Theologian says Church must not ignore the electronic revolution

Catholics need to take advantage of the ‘potential for evangelization’ in the media

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope John Paul II urged Catholics to return to the sacrament of penance during Lent this year and rediscover the true sense of penance and reconciliation with God.

Speaking at a blessing at the Vatican Feb. 14, the pope said Lent is supposed to be a time of “return to the house of the Father” through one’s personal liberation from sin.

“Isn’t this the most appropriate context for the rediscovery of the sacrament of penance, in its deepest sense?” he said.

The Holy Father said the personal conversion and reconciliation offered in penance was “more urgent than ever today’s society, in which the very foundations of an ethical vision of human existence often seem lost.” (See Page 22 for the pope’s complete Lenten message.)

The pope, who was to open the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday service in Rome, was scheduled to begin a week of spiritual exercises in the Vatican Feb. 20.

Earlier on Feb. 14, the pope visited a Rome parish and asked members to participate in the “city mission” he has launched ahead of the year 2000, a program of spiritual encounters and personal visits aimed at renewing the faith in the Diocese of Rome.

He said two elements deserve special attention during this renewal project: pastoral help to families and to young people preparing for marriage, and concrete solidarity toward the poorest in Rome.

The pope said he was looking forward to World Youth Day celebrations in Rome during the jubilee year, and said he hoped the meeting would provide an opportunity for young people to consider priestly and religious vocations.

In a visit to Rome’s major seminary Feb. 13, the pope advised patience and persistence in finding new vocations to the priesthood.

“The work of the fisherman is hard. It requires constant effort and patience. It asks above all faith in God’s power,” he said.

“Therefore, don’t be rushed, but be watchful and attentive in order to make the best of God’s opportunities,” he said. 

Pope urges return to sacrament of penance
Campbell benefits student financial aid

The $450,000 proceeds of the third annual Celebrating Catholic School Values campaign are being distributed this month to schools with students most in need of financial aid.

The Sept. 30 dinner, hosted by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, honored five graduates of Catholic schools. Proceeds of the event are distributed to support financial aid programs of all Catholic high schools and 28 of the Catholic elementary schools across the archdiocese.

Rex Camp, associate director of development for the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education (OCE), said “many of the financial aid recipients become student leaders in their school communities. Recent recipients have included a class officer, several members of local honor societies and participants of high school “ambassador” programs and OCE’s A Promise to Keep program.”

Camp said that many of the students come from single-parent households and that most recipients go on to attend college.

Funds are distributed to schools based on their number of students from low-income families.

Rules listed for fasting, abstinence

Feb. 19 is the first Friday of Lent, a penitential season in preparation for the celebration of the Triduum, from April 1-4 this year. Catholics fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

Lenten fast and abstinence rules are as follows:

1. **Fast**—Binds all persons over 18 and under 59 years of age. On days of fast, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed.

2. **Abstinence**—Binds all persons over age 14. On days of abstinence, no meat or meat products may be eaten. Those who are ill, elderly persons, those who perform their Easter duty at this time or who are under 14 years of age are exempt from abstinence. Women who are menstruating and persons who are pregnant or nursing are not required to abstain from meat.

3. **Easter duty**—Catholics are obliged to perform their Easter duty at this time of year. The Easter duty is the obligation to receive Holy Communion sometime between the First Sunday of Lent (Feb. 21) and Trinity Sunday, which is celebrated this year on May 30. A listing of Lenten penance services is printed on page 26.

The finest pastoral plan for social communications if, and only if, it raises up the power of God stands behind it. The Church in communicating at all.

Communications will fail unless we have correctly in his obituary last week. Her name is Mary Reiber.

Correction

The name of the surviving sister of Father Joseph Beechem was spelled incorrectly in his obituary last week. Her name is Mary Reiber.

ELECTRONIC

continued from page 1

adequately catechized.”

However, he said, “if Catholics are failing to spread their faith through the electronic media, it may be because many of them do not see why they should evangelize at all.

“The finest pastoral plan for social communications will fail unless we have believers on fire with the love of God,” he added. “The demand is not for clerical rock stars and game-show hosts, but for transparently sincere believers, whose message will come through because the power of God stands behind it. The Church will succeed in the field of communications if, and only if, it raises up saints.”

