New archdiocesan team commissioned for HIV/AIDS care

By Mary Ann Wyand

Six of seven members of a new Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team in the archdiocese were commissioned Nov. 29 during the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Jude Church in Indianapolis.

Father Carlton Beever, director of HIV/AIDS Ministry for the archdiocese, commissioned Indianapolis residents Dan Daly of Holy Cross Parish, Myrna Vallier of St. Lawrence Parish, Monica Collins of St. Bernadette Parish, Mary Jo Lowe of St. Barnabas Parish, and Milly Kopecky and Beverly Carrico, both of St. Jude Parish. Holy Cross parishioner Jan Erlenbaugh also is a member of the new Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team.

The idea for the care team originated more than a year ago. Father Beever said, in response to an increasing need for volunteer caregivers for people living with HIV and AIDS.

Last spring, Father Beever and staff members of the Damien Center in Indianapolis, which provides a variety of support services for people living with HIV/AIDS, began plans to train volunteers and form care teams by working with members of central Indiana churches and religious congregations.

Following a five-month training program and the commissioning ceremony two weeks ago, Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team members began their ministry roles Nov. 30 when they received care partners who are Damien Center clients.

“This ministry has been a long time in coming,” Father Beever said. “At present, 33 million people worldwide have HIV and AIDS, and half of those are young people.

This year, the United Nations is focusing on educating young people about the disease. The theme for the World AIDS Day observance Dec. 1 was ‘HIV/AIDS: Be a Force for Change.’

National health statistics indicate that ‘Indiana has the second highest increase in HIV infection among teen-agers of all the states this year and also for the last couple of years,’ he said. “I think there is a growing feeling that teen-agers have to actively be involved in terms of peer education and peer ministry to really bring about prevention.”

Ideal, Father Beever said, every parish in the archdiocese will begin to offer some type of ministry support to people living with acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Holy Cross parishioner Dan Daly, the new Catholic HIV/AIDS Care Team guide, said he ‘heard about this project and thought it would be a worthwhile thing to do.”

St. Barnabas parishioner Mary Jo Lowe said she formerly worked as the social service chaplain at Parkview Manor, a state-licensed health care facility for people living with HIV and AIDS, and she wanted to help start the Catholic portion of the caregivers’ program.

“I see myself as being able to sit with the individual and visit,” Lowe said. “If he or she needs to have an errand run, or wants to go to the show, that’s fine. I’m interested in all aspects of pastoral care.”

Lowe said she believes ‘it’s very difficult to get people living in the outlying areas to recognize this need (for HIV/AIDS ministry).’

St. Jude parishioners Beverly Carrico and Milly Kopecky said they decided to join the care team because they want to help people in need.

“I’ve worked as a volunteer for St. Francis Hospital,” Carrico said, “and I like to help people.”

Kopecky said she has a background in nursing and chaplaincy at St. Francis Hospital and “just felt the call to help people who are living with AIDS.”

When Kopecky discussed her volunteer plans, many people she knew expressed concern for her health.

“Some people said, ‘Why do you want to do that? Are you sure this is what God wants you to do?’” Kopecky recalled. “Most people would just shake their heads. There was quite a lot of skepticism, but I’ve had support from people at church, and my husband has been supportive.”

While working as a hospital chaplain, Kopecky said, “I found there is something sacred about being with a person who is very ill and facing a terminal illness. I felt like this is my way of living out the Gospel.”

St. Lawrence parishioner Myrna Vallier said her interest in ministering to people living with HIV and AIDS dates back to the years she worked for the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities.

“It’s not easy to help people who are hurting,” Vallier said, “but I realize how desperate the need is (for volunteer caregivers). I want to bring a knowledge of caring to the person, and to the person’s family. I want to be there with them for whatever they might need, whether it’s listening or doing. The most important thing is to let them know that I love them, that we all love them, and we’re not judging. Forgiveness is there. Reconciliation with the Lord is there. They just have to ask for it.”

(For information about a variety of ways to help people living with HIV/AIDS, call Father Carlton Beever, director of HIV/AIDS Ministry for the archdiocese, at 317-631-4006.)

St. Nicholas of Myra

St. Nicholas of Myra is portrayed in this church window holding a bag of coins. Nicholas, who lived in the fourth century, is said to have secretly given gold to poor girls for their dowries. This legend gave rise to his patronage of children and the giving of gifts in his name at Christmas time. His feast was Dec. 6.
Priest assigned to Bright area to help determine support for new parish, school

Appointment is part of archdiocesan response to development in Dearborn County by people working in the greater Cincinnati area

By William R. Bruns

Father William G. Marks, pastor of St. Gabriel Parish in Indianapolis, has been assigned by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein to the Bright area. He will begin offering Mass and celebrating the other sacraments for the people there in January 1999.

This step is being taken in order to determine if there is sufficient support for the establishment of a new parish—and possibly for an elementary school—in the area.

According to Msgr. Joseph F. Schadel, vicar general, “This first step is an assessment of the real potential for a new parish in the area. Contrary to rumor, the archdiocese has not purchased property in the area for a new parish. Land purchase at this time would be very premature.”

Father Larry P. Crawford, who had been pastor of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, has been named pastor of St. Gabriel, succeeding Father Marks.

The northeastern Dearborn County area in southeastern Indiana has experienced a tremendous growth in recent years as persons who work in the Greater Cincinnati area have moved their families to the area. Catholics there have requested the establishment of a new parish and Catholic schools for their children. Many now attend Mass and send their children to schools in the Cincinnati Archdiocese.

“The challenges, struggles and joys of becoming a community in Christ creates memories of a lifetime,” Father Marks said. “I think it will be an incredible experience to be part of a group of people who will possibly create something bigger than ourselves. Nothing will be taken for granted, and this will give us the opportunity to truly experience the Spirit of God at work in our lives,” he said.

The archdiocese has also formed a new task force that will be asked to determine the need, interest and ability to support a Catholic high school in the area. Members of the task force are George Batta, Father Louis Manna, and Stacie Sehlhorst, all of West Harrison; Kathy Busken, Benedictine Sister Mary Cecile Deken, Mary Gellert, Father John E. Hartzler, Christine Mueller, Eva Roll, and Marty Ryan, all of Lawrenceburg; Betty Federle and Larry Merkel, of Batesville; William Hornbach and Father William Turner, of Guilford; Father Christopher Craig, of Aurora; and Al Stock, of Sumnan.

A professional firm has been hired to assist with the surveys and other consultations. The project is being coordinated by the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education and Franciscan Father William Farris, pastor of St. Louis Parish in Batesville and dean of the Batesville Deanery.

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Rev. William Marks, pastor of St. Gabriel, Indianapolis, appointed to the pastoral responsibility of beginning the process for forming a potential parish in Bright.

Given at Indianapolis Dec. 2, 1998

These appointments are from the office of the archdiocesan Official Appointments process for forming a potential parish in Dearborn County.

The project is being coordinated by Batta, Father Louis Manna, and Stacie Sehlhorst, all of West Harrison; Kathy Busken, Benedictine Sister Mary Cecile Deken, Mary Gellert, Father John E. Hartzler, Christine Mueller, Eva Roll, and Marty Ryan, all of Lawrenceburg; Betty Federle and Larry Merkel, of Batesville; William Hornbach and Father William Turner, of Guilford; Father Christopher Craig, of Aurora; and Al Stock, of Sumnan. A professional firm has been hired to assist with the surveys and other consultations. The project is being coordinated by the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education and Franciscan Father William Farris, pastor of St. Louis Parish in Batesville and dean of the Batesville Deanery.

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Registration deadline for March for Life youth pilgrimage to Washington is Dec. 15

Reservations are still being accepted for the fourth annual youth pilgrimage Jan. 20-24 to the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Since 1973, when the U.S. Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton decisions legalized abortion, the March for Life Education and Defense Fund has sponsored an ecumenical rally and march every year on Jan. 22 in downtown Washington to peacefully protest the killing of unborn babies.

