience: individuals, groups, Catholics, non-Catholics?

A. “It could be used by individuals or study groups or book clubs. Catholics or non-Catholics could read it, although non-Catholics would have more questions. But the appendix would help them. I didn’t want [the book] to just have an enjoyable read, but [for them to reflect on] what it did provoke in [them], how did it challenge [them], how did it make a difference?”

(St. Diane Carollo, S.G.L., author of The Final Destination)

WHAT WAS IN THE NEWS ON JULY 19, 1963?

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 stories found in the July 19, 1963, issue of The Criterion:

• Pope Paul praises efforts of UN toward world peace; Secretary General received in audience

Pope Paul VI said in receiving the Secretary-General of the United Nations that the Holy See regards the UN as the fruit of a civilization for which the Church provided the basic principles. The pope received U Thant in a private audience on July 11 for a half-hour and praised the UN for its efforts for world peace. He spoke in English. He said that the UN is a historical reality of too great importance to leave us indifferent to this meeting with you.

• First Negro Cardinal to attend Claver parlory

• Fatima Retreat House cornerstone rite slated
• 2 delegates attend rites in Moscow
• Providence nun named to Senate group
• Named to faculty of Catholic U.
• Editorial: Complaint Dept.

“If we composed an editorial praising the United Nations as an expression of Catholic principles, we would immediately receive inflammarious letters from a certain portion of our readership. We would be accused of brainwashing our readers with your ‘liberal’ preachments... Fortunately, we have a boss who is willing to take the heat himself. Pope Paul received United Nations Secretary General, U Thant, in a private audience last week. The Holy See has a high conception of the United Nations... Don’t cancel your subscription to The Criterion. Send your complaints on into the headquarters at the Vatican.”

• U.S. real estate body accused of doubletalk

• NCWC backs Kennedy civil rights program
• Issues clergy directive on race demonstrations
• Family Clinic: Ready to pop question, youth has final query
• Pope John broke eucenmical ‘impass’
• Suggests apostolate for choirs
• Pope keeps same coat-of-arms
• Clergy offer to mediate race issue
• Brazil’s pope and bishop want land reform now, cardinal says
• German Catholics gave $80 million in relief
• New ‘fact of the time’; World Council speakers praise unity movement
• 34 Oldenburg Sisters to observe jubilees
• Franciscans ‘hit books’ on vacation
• Priest who baptized Rockne dies
• Hits scantly attire

(Read all of these stories from our July 19, 1963, issue by logging on to our archives at www.CriterionOnline.com/1963)
Helping to rebuild lives and communities for those fleeing despair

The occurrence of World Refugee Day in June and the celebration of this country’s birthday in July bring to mind those who are displaced, without a country to call home, without the most basic sense of security.

I grew up in a refugee community in Hong Kong. I speak English as fourth grade. I translated documents such as wills and tax notifications for the relatives who could not read English, Hong Kong’s official language.

Our dinner table conversations were peppered with stories of acquaintances who lost, not only material possessions, but also their social positions and professional credentials. Having a job to do was an agency that started life 70 years ago resettling refugees from war-torn Europe. Today, Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the global Church fully respond to the plight of refugees. Yes, we have recently reported that 15.4 million refugees fled across national borders in 2012 and 28.8 million people were displaced within their own countries.

Recently, Bishop Gerald K.icans of Phoenix, Arizona, a delegation to visit Syrian refugees in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon. He described an elderly woman who has been fasting for days and a family of 20 supported by the hard labor of only one 19-year-old son, who is now suspended for working without a proper permit. In a family of 27, there was only one man and he was wounded by shrapnel, with an elder sister as his caretaker in the corner without medication.

Refugees are often crowded into "shelters" not always equipped to handle their basic needs or numbers. The conditions can be horrific—over 100 degree heat or extreme cold, overcrowding, absence of water, sanitation and disposal of waste. The violation of human dignity is the loss of one’s language, culture, community and the basic elements of identity and dignity. Often, the host countries take on burdens that create stresses and resentments within their own populations.