“ Helpers of God’s Precious Infants”

Monthly Pro-Life Mass
at
St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church
3922 E. 38th Street, Indianapolis

February 20, 1999
March 20, 1999
April 17, 1999
May 15, 1999
June 19, 1999

Schedule of Events

8:30 Mass at St. Andrew
9:00 Prayerful March to Clinic
9:30 Rosary at Abortion Clinic
10:00 Return March to Church
10:30 Benediction

Archdiocese of Indianapolis
The Church in Central and Southern Indiana
Bishop Hughes: Prayer is gift of Holy Spirit

‘Don’t be discouraged by the struggle in [attempting] prayer. The struggle itself is an important way of deepening prayer.’

By Margaret Nelson

COLUMBUS—Bishop Alfred C. Hughes of Baton Rouge, La., offered reflections on Part IV of the Catechism of the Catholic Church at an archdiocesan gathering in Columbus on Feb. 11. Nearly 100 religious educators, priests, parish staff members and parishioners met to hear Bishop Hughes discuss the prayer section of the catechism.

He began by acknowledging the leadership of Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein as chairman of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops’ ad hoc committee for the implementation of the new catechism. Bishop Hughes also is a member of this committee.

The morning session, “The Call to Christian Prayer,” followed the text of the catechism, with Bishop Hughes referring to the paragraph numbers and offering his own observations as he went along.

Because of the basic importance of prayer, there would be advantages to beginning the catechism with the fourth pillar, he said.

“It is extraordinarily important to help our young people to pray,” Bishop Hughes said. Without prayer, there is no hope of understanding the catechism. †

“We need to have courage and confidence in the richness of our own Tradition,” he said.

When discussing meditation, he said, “It’s important to know about Christ, so we can live it.”

Bishop Hughes said that today’s prevalence of interest in cosmic and pagan deities shows a hunger for spirituality.

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The workshop was sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education and was one of a series of presentations designed to promote better understanding of the catechism.
This month our archdiocese celebrates some good news that has been a long time coming and a lot of work in the making: a successful capital and endowment campaign. (See special wrap-up section beginning on Page 13.)

The Legacy of Hope from Generation to Generation was a parish-based campaign, with the majority of gifts directed to parish needs. In fact, 72 percent of every dollar contributed will stay with the local parishes. Stewardship of time and talent by many folks will have a direct impact on the archdiocese’s strong partnership with business and civic leaders. This campaign for the center city of Indianapolis will fortify the already strong corporate sector of the archdiocese’s mission and ministries of the larger parish communities.

In its own way, Lent is our annual reminder that the true springtime of all life, Easter joy, is around the corner. And Lent also reminds us that it is again preparation time for the gift of Easter spring.

In his annual Lenten message (complete text of message may be found on Page 22), Pope John Paul tells us that Lent “is yet another gift from God, who wants to help us to rediscover ourselves as his sons and daughters, created and made new through Christ by the love of the Father in the Holy Spirit.” I like to think of Lent as an annual “second chance” to get ourselves focused once more on life’s true meaning.

Why? Because we love God and the Church!

— Peter Agostinelli

**Seeking the Face of the Lord**

**Lent is Christ’s annual “spring training”**

Last week we were pleasantly surprised by a brief period of warm weather. The high temperature in the 70s, a wonderful if all too brief reminder that spring will come again. I noticed this morning that the green tips of daffodils are appearing in my front lawn.

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Every year on the first Sunday of Lent we are reminded that after his baptism in the Jordan River, Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for 40 days and 40 nights. In Lent, the Church presents us with the opportunity to mirror that desert experience of 40 days and 40 nights with the special grace of a fresh awareness of the meaning of our baptism. We have the chance to prepare ourselves to renew our baptismal promises on Easter Sunday.

Recently I read something about the experience of Jesus in the desert that struck me. It is as though before he began his public ministry Jesus wanted to be challenged for everyone. He also acknowledged that there really is no good time for such a campaign, but that we’d better commit to it now and do our best to meet the needs.