More than 36 million babies have died in abortion in the past 25 years.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and many other U.S. Bishops participate in the national pro-life rally and march on the anniversary of the Supreme Court’s decision, as well as in the National Prayer Vigil and Mass for Life at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington.

Steve Flynn, associate director of the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, said this year the archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries is collaborating with the pro-life office on arrangements for the pilgrimage.

High school students from all 11 deaneries are invited to participate in the pro-life bus trip, he said, by contacting the pro-life office at 317-236-1569, or 800-382-9806, ext. 1569, before the Dec. 15 registration deadline.

The reservation fee of $89 per person with registration form and permission slip are due by that date.

“We are broadening our pro-life message this year by extending the trip and including visits to the Smithsonian Institution’s Holocaust Museum and the war memorials,” Flynn said. “We hope these new educational experiences will deepen the students’ understanding of respect for life. We also are making the format more like a retreat, with an opportunity for discussion of our experiences.”

Needy families ‘shop’ at Catholic Social Services Christmas Store

For parents who can’t even pay their bills, the thought of providing Christmas gifts for their children can be frightening.

For nine years, Catholic Social Services has offered the answer—the Christmas Store. The idea was to provide a place where the poor could have the dignity and privacy to select the gifts for their own families.

After Thanksgiving, qualified parents went through the store, escorted by trained volunteers, selecting gifts for everyone in the family. They paid $2 for each person, with a maximum of $10 for a family.

Last year, 193 volunteers spent thousands of hours helping to buy, collect, sort and display the thousands of new items needed—and people donated. Gifts include clothing for all ages, toys and household merchandise.

That meant 264 families were able to have bountiful Christmas celebrations. It meant bringing the joy of being remembered to 1,166 people—mostly children.

Archdiocesan youth will travel again to the nation’s capital this January for the annual March for Life. The event is held annually to peacefully protest the 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and other U.S. bishops plan to participate in the national pro-life rally and march.

Children, 9 years and under, who benefited from the Christmas Store last year numbered 449. At ages 10 to 14, there were 322 children; 109 were aged 15 to 19.

The program has grown. In 1990, the Christmas Store served 42 families and utilized 42 volunteers.

The Christmas Store tries to accommodate all the parishes and organizations that use the store as their way to assist their needy families and involve their parishioners in the process.

The store works with more than 20 such parishes.

Before assisting clients in the store, volunteers are given orientation training.

Needy families are referred to the Christmas Store by school social workers, St. Vincent de Paul conferences, Crisis Office workers and other child service organizations.

To volunteer, call 317-236-1569, or send donations to Catholic Social Services, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.

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Several weeks ago, many watched in horror as Jack Kevorkian, "Dr. Death," killed a patient suffering from Lou Gehrig’s disease by injecting potassium chloride into his veins. The physician-assisted suicide was seen on a television program.

The Catholic Church has consistently taught that both suicide and euthanasia constitute sinful matter of a serious or grave nature. By extension, assisting another human being to commit suicide is to cooperate in that evil, and is therefore an offense against God, the author and sustainer of life (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2276). An article by James F. Keenan, S.J., in the Nov. 14, 1998, issue of America magazine describes three assumptions frequently used in the debate on physician-assisted suicide.

The first assumption is that physician-assisted suicide is all about relief from chronic suffering and pain. Yet this is not so. In fact, studies show that properly administered palliative care can lessen or eradicate pain in all but the most rare cases. Physician-assisted suicide is not the appropriate remedy for chronic pain; palliative care is, and it should be sought out on behalf of the patient who desires it.

The second assumption is that physician-assisted suicide is about helping clear-headed, rational patients exercise their "right to die." Yet this is not so. In fact, the occurrence of clinical depression is high among those who would be candidates for physician-assisted suicide. Furthermore, many who are terminally ill have a deep fear of being a burden to others in their final days. If physician-assisted suicide becomes an option for patients, it is likely that it would be chosen in many cases out of a misguided sense of duty to free the family from the burden of care, rather than out of a clear sense of what is best for the patient.

Physician-assisted suicide is not an exercise in compassion, but rather it robs the dying patient of his or her human dignity and deprives the family and caregivers of the opportunity to grow in virtue and compassion. Caring for the dying may be an inconvenience, but it is not a burden. It is a corporal work of mercy.

The third assumption is that physician-assisted suicide is fully voluntary. We are led to believe that in each case the dying person voluntarily requests it and assumes full responsibility for her or his directive. Yet this is not so. In fact, in Holland, where physician-assisted suicide is practiced without fear of prosecution, 1,000 out of 3,600 cases of physician-assisted suicide were nonvoluntary, according to Father Keenan.

Clear evidence is to be found in Holland of the slippery slope from voluntary physician-assisted suicide to involuntary euthanasia. Physician-assisted suicide is unethical and morally reprehensible. But as Jack Kevorkian and his ilk push us closer toward legalized euthanasia, there are forces at work that would have us settle for false mercy and wait for the Lord whose mercies never fail.

Thank God for those who offer encouragement to patients and their caregivers to pray, to be patient, to hope and wait for the Lord whose mercies never fail. Thank God for all those who stand by the bedside and assume full responsibility for her or his directive. We are led to believe that in each case the dying person voluntarily requests it and assumes full responsibility for her or his directive.

As we live this season of Advent, let us recall that it is above all a season of hope: hope against despair, against anxiety, pessimism and despair. To hope requires great courage.

The candles of the Advent wreath will burn in hope this month. May they remind us all that everything is in God’s hands—and that in him—especially in matters of life and death—we rightly place all our trust. Those who hope in the Lord do not hope in vain. We can do no better than to leave the hour of death in the hands of our gentle Lord’s hands.

The criterion is to cooperate in that evil, and is therefore an offense against God, the author and sustainer of life (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2276).
Buscando la Cara del Señor

Dios y la fe católica

E imposible de poder mantener y tratar de entender en su totalidad. Sin embargo, hemos encontrado ciertas tendencias que pueden ayudarnos a comprender mejor la situación actual del mundo religioso católico.

Primero, encontramos un interés creciente en el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, que se publicó en la década de 1970. Este documento es un recurso valioso para aquellos que desean profundizar en la fe católica.

Además, notamos un interés en el estudio de la historia y la teología de la Iglesia. Los clérigos y los seminaristas están más dispuestos a explorar la historia y la teología de la Iglesia en busca de una comprensión más profunda de su propia fe.

Por otro lado, también observamos un aumento en el interés por la teología de la liberación y el derecho de mujeres en la Iglesia. Estos temas están en constante evolución y han dejado un impacto significativo en la Iglesia católica.

En resumen, la fe católica ha experimentado un importante impresionante en el mundo religioso en los últimos años. Los católicos están más dispuestos a explorar la fe católica y a entender mejor su propia historia y teología. Esto nos da una esperanza de que la fe católica seguirá siendo relevante en el mundo de hoy.

La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en diciembre

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Sacred Heart Parish in Indianapolis will present its “Living Nativity Scene” Dec. 11 and Dec. 12 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. each evening. The nativity scene will be displayed outside the parish hall, located at 1125 S. Meridian St. Refreshments will be available in the parish hall. Information: 317-636-5551.

St. Vincent Carmel Hospital will present its “Living Nativity” performances Dec. 12 at 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. The performances will be held under a heated tent on the St. Vincent Carmel campus, 13500 N. Meridian St., in Carmel. Refreshments will be available. Those attending the event are encouraged to bring canned goods for distribution in Hamilton County through the St. Vincent de Paul Society’s food pantry.