Many refugees also suffer loss of families and homes, torture, starvation. In 2012, 46 percent of refugees were under 18. These young people may only have intermittent education, limited nutrition and face the risk of being trafficked. Some of this early trauma and stress can affect brain development leading to problems with memory, concentration, depression and anxiety, memory, social withdrawal, depression and compromised functioning of the neuroendocrine system.

But our collective efforts can make a difference. We have seen successes. Our faith community has built on the efforts of refugees, who crafted productive new lives, including children who are natives of this land.

If we do not turn our backs, if we do not allow ourselves to get overwhelmed, if we stay with the challenges and do what we can, providing food, education, social and psychological counseling, if we support livelihood training and options, we can provide sanitation solutions, and we advocate for peaceful resolutions, if we call attention to the work of resettlement, if we facilitate the return to homes, and healing, then we can rebuild lives and communities.

(Carolyn Woo is the president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services.)

Perspectives

Year of Faith: Why evil exists in the world

In particular, God chose to carry out his plan for the world by making use of his creatures’ cooperation. He gave us humans not only the power of free will but also the dignity of acting on our own. He had so much trust in us that he gave us free will, “a gift fit for his highest creatures, to angels and humans.”

By giving us free will, God made it possible for us to go astray, and it was precisely by humans exercising a free choice that moral evil entered the world. This being true, how can we make God responsible for moral evil? He permits it because he respects the freedom he gave his angels and humans.

Anyone in authority should understand how free will works. Perhaps a father tells his children, “Yes, you must learn to help around the house. I’d like you to mow the lawn today.” When the father comes home from work, he finds his son playing with his friends, the lawn unmowed. The father wanted his son to mow the lawn, but his son freely chose to do something else.

That’s the way it works between God and humans: God wants us to do what is right, but he has given us the power to decide for ourselves. We can freely choose to do something good, or we can also freely choose to do something bad. Of course, God knew in advance that we would sometimes to his creatures to freedom to do evil. But he wanted his higher creatures to be able to freely unite themselves to him and to each other. An entire world of creatures that worked like machines couldn’t freely give him praise. What a wonderful gift to create such a world! Of course, he didn’t.

There is also this: God somehow knew that there would be evil. St. Augustine wrote that God, “because he is supremely good, would not allow a single angel to exist in works if he were not so all-powerful and good as to cause to good emerge from evil itself.”

For us Christians, the greatest moral evil ever committed was the murder of God’s Son, an evil that brought the greatest good: Christ’s glorification and our redemption.

Rome to Assisi: From one end of the Church to the other

A Rural Retreat With Francis & Clare of Assisi, by Franciscan Father Murray Bodo and Father Anthony Sing. The book brings Assisi alive.

I can almost see the “Portinariola,” the chapel that Francis himself built where he died. I once again walk the ancient winding streets and view the sprawling Spoleto Valley. I can smell the aromatic coffee. I remember staying on the second floor of a hotel, in a room from where I could barely squeeze around the end of my bed to look out the window. Across the valley, a woman’s face appeared moved over, her laundry hanging outside her window. I felt a sense of timeless, of the past, of Francis!

Every pilgrim who goes to Assisi feels deeply that they are walking the same streets as Francis, this man into whose very wealth he shed his possessions, down to the clothing on his back, in a real and symbolic gesture embracing poverty. Can he ever be completely understood? He remains a mystery and a challenge.

His radical poverty scares us and, let’s face it, sometimes repels us. But then I remember, there are degrees of voluntary poverty, and each of us is called to experience it in our own way even if we don’t leave our clothes in the piazza or frighteningly enumerator。“

To the clothing on his back, in a real and symbolic gesture embracing poverty. Can he can understand our difficulties which is away from us. The world today, was not what Francis sought for. Rather, he called to let us go to the desert, to be the desert, to keep us from God, to fill those empty spaces with God, and God alone, and not with the “stuff” the world tells us is important.

(Elfie Caldera writes for Catholic News Service.)