Why? Because we love God and the Church, he said. Thank you and amen! ↑

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Cuaresma es preparación de primavera anual para cristianos

Primero de Domingo de Cuaresma

La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en febrero

Praise for Fr. Beechem

On Feb. 4, Father Joseph Beechem was called to his heavenly home. Father Beechem was a happy priest. In all his assignments, he was wholeheartedly dedicated to the service of his people. Deeply spiritual, he loved people and would not miss an opportunity to share in social activities. Unlike most of us, he even enjoyed attending meetings.

Throughout his years in the priesthood and especially during his retirement years, he had a great compassion for the sick. His frequent priestly ministrations to the sick in hospitals and nursing homes brought spiritual consolation to hundreds of patients and gave them a deep appreciation of his priesthood.

In retirement, Father Beechem was my neighbor. I saw first-hand how much he suffered during the past two years. His care for the sick was rewarded by the extraordinary catechism given him by Father Mark Svarczkopf and the people of St. Lawrence Parish—especially Earl and Barbara Clinton, Michael Kempf, Ed Knych and family, and Helen Dill. Nothing was left undone to ease his sufferings and to keep him as much as possible in contact with activities he loved.

May this example of the happy priest be an inspiration to those men who might—either now or at some later time—consider a vocation to the priesthood.


La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en febrero

Adultos jóvenes: La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en febrero

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Letters to the Editor

Letters from readers are published in The Criterion as part of the newspaper’s commitment to “the responsible exchange of the truths and expressions of opinion among the People of God” (Comunio et Progressus, 116). Readers are encouraged to submit letters for publication. However, not every letter is made available in print. Letters to the editor should be relevant, well-expressed, and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

The editors reserve the right to select the letters that will be published and to edit letters from readers as necessary based on space limitations, pastoral sensitivity, and content (including spelling and grammar). In order to encourage opinions from a variety of readers, frequent writers will ordinarily be limited to one letter every three months. Readers are encouraged to submit letters that are well-written (usually less than 200 words) and are more likely to be printed.

Letters must be signed, but, for serious reasons, names may be withheld.

Send letters to: “Letters to the Editor,” The Criterion, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206-1717.

Readers with access to e-mail may send letters to criterion@archindy.org.

Letters Policy

In the experience of The Criterion, when asked “What kind of Catholic are you?” people described themselves as:

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<th>Traditionalist</th>
<th>Liberal</th>
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Tradicionalista, Liberal, o Intermedio?

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La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en febrero

Adultos jóvenes: que se den cuenta de la importancia de su presencia en nuestras parroquias y tengan la generosidad y el valor de considerar el servicio en la iglesia, especialmente como sacerdotes y religiosos.
Jan. 18. The couple celebrated with a reception. They have seven children: Ron, Sjon, Rudy, Bob and Philipp Schouten, Marjo Buennagel and Trudy Irene Young. The Schoutens also have 18 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They are parishioners at St. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Margaret F. and George W. Wood of Indianapolis will mark their 50th anniversary Feb. 26. The couple will celebrate with Mass at St. Lawrence Church in Indianapolis followed by a reception at the Knights of Columbus on N. Post Road in Indianapolis. They have five children: Kathy Morris, Sally Allen, Alice Wessel, Sylvia Brothers, and Eileen McManus. The couple also has 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The Woods are parishioners at St. Lawrence Parish in Indianapolis.

John and Trudi Schouten of Indianapolis marked their 50th anniversary Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. M.J. Krauter, a mother will host Mary, Queen of Peace Parish in Danville, The Woods are parishioners at St. Lawrence Church in Indianapolis followed by a reception at the Knights of Columbus on N. Post Road in Indianapolis. They have five children: Kathy Morris, Sally Allen, Alice Wessel, Sylvia Brothers, and Eileen McManus. The couple also has 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. The Woods are parishioners at St. Lawrence Parish in Indianapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Waiz of Sellersburg will honor their 50th anniversary with Mass and a reception Feb. 27 at St. Paul Parish in Sellersburg. Mass is at 5 p.m. the reception is at 6 p.m. in Father Gootee Hall. Friends and relatives are invited. The couple requests no gifts. They have three children: David, Duzy Waiz, Peggy Craig. The Waiz also have six grandchildren.