St. Francis Hospice is offering white ceramic angel ornaments for the “Tree of Honor” at the St. Francis Beech Grove Campus, 1600 Albany St., in Beech Grove through Dec. 15. The ornaments, which can be purchased to honor and remember loved ones, are $15 each. The ornaments will remain on the “Tree of Honor” through Jan. 1, 1999. In addition, hospice is also offering lights to illuminate the live “Tree of Honor” at the St. Francis South Campus, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., located outside the emergency department, for $10 each. Lights can be designated to honor or remember someone special. All proceeds from the sale of ornaments and lights will benefit St. Francis Hospice. For more information, call Candy Howe at 317-865-2092.

Saint Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad was awarded $1,396,163 by Lilly Endowment Inc. of Indianapolis, as part of a $54.4 million grant program to assist theological schools in North America in “ensuring the highest possible quality of pastoral leadership for local congregations.” With the grant the school will undertake an ambitious program aimed at the three primary groups of parish ministers in the Catholic Church in the U.S.: priests, permanent deacons and lay ministers. The proposed integrated program will promote the development of professional skills and collaboration among parish ministers.

Lilly Endowment, Inc. awarded Saint Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad a $30,000 planning grant to assist it in proposing a program that will engage high school students in theological inquiry and offer them a “religious context for making vocational choices.”

Young Widowed Group will have its annual family Christmas party Dec. 21 at St. Matthew Parish in Indianapolis in the Lawless Room. Present and former group members and their families are invited to attend. For more information, call Marilyn Hess, archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries, 317-236-1586 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1586.

No. 84 used Immaculate Heart School when the building had to be evacuated.

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Sister Marian T. Kinney, S.P. — Director
St. Michael Parish plans to evangelize door-to-door

The fabric of parish life—memories of shared faith, of family and of friends—at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Indianapolis has been preserved in a colorful quilt celebrating a half-century of community and commemorating St. Michael’s golden anniversary this year. Parishioner Judy Barmann designed and made the quilt with help from Maria Montgomery, Ann Clark, Janette Lynch, Jo Armir, Mary Ellen Katcher and Carol Romaine. The quilt now hangs as a symbol of faith and fellowship in the entry hall of St. Michael’s two-year-old Parish Life Center.

“Four of the six name blocks are signed by some of the pastors who have served St. Michael’s over the years,” Barmann said. “Other quilt blocks include a portrait of the front of the church done in appliqué, an embroidered copy of the logo designed for St. Michael’s 50th anniversary, and one commemorating the founding of the school in 1948 and the Franciscan sisters who staffed it.”

Other quilt blocks list the groundbreaking dates for the three major buildings—the church, the school and the Parish Life Center—on St. Michael’s property at 3354 W. 30th Street in Indianapolis. Blocks also recall important moments and activities in the parish history, including two fires.

“One quilt block depicts our Journey of Faith and Growth,” she said, “which was a major capital campaign for us when we were able to build our Parish Life Center.”

When Msgr. Richard Kavanagh, St. Michael’s administrator from 1951 through 1955 and pastor until 1982, signed his quilt block, he added the words “Carry on!” next to his signature.

Now retired and living at St. Paul Hermitage in Beech Grove, Msgr. Kavanagh said he has prayed to St. Michael daily on behalf of the parish for many years.

“Father Thomas Finneran was the founding pastor,” Msgr. Kavanagh explained. “When I was there, it was interesting to see St. Michael’s grow from a very small parish and school to a big parish and school.

“I had many a good year at St. Michael’s,” he said. “I was there at a very interesting time because all the changes of Vatican II were coming in, and I had to cope with the fact that some people didn’t like the changes and some did. Others tried to add changes that the council didn’t approve, so I had to have kind of a firm hand. The worst experience I had there was the church fire in December of 1967. About a year later, the fire marshal found out it was arson.”

During his tenure as pastor, Msgr. Kavanagh said he started the practice of reciting the Prayer of St. Michael and the Memorare before the start of every Mass. Parishioners still continue that liturgical tradition.

Father Anthony Volz, St. Michael’s pastor since September 1997, said about 75 percent of the parish is comprised of long-time members, and 25 percent of the parishioners are new.

“Our golden anniversary ends in December,” Father Volz explained, “but we still want to carry on our 50th anniversary theme of ‘Welcome Home.’ Our emphasis right now is evangelization. We want to build on our rich past and invite inactive Catholics back to the parish and the Church.”

Conventional Franciscan Brother Bob Baxter, St. Michael’s director of religious education and youth ministry coordinator, is planning a comprehensive door-to-door evangelization campaign this summer in the parish community.

Father Volz said a national young adult evangelization team has been asked to assist parish adults and youth with...
this major outreach effort within the parish boundaries.

Father Volz said. “We have a group of people who have helped the parish for a long time. They welcome new people into the life of the parish and encourage newcomers to help with our ministry to the poor through our food pantry, with home visits, and with the many other activities we have in the Parish Life Center.”

The multipurpose center is used for religious education classes, he said, as well as for meetings, social occasions, community gatherings and Catholic Youth Organization sports competitions in the Wilmoth Gymnasium. The gym is named for Father James Wilmoth, St. Michael’s pastor from 1990 to 1997, who encouraged parishioners to build the center for a variety of Church and community uses.

“The Parish Life Center is used seven days a week,” Father Volz said. “It’s great to have the space to welcome people. We have a number of community organizations, including neighborhood Crime Watch groups, Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon, using the center. It’s become a central focus for the near westside.”

St. Michael Parish recently instituted quarterly dinners to welcome new parishioners, the pastor said. “When someone new calls the rectory for information, the parish secretary invites them to the welcoming supper at the Parish Life Center. The parish staff and parish council hosted the first dinner recently. We started with introductions and a short presentation by the parish staff, then each new parishioner had a chance to talk about what brought them to St. Michael’s or another topic.”

Parish council president Jack Watson grew up in St. Michael Parish and is currently serving his second term on the council.

“There are the 50s and 60s, the parish and school grew rapidly and supported a growing middle-class community,” Watson said. “At one time, we had 990 students in the school. St. Michael’s reacted well to the needs of the Catholics in the area as well as to the needs of the community.”

Four decades later, he said, St. Michael Parish continues to meet a variety of needs for people living in this multicultural and diverse socioeconomic neighborhood.

“I think St. Michael’s is one of the catalysts holding the [near westside] community together,” Watson said. “The fact that St. Michael School and Cardinal Ritter Junior and Senior High Schools are right on the parish grounds creates a stable environment in the community. We’re going to try to reach out to people we know who are not attending a church and determine what their needs are and whether we can meet their needs. As we look forward to the third millennium, I think we’ll continue to meet those diverse kinds of community needs.”

St. Michael the Archangel
(1948)
Address: 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis, IN 46222
Phone: 317-926-7559  Fax: 317-921-3282
Church Capacity: 709

Number of Households: 1,099
Chaplains: Westview Hospital
Pastor: Rev. Anthony Volz
Pastoral Associate: Daniel P. Clark
Music Director: Benjamin Del Vecchio
Parish Secretary: Diana Pheusig
Principal: Steven M. Padgett
School: 3352 W. 30th St., 317-926-0516 (K-8)
Number of Students: 370
Masses: Saturday Anticipation — 5:30 p.m. Sunday — 8:00, 10:00 a.m., noon Holy Day — see parish bulletin
Weekdays — Tues.—Fri. 8:15 a.m., Sat. 8:30 a.m.
First Bridal Issue for 1999!

Announcements of WEDDINGS

Parents/Grandparents!

Send us your daughter’s, son’s, or grandchild’s wedding announcement with a picture of the couple to be published free in The Criterion’s Feb. 5, 1999 wedding supplement!

Free gifts to the first 25 announcements received with a picture!

To be published in the February 5, 1999, issue of The Criterion

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If you are planning your wedding or have had your wedding between Feb. 1 and July 30, 1999, we invite you to submit the information for an announcement on the form to the right.

**Photographs**

You may send us a photo of the bride-to-be, a picture of the couple or a photo of the bride and groom. Please do not cut the photograph. The photo must be wallet-size and will be used as space permits. Black & white photos are preferred; we cannot guarantee the reproduction quality of a color photo. Please put name(s) and return address on the back. Photos will be returned if a stamped, self-addressed envelope is enclosed.