From the Editor Emeritus John F. Fink

Year of Faith: Why evil exists in the world

Those who don’t believe in God sometimes point to all the evil that exists in the world as proof of our early disbelief. If God is supposed to be all-powerful, all-good, all-loving, why doesn’t he create a world so perfect that no evil could exist in it?

Sadly, there is no quick answer. God could have created a better world, but he didn’t choose to. Instead, in his infinite foreknowledge, he decided to create a world in a state of journeying toward an ultimate perfection. During that journey, there exists both physical good and physical evil, including both constructive and destructive forces of nature.

Catholic Evangelization Outreach Peg McEvoy

We are evangelizers, not ‘haters’!

Being a parent—or in a parental role—isn’t easy. Sometimes a child deliberately does something wrong. We may lose our cool. An adult who is just tired/hungry/getting sick,” but deep down, we know he or she has a purpose.

We know we have to confront the behavior or attitude, but deep down, we know we can’t do much while we are within the context of the love.

In our country, there is simply no place for those who believe that in some cases, just plain rotten things being done by people who should know better. Supreme Court justices, politicians and “regular folks” are working against what we know to be God’s truth in our world.

And yet, when we speak up as Catholics, we are often seen as old-fashioned or ignorant at best and “haters” at worst.

At the same time, our Church is calling us to the new evangelization. Some evangelization approaches focus mostly on increasing numbers and making people spiritually comfortable. From the start, publicly advocating for Catholic teaching on “hot button” topics like abortion, marriage and immigration seems to be in the “face of the enemy.” Can we speak on these difficult issues which are divisive and uncomfortable, and still bring people into the Church?

The ultimate goal of evangelization is bringing people into full communion with Christ and his Church. This is not always as simple as simply bringing people into the Church.

Bring in full communion is about giving ourselves completely to eliminating factors that keep people from coming into the Church and for practicing Catholics.

Evangelization and advocacy are a “both/and” in our faith, not an “either/or.” And what links them together is compassion and catechesis—being formed in our faith and in our ability to communicate the faith to others.

In both evangelization and advocacy:

• There must be a call to holiness; to form us to model the mercy, compassion and love of Jesus Christ. As much as possible, we must begin to see things as Jesus does. He spent the 40 days in the desert, “he saw in people’s faces” when necessary, especially if they were leading others astray.

• The ultimate goal of evangelization is deep enough to apply timeless truth to current situations.

• There is respect for the dignity of all people—born and pre-born, old and young, sick and healthy, those who are able and those who are not.

Remember the paternal role? As Catholics today, we may be called upon to offer correction simply by sharing our faith, not with anger and finger wagging but with love, firmness and confidence.

In Pope Francis’ recent encyclical “Lumen Fidei” (“The Light of Faith”), he says, “Faith does not merely grant interior firmness, a steadfast ground for the believer; it also sheds light on every human relationship because it is born of love and reflects God’s own love” (#59). 

We are familiar with—read the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, watch video clips at www.wordoflife.org or find a local Catechism in formation activities at your parish, and always pray.

In a parish, evangelization and advocacy need to work together. The parish evangelization team and the pro-life committee should be communicating and helping each other. We need the same goal: reaching the homeless outreach and social justice committee should be communicating and helping each other. We need the same goal: reaching the

(Peg McEvoy is the archdiocesan associate director for evangelization and family catechesis. For questions and/or help starting a parish evangelization team, contact McEvoy at pegmcevoyo@archdallas.org.)
Sunday Readings

Sunday July 21, 2013

- Genesis 18:1-10a
- Colossians 1:21-28

The Book of Genesis, unfortunately, bears the burden of being remembered, and usually discussed, only in terms of its Creation Narratives. While the creation of all things and beings in existence by the Almighty God is a profound revelation, Genesis has much more to say than just about how long it took God to create the world from nothingness.

This weekend’s first reading is an example of the power of Genesis in its revelation of a circumstance far removed from the story of creation. It tells the story of Abraham. For the ancient Hebrews, Abraham, who actually lived according to scholars and who was therefore no mythical or imaginary figure, was the great model of faith. He is no less worthy a model for Christians.