Marian College president Daniel A. Felicetti of Indianapolis has been elected to the board of directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU). He assumed his new responsibilities Feb. 4 at the association’s 23rd annual meeting in Washington, D.C. NAICU represents 900 private, nonprofit colleges and universities on public policy issues— including student aid funding, education tax benefits and regulatory matters—with the U.S. Department of Education, Congress and the White House. Felicetti has served Marian College as president since 1989. On Jan. 22, he announced that, at the conclusion of his contract with the Franciscan college, he will take a sabbatical beginning Aug. 14 in anticipation of making a career change.

Cathedral High School senior Kristen Dugan, a member of St. Matthew Parish in Indianapolis, earned the first-place scholarship in the Downtown Kiwanis Club’s 1999 Abe Lincoln Scholarship Awards on Feb. 11 in Indianapolis. Kristen received a $10,000 scholarship for collegiate study. She plans to attend Xavier University in Cincinnati. The awards are given to college-bound high school seniors in Marion County who had to overcome significant adversities. Kristen was diagnosed with cancer at age 14 and received chemotherapy treatments during her senior year. Three other students earned scholarships, and 18 seniors were honored with certificates of valor. Among the certificate recipients were Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School senior Correem Adams; Cardinal Ritter High School senior Bridgett Givan; Roncalli High School senior Lisa Rosenfeld; and Scecina Memorial High School senior John Wells. All five high schools are in Indianapolis.

The Journey of Hope committee at Mary Queen of Peace Parish in Danville, will host “The Myth of Supermom,” Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. M.J. Krauter, a mother of five, will speak. She will focus on the battle of supermoms/superwoman and how a relocation led to a rediscovery and rebirth of a renewed faith. Information: 317-745-4284.

The Pro Arte Singers from Indiana University in Bloomington will perform a medieval and early renaissance music concert on Feb. 23 at 3:30 p.m. in the Archabbey Church at St. Meinrad Monastery. The performance is free. Parking is available in the student lot or the Guest House lot. Information: 812-357-6501.

The Schoutens also have 18 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They are parishioners at St. Lawrence Church in Indianapolis.

U.S. Catholic Conference
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A-1 General Patronage
A-II Adults and Adolescents
A-III Adults
A-IV Adults, with Reservations
O Morally Offensive

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Immaculate Conception parishioners find spirituality, growth through parish mission

MILLHOUSEN—Immaculate Conception Parish is revived spiritually.

It happened in the fall of 1997.
And it will happen again this fall, two years later—almost to the date.
It was a week-long parish mission in November of 1997 that is responsible for the spiritual renewal at the 280-household Batesville Deanery parish.

Sr. Christine Ernstes, OSF

“Each year, a year of prayer for the Lord,” she said.

And it will happen again this fall, two years later—almost to the date.
It was a week-long parish mission in November of 1997 that is responsible for the spiritual renewal at the 280-household Batesville Deanery parish.

It was the first one we had here for many, many years, Franciscan Sister Christine Ernstes, parish life coordinator, said.

Sister Christine explained some of the parishioners were skeptical of hosting a parish mission because of their past experiences several years ago.

“By the end of the week they were really excited about the mission,” she said.

Kathy Westrick, administrator of religious education, said it was a challenge getting volunteers to help with the first night of the mission.

“It was a matter of getting people to do things,” Westrick said. But things changed after that first night of the mission.

“I had people come up and say, ‘Kathy, if you need anything for the rest of the week, I want to do it,’ ” she said.

She added that the parishioners were enthused after hearing Father John speak that first night.

That one-week mission seems to have had lasting effects on the parish.

“It has become warmer and kind of vibrant,” Sister Christine said. “There just has been a real warm vibrancy flowing through the parish.”

She believes the mission “changed the timber of the parish.”

Westrick, a life-long parishioner, agrees.

“I think the people are more energetic now. Just mentioning the mission, energizes me and brings me warmth and a lot of wonderful memories,” Westrick said.

She said the mission also brought parishioners at Immaculate Conception Parish and the neighboring St. Denis Parish in Jennings County, who shared the week, closer together.

And the number of parishioners attending the Tuesday morning Mass has increased, as well, since the mission.

Sister Christine said the parish needed “something” in between the two missions. So, Jesuit Father Joseph Folzenlogen, coordinator of the archdiocesan Evangelization Commission, will come to Immaculate Conception to offer liturgy and a talk on reconciliation.