**Deadline**

All announcements with photos must be received by Wednesday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. (No photos can be accepted after this date). All announcements without photos must be received by the same date.

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Clip and mail to: BRIDES, The Criterion, ATTN: Susan Bierman, 1400 North Meridian, Indianapolis, IN 46202

**Deadline with photos:** Wednesday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m.

Please print or type:

- **BRIDE**
  - First
  - Middle
  - Last
  - Daytime Phone

- **Mailing Address**
  - City
  - State
  - Zip Code

- **Bride’s Parents**
  - City
  - State

- **BRIDEROOM First**
  - Middle
  - Last

- **Bridegroom’s Parents**
  - City
  - State

- **Wedding Date**
  - Church
  - City
  - State

- **Photo Enclosed**
- **No Photo**

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Below is an example of how your listing will appear in The Criterion.

**BEDEL-Calabrese**

Susan Marie Bedel and Christopher Michael Calabrese will be married June 27 at St. Maurice, St. Maurice. The bride is the daughter of Robert and Janet L. Bedel. The groom is the son of Jeff and Rebecca Calabrese.

**BIELSKI-Dubois**

Catherine Elizabeth Bielski and John Charles Dubois will be married June 27 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Carmel. The bride is the daughter of Leonard and Catherine Bielski. The groom is the son of Raymond and Suzanne Dubois.

**BLACK-Hallal**

Julie A. Black and Jared R. Hallal will be married on July 3 at Holy Family, New Albany. The bride is the daughter of the late Barbara Aemmer Black and Mr. Richard T. Black. The groom is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Eli R. Hallal.

**BORSE-Wheat**

Christina Lynne Borse and Christopher John Wheat will be married Aug. 22 at St. Matthew, Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Jim and Sally Borse. The groom is the son of Chris and Becky Wheat.
Communal penance services set for Advent

Batesville Deanery
Dec. 13, 4 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Jeffersonville
Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Roch, Jeffersonville
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier, Jeffersonville
Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Jude, Jeffersonville

Indianapolis East Deanery
Dec. 12, 7 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Starlight
Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Simon the Apostle, Indianapolis West Deanery
Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Sellersburg
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Bradford
Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Paul, Sellersburg

Indianapolis South Deanery
Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Roch
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood
Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Jude
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Barnabas

Indianapolis North Deanery
Dec. 11, 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary, Greensburg
Dec. 12, 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary of the Knobs, Providence High School, Clarksville
Dec. 13, 9 a.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary
Dec. 14, 7 a.m. at Immaculate Heart School
Dec. 15, 7 a.m. at St. Luke School
Dec. 16, 7 a.m. at St. Andrew the Apostle
Dec. 16, 12:30 p.m. at St. Luke School
Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Andrew the Apostle
Dec. 16, 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence High School, Clarksville

Indianapolis West Deanery
Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, St. Leon
Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Greenfield
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, St. Leon
Dec. 15, 9 a.m. at Immaculate Heart School
Dec. 15, 9 a.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary
Dec. 16, 12:30 p.m. at St. Luke School
Dec. 16, 7 a.m. at St. Andrew the Apostle
Dec. 16, 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence High School, Clarksville

Indianapolis South Deanery
Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Roch
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood
Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Jude
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Barnabas

Indianapolis East Deanery
Dec. 12, 7 p.m. at St. Simon the Apostle
Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. at St. Simon the Apostle
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Greenfield
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Jude
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral

Connersville Deanery
Dec. 13, 1 p.m. at St. Agnes, Nashville
Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Roch, Jeffersonville
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier, Jeffersonville
Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Jude, Jeffersonville
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Jeffersonville
Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary, New Albany

Carmel
Dec. 12, 7 p.m. at St. Agnes, Nashville
Dec. 13, 1 p.m. at St. Agnes, Nashville
Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at St. Roch, Jeffersonville
Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier, Jeffersonville
Dec. 16, 7 p.m. at St. Roch
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Jude
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Barnabas

Indianapolis West Deanery
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Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Jude
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral

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Indianapolis South Deanery
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Dec. 15, 7 p.m. at SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood
Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Jude
Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at St. Barnabas

Indiana South Deanery
Dec. 13, 6 p.m. at St. Patrick, Terre Haute
Dec. 15, 1:30 p.m. at St. Ann, Terre Haute
Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph, Terre Haute
Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary, Terre Haute
In her travels, Sanderson wondered “what we can celebrate about the century we knew” and “what we hope for those who will walk after us.” All people of God should be wondering the very same things. Her book incorporates comments and memories representing the virtues we find in our faith; and it emphasizes the beauty of wisdom, observations, deep reflections and everyday moments that help us be better Christians.

And she does this without preaching!-sized perfectly to fit in a purse or brief-case, the book appeals to both men, women, and youngsters since it quotes people of all ages (7 to 93) from diverse backgrounds and circumstances. Many are from the Indianapolis area. With a light-hearted approach, Sanderson—an essayist, poet, and lecturer—also shares sidebar-anecdotes, quotations, and historical facts; and she leaves space for readers to jot notes, draw pictures, or write memories of their own. I’ve already heard about book owners (including clergy) who have read parts of her book to patients in the hospital or friends and family, or who have used excerpts as inspiration for prayer or meditation for themselves and others.

Sharing was one of the goals the author had in mind when writing Hugs and Hopes for a Century. Writing with flaire and sensitivity, Sanderson says, “Let’s celebrate the good we bring to a new century. . .” She can be reached at 317-271-2973 for additional information.

(Mrs. Voger Meister is a freelance writer. She is a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis.)

Maurice and Thérèse: The Story of a Love

by Patrick V. Ahern

Doubleday, $19.95

222 pages

Reviewed by John F. Fink

On Sept. 30, 1997, we observed the 100th anniversary of the death of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face. Nineteen days later, Pope John Paul II declared St. Thérèse a doctor of the Church, the third woman so named (there are 30 men). This year, we observe the 100th anniversary of the publication of her autobiography, Story of a Soul, which moved her from the status of an unknown person to that of the most popular saint of modern times.

New Bishop Patrick V. Ahern, an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of New York, has written a remarkable book because it’s drawn from a remarkable correspondence between St. Thérèse and a young struggling seminarian named Maurice Bellière. There were 21 letters, 11 from Maurice and 10 from Thérèse.

Bishop Ahern’s greatest contribution is in telling us what was happening in the lives of the two young people during the correspondence. It took place during the last two years of Thérèse’s life, at a time when she was suffering physically from the tuberculosis that would kill her. She was also suffering from severe spiritual dryness, a condition that continued until her death. And, in obedience, she was writing her masterpiece, Story of a Soul. The correspondence began when Maurice wrote to the Carmelite monastery in Lisieux, France, asking to have a sister pray for him. He hoped to be a missionary but was well aware of his limitations and knew that he needed prayers. The letter was received by Thérèse’s blood sister, Pauline, who was then prioress, and she asked Thérèse to pray for Maurice. Soon the correspondence began, and it became ever more intimate. These are love letters, which is why

Nativity Set Collections!

Nativity sets are wonderful ways to begin a complete collection with figures and authentic Fontanini stable marked with a coin. The Village Dove is your headquarters for books, cards, Bibles, calendars, videos, statues, and all your gift giving and decorating ideas.

Variety of sets available — $59.50 and up.


See BOOK, page 13

See 6064, page 11
the book’s subtitle is “The Story of a Love.” But not a romantic love. Eventually they addressed each other as “my dear little brother” and “my very dear little sister.” Maurice and Thérèse never met.

After Thérèse told Maurice that she was dying but that she would be with him after her death, Maurice wrote that he feared that, once Thérèse shared in God’s justice, she wouldn’t be able to excuse his faults. In reply, Thérèse said that Maurice should remember that she would also share in the infinite mercy of the Lord. This letter goes to the heart of her understanding of God, that God is love and mercy.