In this weekend’s reading, God comes into the presence of Abraham. Three men stand before Abraham, and Abraham receives them hospitably. Abraham offers them drink and food as well as shelter from the hot sun. He tells Sarah, his wife, to prepare the best table in the house.

Then, one of the men tells Abraham that within the year Sarah will give birth to a child. In the ancient Hebrew culture, nothing was more important than the arrival of new life. A child continued the life of its parents.

For its second reading, the Church gives us a passage from St. Paul’s Epistle to the Colossians. This epistle was written when Paul was facing one of the hardships of life. Paul was held in captivity by the Romans, and he often endured in the process of being an Apostle and of preaching the Gospel. Paul himself exemplified faith as much as he wrote about it. St. Luke’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. It is a familiar story. Jesus is in the home of Mary and Martha. He is their guest. Mary wants only to listen to Jesus. Martha is concerned about the details of her hospitality.

Jesus counsels Martha not to worry about these details, but instead to listen— with Mary—to the words of salvation.

Reflection

Often Martha is seen as too preoccupied with herself, forgetting the important things, opposite Mary, who is a true disciple. Actually Martha was of great faith. In another reading, she rushed to Jesus after the death of her brother Lazarus to express her faith in the Lord as the source of life. This weekend’s story simply shows that Martha was human, confined by human concerns and limitations.

These three readings altogether teach us that humans have problems, maybe legitimate problems. Sarah was unable to conceive when sterility, especially for a woman of her time, was a great source of shame and of a personal sense of failure. Paul was held in captivity by authorities at best ignorant, at worst the enemies of God and true justice. Martha just was caught up in normal everyday demands of life.

Yet, despite all these problems, neither Paul nor Martha lost faith. God was in their hearts. Nothing is impossible for God. He is supreme over the constraints of nature and the power of the proud Roman Empire.

Son of God, Jesus ignored human conventions if salvation was at stake. He went to Martha and Mary, to share the Good News, when the hard and fast rule was that a single man should never enter the home of a woman or women, and absolutely never take a meal with a woman.

These readings tell us about our need for God and about God’s power—and loving will—to satisfy us despite our needs. We simply must welcome God, as did Abraham, Martha and Mary.™

My Journey to God

I Climb the Mountain of God
By Thomas J. Rillo

At the base of God’s mountain I look up I gaze at God’s edge of eminent domain I realize the journey is perilous and difficult My climbing rope is made of many prayers I climb the mountain of God My handholds and footholds are numerous Made up of petitions and prayers of others The Eucharist is the pin that holds the rope Jesus be the support rope with strength I climb the mountain of God Overhangs are the obstacles of temptation To be conquered by heightened spirituality I climb upward knowing the danger of failing Reconciliation and Eucharist prevent falling I climb the mountain of God The summit of God’s mountain is life eternal The view is awesome with clouds full of love I share my conquest with others who climbed I meet with those who have climbed before me I climb the mountain of God

(Thomas J. Rillo, who has climbed mountains in Wyoming, is a member of St. Charles Borromeos Parish in Bloomington and a Benedictine oblate of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad. In this undated photo: Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, 1901-1924, is shown mountaineering, a favorite pastime of the Italian young adult that he incorporated into his life of faith.)

Daily Readings

Monday, July 22
St. Mary Magdalene
Exodus 14:5-18 (Response) Exodus 15:1-6
John 20:1-2, 11-18

Tuesday, July 23
St. Bridget, religious
Exodus 14:21-15:1 (Response) Exodus 15:8-10, 12, 17
Matthew 12:46-50

Wednesday, July 24
St. Sharbel Makhluf, priest
Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15
Psalm 78:18-19, 23-28
Matthew 13:1-9

Thursday, July 25
St. James, Apostle
2 Corinthians 4:7-17
Psalms 126:1-6
Matthew 20:20-28

Friday, July 26
Sts. Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19:19-20, 11
Matthew 13:18-23

Saturday, July 27
Exodus 24:3-8
Psalm 50:1-2, 5-6, 14-15
Matthew 13:24-30

Sunday, July 28
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138:1-3, 6-8
Colossians 2:12-14