Parish growth

Sister Christine said the parish is growing. She attributes this in part to “word of mouth.”

She said the liturgies are good and people are happy at the parish. Father William Ripperger is the priest minister at the parish.

The music during liturgy has improved, while more and more young parishioners are getting involved.

Westrick gives Sister Christine a lot of credit for the increased warmth and spirituality in the parish.
She brought a lot of vitality to us," Westrick said. She added that when Sister Christine came to the parish four years ago, she saw what needed to be done. "She [Sister Christine] saw that certain people have certain gifts and she brought them [the gifts] out," Westrick said.

Sister Christine said it's sometimes hard for people to recognize their gifts.

**Religious education**

Sister Christine said the religious education program is one way parishioners offer their gifts by serving as catechists. There are 70 children enrolled in the preschool through sixth-grade program. And another 66 students attend the junior/senior high faith formation. These programs are shared with St. Denis Parish in Jennings County.

Westrick said 11 out of 15 students returned to the program after confirmation. "Usually, after confirmation, they leave. I think that [their staying] speaks well of the program," Sister Christine said. Westrick attributes this to the 12th-grade catechist, Mark Steir.

I think he makes it interesting and he's not there so much to say he knows it all. He learns right along with them," which keeps them from feeling so intimidated, Westrick said.

During the summer, Immaculate Conception Parish joins forces with St. Denis Parish to host a week-long Vacation Bible School. Forty children attended, while another 20 adult parishioners volunteered to help out during the program. Some children came from as far as Greensburg to attend the Vacation Bible School as well.

**Evangelization**

Although, there's not a lot of "formal" evangelization going on at Immaculate Conception Parish, there is a whole lot of "the informal kind going on," Sister Christine said.

She said the pastoral council is looking at different things the parish needs to do in order to be a live and vibrant parish.

"Evangelization is one thing we will be beginning to look at and believe we need to address," she said.

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**Immaculate Conception, Millhousen (1834)**

**Address:** 2081 East County Rd. 820 South, Greensburg, IN 47240-9636

**Phone:** 812-591-2362

**Church Capacity:** 275

**Number of Households:** 280

**Mission:** St. Denis, Jennings, Co.

**Parish Life Coordinator:** Sr. Christine Ernstes, OSF

**Priest Minister:** Rev. William Ripperger

**Priest Moderator:** Rev. Francis J. Eckstein

**Administrator of Religious Education:** Kathy Westrick

**Youth Ministry Coordinator:** Ann Stier

**Masses:**
- Saturday Anticipation — 6:00 p.m. (1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturdays only)
- Sunday — 10:30 a.m.
- Holy Day — 6:00 p.m.
- Weekdays — Tues. 7:30 a.m.

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**Destination Jesus IV is March 12-14 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel**

CARMEL—Teen-agers from throughout the state are invited to participate in Destination Jesus IV, a high school retreat March 12-14 sponsored and organized by Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in Carmel and St. Maria Goretti Mission in Zionsville, in the Lafayette Diocese.

The retreat is centered around Eucharistic adoration and prayer. Keynote speaker Mary Beth Bonacci, a nationally-known chastity speaker from Phoenix, also was a featured speaker at the youth rally with Pope John Paul II in January at St. Louis.

Described as a "prayer festival," the retreat also promotes the Church’s consistent ethic of life. It is hosted by Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in the school and gymnasium.

Lafayette Bishop William Higi will preside at a youth liturgy on March 14 to conclude the retreat.

More than 300 high school students from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the Lafayette Diocese attended Destination Jesus III last year.

For registration information, contact Brigid Curtis, director of religious education for students in the seventh through 12th grades at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish and St. Maria Goretti Mission, by telephone at 317-846-3475 or by e-mail at http://www.olmc1.org.
Chastity program gets national recognition

More than 10,000 students have heard the Promise to Keep message from peer mentors

By Mary Ann Wyand

Chastity peer mentoring is making a positive difference in the lives of countless adolescents in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, and the abstinence program itself has earned national recognition from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Five years ago, the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education (OCE) teamed with St. Vincent Hospital and Health Care Center in Indianapolis and St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers in Beech Grove and Indianapolis to create and fund A Promise to Keep: God’s Gift of Human Sexuality. Eve Jackson, the program creator and coordinator, said OCE started A Promise to Keep in 1994-95 school year with 100 teen-age peer mentors who promoted abstinence to 1,000 junior high students. This year, the program has grown to include more than 400 high school-age peer mentors who take the chastity message to 3,500 sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders enrolled in Catholic schools in the Indianapolis area.