Thérèse also did not accept the concept of heaven as eternal rest. Rather, it is eternal life, a life that is full. The whole purpose of her life on earth, she thought, was to love God and make him loved. After death, she would no longer be bound by the limitations of space and time and her mission would be to travel the world as the messenger of God’s love. That is why she was named, along with St. Francis Xavier, as the patron of missionaries.

Much of this book is quite emotional, especially the narrative of Thérèse’s death. When Thérèse died, Maurice was on a ship to Africa to begin his life as a missionary. Although he always felt that Thérèse was close to him, his career was not successful. After eight years, he left Africa a broken priest. He died from sleeping sickness, an illness carried by the tsetse fly. But before that, he was confined to a sanitarium for the mentally ill, the same one where Thérèse’s father died. Maurice died on July 14, 1907, at age 33.

This book truly reveals the full beauty of St. Thérèse’s spirituality.†
New efforts help engaged couples, slow divorce rates

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Church, civic and state measures have been introduced to better enhance the quality of marriage preparation and to lower divorce rates.

In the Catholic Church, a St. John’s University professor has helped develop and test a new marriage preparation program called Unitas.

The hope for Unitas, Joan Heaney-Hunter said, is that an engaged couple’s “skills for marriage would be enhanced and ... they would walk away with an appreciation of what the Catholic Church has to offer them in supporting their commitment in marriage.”

Parishes testing Unitas over an 18-month period reported increased parishioner involvement, new resources for parish leadership, and a greater understanding of the sacrament of marriage.

Like the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults after which it is modeled, Unitas gives participants faith formation, information and a connection to the local Church, where various rituals and blessings occur during Sunday liturgies.

In the Fond du Lac, Wis., area, 35 church— including its six Catholic parishes—have established a Marriage Communities Covenant, which involves counseling couples before and after they marry.

“We as a Church need to make a commitment to support the sanctity of marriage and help couples when they need it most,” said Father Pat Heppe, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Fond du Lac, about 50 miles northwest of Milwaukee.

Heppe said. “We are striving to mentor couples who can prepare young people for marriage, and keep in touch with them to monitor their marriages.”

In Florida, a new state law taking effect Jan. 1 gives couples a $32.50 discount on their marriage license fees if they get premarital counseling.

The state will offer couples four hours of educational programs in conflict management, communication skills, financial responsibilities and children and parenting responsibilities.

It’s not all that different from Catholic marriage preparation, which some Florida pastors predict will exceed what the state requires for a discount.

“I think it is important that couples understand that these aren’t hoops we are making them jump through, but that we are genuinely concerned about the quality of their marriages and hope they will put a tremendous amount of effort in being well-prepared,” said Anthony Marchica, a pastoral associate in the Diocese of Palm Beach, Fla.

“We will definitely exceed these standards,” he added. “I hope most parishes are exceeding these standards already.”

Catholic marriage preparation is generally a four- to six-month process entailing a discernment phase, an educational process, and the planning of the wedding ceremony itself.

The criterion, signed this fall, is one of more than 100 such programs in communities nationwide. One of its most active promoters is syndicated religion columnist Michael McManus, a Presbyterian layman who founded Marriage Savers with his wife.

Marriage Savers stresses Church involvement in marriage preparation and the use of mentor couples to help the engaged, the recently wed, and couples dating each other seriously—to show rough spots during a marriage, and to teach techniques to get through them.

Father Jerome Wagner, pastor of St. Louis Parish in Fond du Lac, said the covenant “is basically trying to put all churches on the same page for marriage preparation and mentoring young marriages.”

The major task for Catholic parishes is finding longtime married couples to work with newlyweds. “To do this right, each parish needs about 100 couples,” Father Heppe said. “We are striving to mentor couples who can prepare young people for marriage, and keep in touch with them to monitor their marriages.”

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The state will offer couples four hours of educational programs in conflict management, communication skills, financial responsibilities and children and parenting responsibilities.

It’s not all that different from Catholic marriage preparation, which some Florida pastors predict will exceed what the state requires for a discount.

“I think it is important that couples understand that these aren’t hoops we are making them jump through, but that we are genuinely concerned about the quality of their marriages and hope they will put a tremendous amount of effort in being well-prepared,” said Anthony Marchica, a pastoral associate in the Diocese of Palm Beach, Fla.

“We will definitely exceed these standards,” he added. “I hope most parishes are exceeding these standards already.”

Catholic marriage preparation is generally a four- to six-month process entailing a discernment phase, an educational process, and the planning of the wedding ceremony itself.
Advent invites us to welcome the Holy Spirit

By Dolores L. Leckey

The season of Advent invites us to look for signs of the Holy Spirit and to welcome that Spirit into our lives. Traces of the Spirit can be detected in the rhythms of daily life.

The Scriptures are a good place to begin looking for the Spirit. The account of the Annunciation, for example, as recorded in Luke’s Gospel, offers one of the great Advent meditations. The story has inspired paintings, poetry and music from age to age.

So it was for Mary. So it is for ordinary people who are surprised by their capacity for the extraordinary. The Spirit is unpredictable and totally free. In her new book Amazing Grace, published by Putnam, writer Kathleen Norris says the Incarnation (which is what the Annunciation is all about) becomes the place where fear contend with hope. We all have our daily struggles with fears. Will my child outgrow a particular behavior? Are these worrisome physical symptoms I’ve been having a sign of impending catastrophe? Am I making a mess of my relationships?

Hope enables us to lean on God, to trust God, to welcome the peace that appears when we least expect it (much like the Holy Spirit).

When Gabriel encountered Mary, he told her not to be afraid. When the Spirit inspires our own lives (via angels, perhaps) the message is the same.

Meditate on the Annunciation, and you will notice the scene is one of spare dialogue and deep silences, an environment that makes room for the action of the Spirit.

Early on in the Advent season, try to make an effort to arrange a few hours apart, in an atmosphere of relaxed silence, to begin to savor the gifts that God bestows on the earth daily. Trees, berry bushes, birds—all these can become icons of God’s winter beauty. The same attention and grateful heart—qualities of savoring—can be applied to family customs: cooking, Christmas cards and music which nourish both bodies and spirits, and strengthen our human ties. Advent is also a good time to explore the Liturgy of the Hours, now available in easy-to-follow books suitable for lay people. This ancient form of the Church’s daily prayer can also help us discern the Spirit in our midst.

The Advent hymns that introduce the morning and evening prayer are filled with expectations of God’s coming to us; the intercessions, too, carry a spirit of hopeful waiting: “Lord, help us to stand watchful and ready, until your Son is revealed in all his glory.”

Waiting: This is a major theme in the Church’s Advent prayer; the theme also is woven into the fabric of our daily lives. Even with our best efforts to simplify the celebration of the Incarnation, we will still find ourselves waiting.

Grocery lines, hospital emergency rooms, the post office, public transportation: These are ever with us. Observe the faces of those with whom you wait (faces often reveal the struggles and state of mind of the person), and pray for them.

Remember Mary’s waiting, and pray for women who are awaiting a birth. Recall Mary’s “Magnificat” (“He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly”), and pray for oppressed people everywhere.

Advent reminds us that, in some ultimate sense, all of life is about waiting. A good checklist for reflecting on whether or not we are preparing for the Incarnation according to the true Christmas spirit can be found in Paul’s Letter to the Galatians. “What the Spirit brings is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control” (Gal 5:22-23).

This is the perfect Christmas list. † (Dolores Leckey is a senior fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.)

The Holy Spirit inspires service

This Week’s Question

Describe a situation in which you believe inspiration from the Spirit—who breathed God—moved someone you know to do something valuable.