Question Corner
Fr. Kenneth Doyle

I. True fear of the Lord is rooted in a ‘reverence and respect’ for God

The word “fear,” in many people’s minds, has a negative connotation. But closer study shows there are really two kinds of fear—servile and filial. “Servile” comes from the Latin word for slave, and that sort of fear is self-centered, worried about being punished for a missed “Filial” is from the Latin for son or daughter, and filial fear is inspired by love, a desire the desire never to disappoint a parent or to betray a trust. Filial fear is based on wonder and awe, reverence and respect.

Your question tells me that you understand this distinction. It is the second sort, filial fear, that is meant in Proverbs, when it says fear of the Lord is “the beginning of wisdom” (Prv 9:10). This is also the type of fear referred to when St. Luke describes the early Christians in the Acts of the Apostles: “The Church throughout all Judea, Galilee and Samaria was at peace. It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in number.” (Acts 9:31).

Without forgetting that there are consistent reminders in the Scriptures about divine retribution for sinfulness, a Christian should primarily be motivated not by fright but by fidelity, by a desire to return God’s lavish lavished love.

I sometimes ask people to tell me the first image they think of when I say the word “God.” To some extent, this is a function of personality type and, perhaps even more, of a person’s early religious education.

For me—and, I suspect, for many—that first image used to be of some giant scorekeeper in the sky, writing pluses and minuses on a large blackboard. But no more. Now I think, instead, of the father of the prodigal son, running down the road to throw his arms around his once-wayward boy and saying, “It’s OK. Don’t worry about it. You’re home.” That is the image Jesus projects of his heavenly Father, someone much more ready to embrace us than to punish.

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherkdoly@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, N.Y. 12208.)™

Kateri Tekakwitha
1656-1680
July 14

At her canonization in 2012, Pope Benedict XVI prayed, “St. Kateri, protectress of Canada and the first Native American saint, we entrust to you the renewal of the faith in the First Nations and of all who are called to saintliness.”

The daughter of a Mohawk chief and Algonquin woman, Kateri was orphaned in a smallpox epidemic and left alone and disabled. She was taken in by a French missionary visiting her village in all of North America!” The daughter of a Mohawk chief and Algonquin woman, Kateri was orphaned in a smallpox epidemic and left alone and disabled. She was taken in by a French missionary visiting her village in New York state. But, her faith and refusal to marry caused trouble, and she fled to an Indian community near Montreal, where she was revered by French and Indians alike for her mystical gifts and kindness. The “Lily of the Mohawk” is the patron of Native Americans, refugees and the disabled.
Providence Sister Conrad Monrad taught in Catholic schools for 52 years, including Indiana

Providence Sister Conrad Monrad died on June 28 at Mother Theodore Hall at St. Mary-of-the-Woods. She was 92.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 10 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse. Burial followed at the sisters’ cemetery.

Gertrude Louise Monrad was born on Aug. 22, 1920, in Chicago.

Sister Conrad earned a bachelor’s degree in Latin at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in St. Mary-of-the-Woods, and a master’s degree in mathematics at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis.

During 74 years as a Sister of Providence, Sister Conrad ministered in Catholic education for 52 years in schools in California, Illinois, Indiana and Pennsylvania.

In the archdiocese, she taught in Indianapolis at the former St. Joseph School from 1943-46, at the former St. Catherine School in 1954-55 and at Nativity School from 1957-58. She also taught in the former St. Ann School from 1951-54 and at the former Holy Trinity School in New Albany from 1954-55.

Sister Conrad also served on the faculty of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College for 27 years. In 2006, she moved to her order’s motherhouse and dedicated herself completely to prayer.

She is survived by her sister Sally Stewart Gonya of Fairfield, Ohio, and a large extended family. Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876. †

Providence Sister Mary Patricia Peacock ministered in Catholic schools and parishes

Providence Sister Mary Patricia Peacock, formerly Sister Alice Elizabeth Peacock, died on June 28 at Union Hospital in Terre Haute. She was 85.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on July 9 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse. Burial followed at the sisters’ cemetery.