Teen-age peer mentors also promote the abstinence curriculum to several hundred adolescents participating in parish religious education programs in the Indianapolis North and Indianapolis South deaneries as well as in Batesville, Nashville and Shelbyville.

More than 10,000 adolescents in central and southern Indiana have participated in the archdiocesan chastity program since its inception. This year, Jackson said, the Office of Catholic Education plans to expand the three-session A Promise to Keep program for middle school students to include youth at Shawe Memorial Junior/Senior High School in Madison and Our Lady of Providence Junior/Senior High School in Clarksville.

“We’re currently in the process of selecting students from Shawe and Providence to serve as chastity peer mentors” for adolescents in those areas of the archdiocese, Jackson said. “Those two programs should be in place by spring.”

Each year, Jackson said, she works with assistant program coordinators Margaret Hendricks of St. Jude Parish and Sylvia Brunette of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, both in Indianapolis, to improve the curriculum.

“Our long-range goal is to continue to reinforce the message of chastity at the high school level,” Jackson said. “We also hope to offer new curriculum that includes Catholic theology for high school juniors and seniors who have not volunteered as chastity peer mentors.”

Jackson said OCE recently worked with two Catholic religious educators who are in charge of adolescent sexuality programs in other dioceses to analyze the religious content of the A Promise to Keep curriculum.

“The consultants ‘agreed that the overall content is ‘well-conceived and leads steadily toward achieving the avowed goal—the promotion of chastity among young people,’ ” Jackson said. “Their recommendations regarding theology will ensure that A Promise to Keep reflects Catholic identity, values and teachings.”

Jackson said this year also marks the fifth anniversary for the secular, public school version of the A Promise to Keep peer mentoring program, which is called Peers Educating Peers About Positive Values.

“With a Title V RESPECT grant acquired through the federal and state health departments, we’ve been able to expand the public school version of the program from six school corporations to more than 25 school corporations in Indiana,” Jackson said. “We’ve also provided the curriculum to about a half dozen out-of-state schools.”

Planning for the new chastity curriculum began in 1993, Jackson said, and “we’ve had faithful support from St. Vincent and St. Francis hospitals” to maintain program costs, which range from personnel to instructional videos to informational brochures for parents.

But the strength of the program, Jackson said, comes from the dedication of teen-age volunteer peer mentors “who are positive role models and genuinely believe in saving sex for marriage.”

By educating younger students about Christian values and morality, positive life goals and relationships, negative peer pressure and health risks associated with premarital sexual activity, Jackson said, the older peer mentors are reinforcing a counter-cultural youth lifestyle with the message that “it’s cool to be chaste, to abstain from sexual relations until marriage.”

This Ad Is Camera Ready!

St. Francis
1844
5x10

Scecina Memorial High School senior Megan Arvin of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis discusses friendship with junior high students at Holy Cross Central School in Indianapolis during a peer mentoring session of the A Promise to Keep: God’s Gift of Human Sexuality program.
Directory lists myriad of archdiocesan facts

By Margaret Nelson

People who work in Church-related offices around central and southern Indiana have a “secret” tool—and so do many active Catholics.

The average person in the pew doesn’t seem to know about the Archdiocesan Directory and Yearbook. In directory and library circles, the Indianapolis directory is highly-respected—and even copied.

The cover of the 1999 edition bears the picture of Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin, foundress of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

The book is packed with information that would be of great interest to most Catholics in the archdiocese. In fact, most queries to Archbishop O’Meara requests for information that is handy in the directory.

Not only does the directory have the “life histories” of the priests, but readers can find details of Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein’s ministry, like the 1987 date of his installation as Bishop of Memphis. Readers also can learn about when Pope John Paul II became archbishop of Krakow, was proclaimed cardinal and was elevated to the College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College. Beatification is the second of a three-step process to sainthood. College.