“I think that it happens all the time, but it doesn’t get attributed to the Spirit. For example, choosing to forgive someone who they have hurt, and being tolerant of other people’s limitations.” (Roseanne Radzowski, Mentor, Ohio)

“The outpouring of concern for one of my co-workers who recently lost her father reminded me that the human community we show each other is a sign of the Spirit working within us.” (Carol Ingraffia, Chicago, Ill.)

“The catechists who help prepare children and adults for the reception of the Spirit through confirmation do something valuable. When those being confirmed are open to God, their lives can change for the better, and they can become even closer to God.” (Father Chakian Joy, Forman, N.D.)

“I have friends who joined their child’s inner-city church, instead of the suburban one near them because they feel they can do more good being in the inner-city parish. They’re willing to travel, to inconvenience themselves, to share their gifts with the needy.” (Mary Ann Hamilton, Homewood, Ill.)

Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: What 20th-century martyr—someone who gave his or her life for faith—would you single out for recognition?

To respond for possible publication, write to FaithAlive! at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. †
From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Finley

The man who spread devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe

S aturday is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I was moved about two of the people associated with this feast. Our Lady of Guadalupe was called the Blessed Virgin of Juan and Juan Diego. But a third person is also the one most responsible for the spread of devotion associated with the image that appeared on Juan Diego’s cloak. His Bishop Juan Zumarraga has been called the bishop of the Archdiocese of Mexico. It was Bishop Zumarraga who fell on his knees at the sight of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He then kept the image in his private chapel while the first church was built on Tepeyac hill, as Our Lady requested. He approved and encouraged veneration of the image, which resulted in the conversion of the native people.

Bishop Zumarraga was important in the history of the Archdiocese of Mexico. A Franciscan missionary, he wrote the first catechism in the New World, both in Spanish and indigenous tongues. Although he was never able to master that language well enough to speak it. The catechism was printed on the first printing press brought to this continent, at the bishop’s request. He had a passion for the native peoples. He founded schools, hospitals, one of the first seminaries in the Americas, and even the Universitas Mexicana. He was so involved in his care for the Indians that he was constantly involved in controversy with the Spanish conquistadors. Bishop Zumarraga knew that it was his duty to protect the indigenous people, a mandate given to him to stay, but the boy cannot. He can find the book charming. It revolves around an 8-year-old boy who uses his love and his desire to help make his life better, or has Christmas gift-giving descended into a sterile task of selecting a perfect gift for another, or has Christmas gift-giving become an exercise in making someone feel better, or has Christmas gift-giving become a time for gift-giving. It is, after all, the season to remember again that God touched us with marvelous benevolence in a tangible way in the person of Jesus.

I was already hearing people complain about how they dreaded shopping for the perfect gift. When Robert Grant, a fine writer, I met not long ago, sent me a book. The title grabbed me. It was The Perfect Gift (Blue Mantle Press), a children’s book by Greg and Scott Sparrow.

That title, The Perfect Gift, raised all kinds of questions, starting with, What is the perfect gift, and how would you know when you had found it? And an answer. Does one really care about getting a perfect gift for another, or has Christmas gift-giving descended into a task of simply buying something to fulfill an obligation?

I found the book charming. It revolves around Andrew, 9 years old, a bit of a loner after his parents’ divorce, not sure anymore what is in the picture behind him. Shortly before Christmas he is visited by a mysterious boy his own age. He wants Andrew to stay, but the boy cannot. He wants Andrew to find the answer to that baffling task. And I felt his confusion as he wondered how he, who was so important to the first people, could be a perfect gift for one on his Christmas list. The story is truly a magical journey, ending in joy as Andrew comes up with simple gifts that reflect each person’s deepest needs. He discovers that this is, indeed, the perfect gift because it is given to make another person happy. Beautifully written, it appeals to children and adults alike. The author tells of one of the special things about Christmas is that it gets us to focus on gifts and their meaning. Giving the gift of self is one way in which we become connected to each other and show that we care for others. We are actually imitating God’s benevolence when we give a gift for no other reason than to express love and friendship.

The Perfect Gift is the story of a mystery to me that Christmas is a time for giving. It is, after all, the season to remember again that God touched us with marvelous benevolence in a tangible way in the person of Jesus.

Unlike Juan Diego, who has been declared blessed, Bishop Zumarraga’s cause for canonization never got far.

One day, the Spain crown appointed him inquisitor general for the Indians. He approved and encouraged veneration of the image, which resulted in the conversion of the native people. Some people, especially anthropologists, view him as a critique of destroying the Indians’ temples and religious books. Zumarraga’s defense was that the Indians were pagans and religion was strong, and he didn’t want his converts to relapse. Zumarraga continues his work for the catholics of Mexico, both the Indians and the Spanish, until his death at age 80. Toward the end of his life, he felt called to become a missionary in China and asked the pope to send him there. The pope refused.

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The Sunday Readings
Sunday, Dec. 13, 1998

• Isaiah 35:1-6a

• James 5:7-10

• Matthew 11:2-11

The Book of Isaiah furnishes this weekend’s first reading. It is no wonder that the Church employs the writings of the Book of Isaiah for its readings during Advent. Advent is the season of great and joyful expectation. Sections of Isaiah, such as the lesson this weekend, are magnificently expressive in their own joyful expectation.


The Epistle of James is the source of the second reading. This lesson of this letter is the first to the Church since St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians. The letter of James is unique, however, in his faith in the Lord who was to come.

My Journey to God

Eternal Dawn

Jesus, you are the Eternal Dawn, breaking in tender compassion upon the world you fashioned in love, a world now overset by suspicion, fear and hostility. Dispel the mist which separates us from you and from one another. Open our eyes to see the sorrows of the human family, our hearts to share them, and our hands to reach out to them with kindly deeds.

Dawn of our hope, be yourself, Incarnate Compassion in us. Free us from the shadows of darkness and bring us all into the warm dawn of universal mercy and love.

By Carmel of Terre Haute

(Carmel of Terre Haute will honor the God of all compassion during an Advent novena Dec. 16-24.)

The Sunday Readings

Reflection

The Introit Verse for this weekend, the Entrance Song taken from the Epistle to the Philippians, begins “Rejoice!” The Lord is near! In Latin, the word is “Gaudete”—an imperative. For centuries, this day has been called Gaudete Sunday. Traditionally, the celebrant at Mass were vestments the color of pink roses. The color represented not a reputation of the solemn violet of penance in Advent, but the dark violet brightened by brilliant light, as the morning sky is enlivened by the coming of the sun. Christmas is near. In only 12 days, the Christian world will commemorate the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem 1,996 years ago. His birth as human, as the son of Mary, was the greatest event in history. It set the stage for salvation. However, the Church reminds us in these readings, Christmas is not a time simply to remember a day long ago. It has profound personal implications if we allow it to be the occasion when Christ enters our souls.

The Lord will not storm into our lives as an intruder or as a conqueror. We must admit Jesus into our thoughts, our days, our decisions, and our hopes. To provide for this, we must rid ourselves of sin and selfishness. But, how is that to be done? In the place of our sin and fear will come the eternal Lord of life. ♦

Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen

Disciples who met Jesus may have been a couple

Q My husband and I have a question about the two disciples who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus and are with him (Lk 24:13-35). Could they have been husband and wife? It appears they shared a home. One of them, Cleophas, is a man, but his companion’s gender is not indicated. Is there any Catholic tradition to shed light on this? (Minnesota)

A There is no tradition exactly, but the possibility you mention has been discussed.