Sister Mary Patricia was born on Sept. 1, 1927, in Chicago. She entered the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on Oct. 2, 1945, and professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1952.

Sister Mary Patricia earned a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in St. Mary-of-the-Woods. She also earned a master’s degree at Marquette University in Detroit.

During 68 years as a Sister of Providence, Sister Mary Patricia ministered in Catholic education for 26 years in schools in Illinois and Indiana.

In the archdiocese, she taught in Indianapolis at St. Philip Neri School from 1947-51 and at St. Joan of Arc School from 1951-52. Sister Mary Patricia ministered in parishes in Indiana for 24 years. In 1998, she returned to the motherhouse and volunteered in such ministries as St. Ann Clinic, Providence Food Pantry and to inmates at the Federal Correctional Institution in Terre Haute.

Sister Mary Patricia is survived by nieces and nephews. Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, 1 Sisters of Providence Road, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876. †

Carmelite Sister Rosemary Stewart lived a cloistered life of prayer for 37 years

Carmelite Sister Rosemary Stewart died on June 2 at Terre Haute Regional Hospital in Terre Haute. She was 69. She was a member of the Monastery of St. Joseph in Terre Haute.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on June 6 at the Carmelite Monastery in Terre Haute. Burial followed at the sisters’ cemetery.


She earned a bachelor of science degree in education at Marian College in Fond du Lac, and a master’s degree in early childhood education at the University of Minnesota.

During 37 years as a cloistered Carmelite Sister, Sister Rosemary was known in the community for portraying quotes from noted Carmelite saints in calligraphy. She also served as a member of the monastery’s Governing Council for 13 years.

She is survived by her sister Sally Stewart Gonya of Fairfield, Ohio, and a large extended family. Memorial gifts may be sent to the Monastery of St. Joseph at Carmelite Monastery, 59 Allendale, Terre Haute, IN 47802.
Pope offers future priests, nuns a how-to guide to a happy vocation

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Be joyous, authentic and loving while resisting fly-by-night commitments, catty gossip and sleek cars, Pope Francis told future priests, brothers and nuns.

Vocations don’t come from catchy campaigns or pursuing personal goals. The consecrated life is the result of prayer and answering an “unsettling” yet loving invitation from God, he told some 6,000 seminarians and men and women novices who are in the first year of formation in religious communities.

Men and women from 66 nations came to Rome on a four-day pilgrimage as part of the Year of Faith celebrations, which included an inaugural audience with Pope Francis on July 6 and a papal Mass on July 7.

The pope spent more than 45 minutes speaking off-the-cuff to a packed audience hall, giving young men and older a thorough how-to guide on the secrets of a successful vocation.

Some of the greatest dangers standing in the way of a happy religious life are materialism and a secrets of a successful vocation.

“‘Please, no nuns or priests with the face of a pickled pepper,’” he insisted. “‘There is no holiness in sadness. The source of that dissatisfaction and sadness is not celibacy, the pope said. ‘It’s living a consecrated life that is sterile and lifeless. Nuns and priests are called to be spiritual and pastoral mothers and fathers, bringing life, healing, and love to all they meet.’

‘The pope pointed to a petite, elderly nun whom he had spared from the crush of an overeager crowd pressing down on her as they sought to shake the pope’s hand before the audience.

‘The pope told a guard to lift her from the fray and give her a front-row seat, safe from the scrum. He said in his talk that he was struck by the sister’s bright eyes and his 54-year-old personal secretary, Msgr. Alfred Xuebre, gets around on a bike.

However, with all the work to be done and distances to be covered, cars are a necessity, he said. ‘Just get a humble one,’ and if the flasher model still looks tempting, ‘think about how many children are dying of hunger,’ he said.

True joy doesn’t come from things or “living on the edge,” the pope said, rebuking young religious men and women.

“It springs from an encounter, a relation with others, it comes from feeling accepted, understood and loved, and from accepting, understanding and loving” others, he said.

Jesus is telling people: “You are important to me, I love you, and I expect you,” the pope said. “[Opening up to this love and divine call is “the secret of our joy,” he said. “Don’t be afraid of showing the joy of having answered someone’s call,” he said, “and of giving witness to his Gospel in service to the Church.”

Joy is contagious, he said, and attracts people to learn more about the source of that happiness.

“The pope had told a guard to lift her from the fray and give her a front-row seat, safe from the scrum. He said in his talk that he was struck by the sister’s bright eyes and smiling face, despite the difficulties of being squeezed against the barricade, and said she was a beautiful example for everyone.

The pope told everyone to always be clear and honest with their confessors. Jesus already knows people’s sins, defects and limits, ‘he just wants you to tell him what he already knows.’

Truth and transparency “do good because they make us holy,” he said.

Don’t be hypocrites, and practice what is preached, he added. “In this world in which wealth does harm, it’s necessary we priests, nuns, all of us are consistent with our poverty,” he said.

Midway through his talk, the pope told the event’s main organizer, Archbishop Rino Fisichella, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization, that he could go on all day, but that someone had better bring everyone “a sandwich and Coca Cola if it goes until tomorrow.”

The pope then highlighted the importance of living as a community and avoiding petty gossip and rivalries.

The pope said he was guilty and ashamed of being caught up in gossip and complaining. He said ideally be preferred speaking directly to the people he has a problem with or with someone who can resolve the issue, never talking behind people’s “backs to smear them.”

He urged everyone to be contemplative, pray the rosary and be a missionary, reaching out to the outcast and disadvantaged.

The next day, during Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica, the pope used his homily to offer additional encouragement and wisdom for a happy vocation.

“‘The paschal mystery of death and resurrection help shelter religious men and women “from a worldly and triumphalistic view” of their mission, and “from the discouragement that can result from trials and failures.”

Effective evangelization can’t be measured by the human notions of success and failure, but only by “becoming conforming to the logic of the Cross of Jesus” of giving oneself totally and completely with love,” he said.

Benedictine sister shows love and joy in her vocation to students

By Annie Wagner

A few years ago, I transferred back to a Catholic school from another that serves students with dyslexia.

While away, I missed my faith community and classmates.

At the same time, different educational experiences were forming the beliefs whose beliefs did not always match up with my own. It made me reflect back to what I had been taught about my faith, and it helped me feel more sure of my own beliefs.

One of the most influential people in my life has been Benedictine Sister Nicolette Ellenbe at Holy Name School in Beech Grove. She has been the most visible example of a witness to Christ and faith that is not influenced by cultural norms. God has placed in my life so far.

She is not what most people think of when they think of a nun. I knew she opened my eyes as well. Sister Nicolette shows her students her love by the way she teaches and the way she embraces her calling to know, love and serve God.

Serra Club vocations essay

(Open to all!) Benedictine sister shows love and joy in her vocation to students

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Popes put personal stamp on World Youth Day celebrations

VAUCAN CITY—Blessed John Paul II raised young Catholics. Pope Benedict XVI instructed them and Pope Francis is preparing to send them out on mission.

In 1981, Pope John Paul II instructed them and Pope Francis is preparing to send them out on mission.

When he travels to Rio de Janeiro for World Youth Day, Pope Francis—the former archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina—will be continuing a tradition begun by Blessed John Paul in Buenos Aires in 1987, gathering Catholic youths from around the world together for several intense days of faith-building and celebration.

In cities from South America to Europe, Asia to North America and back again, each World Youth Day has been different in size and in the culture the youths experienced and shared.

But the contributions of each pope—because of both personality and personal emphasis—also have left striking marks on the 11 international gatherings held since 1987. With Pope Francis, that tradition of the evolving World Youth Day is bound to continue in Rio on July 23-28.

World Youth Day gatherings are so much a part of Catholic life now that it is hard to imagine just how innovative Blessed John Paul’s idea first seemed. The Polish pope invited young people to his Palm Sunday celebration at the Vatican during the 1985 U.N.-proclaimed Year of Youth, and Vatican officials were shocked when some 250,000 young people showed up. They had planned for 60,000 pilgrims.