You offer one reason. Another, perhaps stronger, is the statement in the Gospel according to John (19:25) that among the women standing by the cross of Jesus was the wife of Cleophas—a different form of Cleophas. Cleophas is a stronger, is the statement in the Gospel according to John (19:25) that among the women standing by the cross of Jesus was the wife of Cleophas—a different form of Cleophas. Cleophas is a stronger, is the statement in the Gospel according to John (19:25) that among the women standing by the cross of Jesus was the wife of Cleophas—a different form of Cleophas. Cleophas is a stronger, is the statement in the Gospel according to John (19:25) that among the women standing by the cross of Jesus was the wife of Cleophas—a different form of Cleophas. Cleophas is a stronger, is the statement in the Gospel according to John (19:25) that among the women standing by the cross of Jesus was the wife of Cleophas—a different form of Cleophas. 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The Active List

The Criterion welcomes announcements for “The Active List” of parish and church-related activities open to the public. Please keep them brief, listing event, sponsor, date, time and location. No announcements can be taken by telephone. No pictures, please. Notices must be in our offices by 10 a.m. on Monday of the week of publication. Hand deliver or mail to: The Criterion, “The Active List,” 1400 N. Meridian St., P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, Ind., 46206.

December 11-12
Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1125 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis, will host its annual Christmas Madrigal Dinner. Doors will open at 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 1 p.m. on Sunday. Seating is limited. Cost: $25/person. Information and reservations: 317-955-6110.

December 12
Secenia Memorial High School, 5000 Newland Ave., Indianapolis, will host its Annual Nativity scene from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Information: 317-638-5551.

December 11-13
Marion College, 3200 Cold Spring Rd., Indianapolis, will offer Christmas Open House & Tours in the church. Information: 317-781-8785.

December 13
SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, will offer Advent Vespers at 7 p.m. Information: 317-634-4519.

December 13
Mary’s Ressurection Center will host a seminar on restoring Christanity, with Jesuit Father John Harden presenting “The Liturgy and the Sacraments” at 2:30 p.m. Mass will follow at 3:30 p.m., with Father Eimer Burwinkel presiding. (Located on 925 South, 8 miles east of 421 S, 12 miles south of Versailles.) Information: 812-689-5551.

December 13
The Oldenburg Academy music department will present its annual Christmas Concert at 3 p.m. in the auditorium. Information: 812-934-4440.

December 13
Roncalli High School, 3300 Prague Rd., Indianapolis, will host its annual Holiday Concert featuring the band and choirs at 3 p.m. in the school gymnasium. Tickets: $3 for reserved seating and $2 for general admission. Information and reservations: 317-787-8277.

December 16
St. Mary Church, 317 N. New Jersey St., Indianapolis, will hold an Advent evening prayer and open house from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Information: 317-637-3985.

December 16
St. Patrick Parish Family Life Center, Terre Haute, 1807 Poplar St., will hold a presentation of the Church’s teachings on abortion and contraception conducted by seminarian Dorian Knarr from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Information: 317-625-3518.

December 20
Sacred Heart Parish, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis, will hold its annual Christmas concert featuring the Sacred Heart Choir starting at 3 p.m. in the church. Information: 317-638-5551.

December 20
Mary’s Ressurection Center will host the Schoenstatt Holy Hour at 2:30 p.m. followed by Mass at 3:30 p.m. with Father Eimer Burwinkel presiding. (Located on 925 South, 8 miles east of 421 S, 12 miles south of Versailles.) Information: 812-689-3551.

December 20
Holy Name Church in Beech Grove will offer Christmas Concert XXXVII with adult, girls, boys and high school choirs directed by Jerry Craney. The tickets for the 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. concerts are $5 each. Information: 317-787-1682.

Recurring
Daily
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, hosts perpetual adoration 24 hours a day in the parish center.

Holy Rosary Parish, Indianapolis, 520 Stevens St., celebrates a Tridentine (Latin) Mass. Call for times.

Weekly
Sundays

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Clarksville, holds “Be Not Afraid” holy hour from 6-7 p.m.

St. Anthony Parish, 379 N. Warman, Indianapolis, holds a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.

Mondays
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Greenwood, 335 S. Meridian St., hosts a prayer group, 7:30 p.m. in the chapel.

Tuesdays
Our Lady of the Greenwood Marian Prayer group at Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, meets from 7-8 p.m. in the chapel to pray the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy.


St. Louis de Montfort Parish, Fishers, 11441 Hague Rd., in the Lafayette Diocese, offers adult religious education classes from 7 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5689.

Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 17th St., holds a prayer group from 2:30-3:30 p.m. This includes the rosary and other prayers.

Wednesdays
Marian Movement of Priests cenacle prayer group has

—See ACTIVE LIST, page 19

The Parish Community of St. Mary Catholic Church cordially invites you to an Open House Celebration & Advent Evening Prayer Wednesday, December 16, 1998 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. St. Mary Catholic Church 317 N. New Jersey St. (lackeys) Indianapolis, Indiana Prayer begins 7:00 p.m. Open House & Tours in the church 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Please join us! Informal Attire

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Lent at Fatima

Men’s retreat / Fr. Jim Farrell: February 19 - 21

Silent retreat / Fr. Bill Simmons: February 26 - 28

Women’s retreat / Fr. Al Ajamie and Sr. Patricia O’Bryan: March 5 - 7

Women’s retreat / Sr. Ruth Eileen Dwyer: March 12 - 14

Women’s retreat / Sr. Norma Rocklage and Fr. Larry Voelker: March 19 - 21
Cubans will celebrate first Feliz Navidad as holiday after 29 years

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Vatican welcomed a Cuban announcement reinstating Christmas as a holiday nearly 30 years after the celebration was suspended.

In the Holy See, this announcement was received with satisfaction," Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls wrote in a Dec. 2 statement. "The spokesman said the Cuban declaration "responds to a precise desire of the people and of the Cuban Church" and added that it "will not pass unobserved by the international community."" Cuba's Communist Party broke the news on the front page of its daily paper, Granma, Dec. 1. It recommend- ed that "from this year on," Dec. 25 would be a permanent holiday in Cuba.

Christmas celebrations were banned in Cuba in 1969. Officials at the time explained that workers were needed in the fields to meet demand for the sugar cane harvest. The following New Year's holiday also was canceled. In subsequent years, Christmas in Cuba remained a working day, though celebrations of the arrival of the new year resumed. The Granma announcement reinstating the Christian holiday said its abolition "was not inspired by any anti-religious spirit," and that mechanization had reduced the need for manpower during the harvest.

Cuba's bishops said the Church in their country "appreciates" and "highly values" the Cuban authorities' gesture and "expresses its profound confidence that the road of Cuba's openness to the world will produce new motives for joy, unity and hope for the Cuban people." In a Dec. 1 message signed by their press director, Orlando Marquez Hidalgo, the Cuban bishops said "although Christians in Cuba never ceased to cele- brate this event, re-establishing the Christmas holiday is an act rendering jus- tice to our Christian- centered culture. "It recognizes the purest religious senti- ments of Cubans and reaffirms our authen- tic traditions, above all our family ones," the message continued. "It also answers a request of the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, of the Cuban bishops and without doubt of other Christian churches, and all those who share our feelings." Cuban President Fidel Castro cleared the way for legal Christmas celebrations last December, 40 days before Pope John Paul II's Jan. 21-25 pastoral visit. At the time, Castro announced that he would make an "exception" and allow observ- ances of the holiday, but he did not say for how long.

The pope had requested the step dur- ing Castro's November 1996 visit to the Vatican.

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News briefs

U.S.

Collection for retired religious set

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection will be taken up at parishes in most U.S. dioceses—including the Archdiocese of Indianapolis—the weekend of Dec. 12-13. Those dioceses not involved in the collection that weekend have either had a special collection or participate in retirement assistance programs of their own. Since the first collection 10 years ago, $256 million has been contributed by U.S. Catholics, making it the largest national collection.

Partnership seeks to get single fathers involved in parenting

WASHINGTON (CNS)—When couples divorce, court and social service systems are set up to intervene so that both parents take a role in raising their children. When unmarried couples with children split up, however, the only structure that comes into play may be enforcement of child support laws. Hoping to address that problem, a new partnership of nonprofit organizations, child support agencies and the federal government has kicked off a $10 million initiative to promote responsible fatherhood and help single fathers develop skills and sustainable income. The demonstration project in 10 cities includes curriculum in values, manhood, anger management, self-sufficiency, health, sexuality, conflict resolution and substance abuse.