Blessed John Paul brought Catholic teens and young adults out of the parish religious education and youth ministry programs that parents often had to force their children to attend. For him, the youths were not just the future of the Church, but the embodiment of its energy and enthusiasm.

When convoked and affirmed, Blessed John Paul thought, young people could rejuvenate the whole Church. Their energy certainly worked on him. One of the iconic photographs from World Youth Day 1995 in Manila shows the pope twirling the cane he relied on after breaking his leg and undergoing hip replacement surgery eight months earlier.

At his last World Youth Day, the 2002 celebration in Toronto, a frail 82-year-old Pope John Paul described himself as “old,” but looked and sounded better than he had in months, demonstrating once again his special chemistry with young people. He even read his speeches in their entirety, rather than having an aide read most of the text.

The Toronto event took place less than a year after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States, and Pope John Paul refused to ignore them.

“Last year, we saw with dramatic clarity the tragic face of human malice. We saw what happens when hatred, sin and death take command,” the pope said. “Too many lives begin and end without joy, without hope. That is one of the principal reasons for World Youth Day. Young people are coming together to commit themselves, in the strength of their faith in Jesus Christ, to the great cause of peace and human solidarity.”

“The future,” he told them, “is in your hands.”

The German Pope Benedict inherited from Blessed John Paul the celebration of World Youth Day in Cologne and brought to the encounters a sense of the seriousness of the Christian call. His love for the young Catholics translated into trust that they not only could understand the core teachings and traditions of the Church, but that they would learn more about them.

Under Pope Benedict, the evening vigil was transformed from a rally into a mass moment of eucharistic adoration, surprisingly silent and devout, given the fact that it involved tens of thousands of young people on their knees in the dirt on a wide open field.

At World Youth Day in Sydney in 2008, Pope Benedict emphasized the importance—and real possibility—of living a holy life by following the faith taught by the Church and being open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

World Youth Day in Madrid in 2011 ended up being dramatic when sweltering heat gave way to a storm—complete with thunder, wind and rain—that knocked out the power at the traditional Saturday night vigil. Pope Benedict refused to leave.

“The Lord loves you and calls you his friends,” he told the young people at Mass the next morning.

Their response, he said, must be to accept that love and share it with their peers who know, deep down, that “authentic values do exist” and will lead to a life of joy.

Pope Francis inherited WYD Rio from Pope Benedict, who chose the theme: “Go and make disciples of all nations” (Mt 28:19). It’s a theme that’s right up Pope Francis’ alley.

With the young people, he’s likely to use the word he’s repeated most in his morning homilies and his meetings with Catholic groups, his Italian “Avanti!” is likely to resound in Spanish (“Adelante!”), Portuguese (“Avante!”) and English (“Go forth!”).

For Pope Francis, going forth literally requires motion. It’s about leaving the comfort of one’s group or parish and sharing the Gospel both through serving the poor and wounded and through proclaiming faith in Jesus with words, smiles and embraces.

Meeting with seminarians and novices July 6, the pope said: “Be courageous in prayer and in going out to proclaim the Gospel. I’d like a more missionary Church, not one that seeks tranquility” above all, “a beautiful Church that goes forth.”

Even the eucharistic adoration that Pope Francis practices regularly and will share with the young people in Rio has a deep dimension of outreach.

As he said in June on the feast of the Body and Blood of the Lord, “in adoring Christ who is really present in the Eucharist,” Catholics should ask themselves: “Do I let myself be transformed by him? Do I let the Lord who gives himself to me guide me to going out ever more from my little enclosure in order to give, to share, to love him and others?”

Too many lives begin and end without joy, without hope. That is one of the principal reasons for World Youth Day. Young people are coming together to commit themselves, in the strength of their faith in Jesus Christ, to the great cause of peace and human solidarity. The future is in your hearts and in your hands.”

—Blessed John Paul II at World Youth Day in Toronto in 2002