N.C. State team discovers world’s oldest Christian church in Jordan

RALEIGH, N.C. (CNS)—Beneath the sands of the modern city of Aqaba, Jordan, lies the ruined, ancient city of Aila. A team of archeologists—students and faculty—from North Carolina State University probed the sands, and discovered what is believed to be the oldest known Christian church. Thomas Parker, history professor at N.C. State, said that the first “circumstantial evidence” indicated that this was an early Christian church, but “the evidence now seems pervasive.” (See photo on P. 21.)

Youths find Life Teen Masses are full of spirit, energy, music

LITTLETON, Colo. (CNS)—On Sunday nights, up to 400 teens gather around the altar at St. Frances Cabrini Church in the Denver suburb of Littleton to participate in the Mass with spirit-filled energy and prayerful reverence. Even more surprising, rather than being dragged to Church by their parents, youth ministers say that many of those teens are responsible for their families returning to Mass. The teens are part of the 13-year-old Life Teen movement, which exists in more than 500 parishes and has resulted in 50,000 teens gathering around altars across the United States and Canada every Sunday night.

World

Bishops say Church is fighting polygamy in Papua New Guinea

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Church’s efforts to promote morality and to defend the dignity of women has led it to join women’s rights groups in seeking a legal ban on polygamy in Papua New Guinea, bishops said. Polygamy is traditional among many of the clans in Papua New Guinea, but with changing social morals and economic factors, it has become “a major cause of domestic violence,” said Bishop Paul J. Marx of Kerema. Bishop Marx and other Church leaders from Papua New Guinea attending the Nov. 22-Dec. 12 Synod of Bishops for Oceania decried polygamy and the practice of paying dowries.

Priest critical of drug lords kidnapped, released unharmed

MEXICO CITY (CNS)—A priest who is an outspoken critic of Mexican drug lords was kidnapped and held two days before being released unharmed. Father Pedro Lascurain Perez, 32, made his way home by bus Nov. 29 after being released in Chilpancingo, about 140 miles south of his home in Mexico City. A statement released Nov. 29 by the Archdiocese of Mexico City acknowledged that Father Lascurain had received threats and had been harassed by members of the city’s judicial police force. In Mexico, judicial police are responsible for criminal investigations, but they are allegedly linked to the drug trade.
Canadian missionary brother murdered in Haiti with machete

ROME (CNS)—A Canadian missionary brother who worked in Haiti for more than 30 years was murdered in late November with repeated blows of a machete. Brother Bernardin Hudon, a member of the Brothers of Christian Instruction from Montreal, died during the night of Nov. 27-28 in the village of La Valette, Haiti, where he and two others members of the order ran a school. According to a spokesman for the brothers’ generalate in Rome, as of Dec. 2, police and Church workers in Haiti had not come up with a motive for the murder nor any suspects. Nothing appeared to have been stolen from the house.

Mexican bishops promote study of issues pope expected to address

MEXICO CITY (CNS)—Mexico’s bishops are promoting a parish study of the issues they expect Pope John Paul II to address during his January visit. At the top of the Mexican bishops’ list is what they called the “cruel and inhuman” economic difference between the mostly wealthy countries of the Northern Hemisphere and the mostly poor countries of the Southern Hemisphere. Between Jan. 11 and 15, all parishes in Mexico are expected to participate in a national week of catechesis. On the night of Jan. 21, the eve of Pope John Paul’s arrival, Catholics can participate in a national prayer vigil.

Holy See says archives have ‘nothing to add’ on Holocaust

ROME (CNS)—Responding to renewed criticism of its archival secrecy, the Holy See said there was “nothing to add” to published documents on the Vatican and the Holocaust. “Exhaustive scrutiny of documents from the Vatican archives allows the affirmation that there is nothing—I repeat: nothing—to add to that which is already published,” Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said in a Dec. 3 statement. “Whoever makes insinuations contrary to those that the Holy See has already reaffirmed, in any times must justify them with concrete proof,” the spokesman wrote. “This, naturally, has never happened.”

People

Founder of homosexual ministry calls for spiritual support

RIVERDALE, N.Y. (CNS)—Homosexuals need a support group that encourages them to live “chaste lives in a spiritual way,” said the founder and director of Courage, the New York-based international Church ministry for homosexual men and women. Father John F. Harvey, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, said a support group is important to help homosexual people control their desires. He spoke at a mid-November conference on homosexuality at the Cardinal Spellman Retreat House in the Bronx.

Wreath pins help New York Catholics ‘take back Advent’

RENSELAER, N.Y. (CNS)—With the help of a small wreath, St. Joseph Parish in Rensselaer is standing up to the malls and shopping centers that began their Christmas merchandising before the first leaves fall. Under the leadership of Mercy Sister Julia Mary Werner, pastoral associate for administration, 70 parishioners are making wreath pins that serve as a reminder of the Advent season. “My primary goal is to help people take back Advent,” Sister Werner told The Evangelist, newspaper of the Albany Diocese.

(These briefs were compiled from reports by Catholic News Service.)

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John F. Fink, editor emeritus of The Criterion, is a journalist who has spent a lifetime working in the Catholic press on the local, national and international levels. He has led four tours of the Holy Land and has participated in three others. In early 1997, he spent three months there studying at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute in Jerusalem.

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


Mary Hall was mother of priest

Mary Elizabeth (Walpole) Hall, mother of Father John H. Hall, died on Dec. 7. She was 70. A funeral Mass was celebrated on Dec. 7 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, at the parish of which she was a member.

Mary Hall was a member of the ladies auxiliary of the Most. Sheridan Council of the Knights of Columbus. She worked for State Distributors and L.S. Ayres & Co.

She is survived by her son, Matthew J. Hall, and a daughter, Elizabeth “Becky” Hall, a brother, Matthew F. Walpole, and a sister, Gertrude Curran. Memorial contributions may be given to Our Lady of the Greenwood Church Building Fund or to Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, Indianola, at the parish of which she was a member.

BUCK, William G. (Bill), 75, St. Joseph, Indianapolis, Nov. 27. Father of Tami, Laura, Steve and John B. Buck. Grandfather of 12.


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Advertisement Positions with The Sisters of St. Francis
The Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, are opening a search for two positions: Director of Constituency Relations and Director of Development. Both positions are within the Office of Congregational Advancement. The Sisters of St. Francis are vibrant women of prayer, committed to the Gospel values as lived by St. Francis of Assisi and of their Foundress, Mother Teresa Hackelmeier. They extend the mission of Jesus through their presence and service. Enlivened by the spirit of justice, the Sisters of St. Francis collaborate with others as responding to the needs of the world.

Director of Constituency Relations
The new Director of Constituency Relations will be externally focused and will work closely with the other members of the Office of Congregational Advancement to meet the philanthropic goals of the Congregation. He/she will:

• Write grant applications to identified prospects.
• Create printed materials for cultivation, solicitation, and stewardship.
• Coordinate the ongoing work of the Development Advisory Group.
• Plan, implement, and evaluate the annual fund of the Congregation.

He/she will have a bachelor’s degree and ideally a minimum of three years’ experience in a similar position. Applications are due February 1, 2019, and should be submitted to Sr. Mary Carol Flippin, OFS, at (317) 357-8055.

Director of Development
The Director of Development will be responsible for the annual fund and will work closely with the other members of the Office of Congregational Advancement to meet the philanthropic goals of the Congregation. He/she will:

• Create, implement, and evaluate a major gift program and an expanded planned giving program for the Congregation within the context of a strong annual giving program.
• Cultivate, solicit, and steward major gifts to the Congregation.
• Establish and maintain a systemized method for tracking major gift donors and prospects.
• Coordinate special development gatherings for the Congregation and assist the Congregation’s special ministries in their development efforts.

He/she will have a bachelor’s degree and ideally a minimum of three years of development experience, preferably in the area of major gifts.

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