There are biographies of four men from the archdiocese who have gone elsewhere as bishops.

Those are followed by biographies of four priests from religious communities or other dioceses who serve as pastors or administrators in the Indianapolis archdiocese are listed, as are the five parish life coordinators.

The directory also includes a section on religious communities. Men in religious orders within the archdiocese are included under the names of their orders, with the names, addresses and phone numbers of their superiors. The same information is given, along with their ordination dates, if they are priests.

Women religious communities also are listed, giving the addresses and superiors’ names and the names of the members, with addresses and telephone numbers.

Parishes named after them.

And saints Michael and John each have six

Administrative Services and Stewardship
Development.

The necrology begins with a list of the priests who have died within the past year, followed by the dates of death of all of the secular and religious priests who have ever served the archdiocese.

Statistics will love the “General Summary” section. It gives numbers of priests, religious and churches as well as parish statistics, such as receptions into the Church by infant and adult baptisms.

Vital statistics of each parish are listed on a large table: number of households; number of Catholic; children in elementary school; infants, adult and full commitment; baptisms: Catholic and interfaith marriages; and burials. Another table shows financial data by parish.

The 304-page directory, edited by Jaquie Benoit, sells for $20.

To order, write to: Archdiocesan Directory; Criterion Press, Inc.; P.O. Box 1717; Indianapolis, IN 46206-1717, or by calling 800-382-9836, ext. 1575, or 317-236-1575. 

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St. Rose Mardi Gras helps needy children

St. Rose of Lima’s annual fund raiser benefits the work of the Holy Childhood Association

By Mary Jungemann

FRANKLIN—It was “children helping children” at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin on Feb. 14 as religious education program catechists and students hosted the fifth annual Mardi Gras carnival to benefit the Holy Childhood Association.

Over $1,700 was raised and, better yet, will be matched at 100 percent by the Franklin Wal-Mart store.

This year’s proceeds are a big jump from the $300 they netted the first year, according to Julie Haney, coordinator of religious education at St. Rose of Lima Parish.

“There is a huge demand for this carnival,” Haney said. “Our youth and 28 catechists put in a great deal of time to make this happen.”

The new Parish Life Center was festooned with streamers, balloons and beads in the traditional Mardi Gras colors of purple, yellow and gold. New Orleans-style jazz music added to the atmosphere, and a clown painted children’s faces.

“St. Rose children can know they are truly making a difference in the lives of other children,” Sister Demetria said. “I so enjoy speaking to them as I always feel so welcome there.”

Nearly $18,000 was collected from the archdiocese for the Holy Childhood Association last year, she said. For the third year in a row, St. Rose of Lima parishioners contributed the most donations from any parish in the archdiocese.

Besides the carnival, the 265 religious education students donate money to a weekly collection to benefit the Holy Childhood Association.

The awards also were a way to show the association’s gratitude to St. Rose parishioners, said Sister Demetria.

“It’s the enthusiasm of the young people, like those at St. Rose who are so service-oriented, that gives me energy!” said Sister Demetria.

“We do have an awesome group of seniors who are very active,” Haney said. “St. Rose of Lima parishioner Donna Culkin, a junior at Indian Creek High School, kept busy pouring punch at the carnival last Sunday.

“The carnival is lots of work but lots of fun,” Donna said. “It’s a full day to set up, but it brings together kids from lots of different schools to work together for needy children across the world.”

The full story can be read online at The Criterion.

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The stories are signs of faith. They're stories of generosity to a local parish and charity to the larger Church. They're stories of gifts, even in spite of a lack of wealth or the scarcity of extra time.

The stories of faith are also stories of business and corporate leaders joining the Church in partnerships that will enable more people to be served through education, social service and ministry. According to Daniel Elsener, archdiocesan secretary for stewardship and development, those are just a few signs of the faith behind the archdiocese’s successful capital and endowment campaign.

The campaign includes Legacy of Hope from Generation to Generation, a parish phase conducted in all 151 parishes in central and southern Indiana, and Building Communities of Hope, a corporate phase, for educational and social service needs in the center city of Indianapolis.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, pastors, parish life coordinators and parish leadership gathered Feb. 8 and 15 to celebrate the success of the Building Communities of Hope campaign later this month.

The parish phase

The parishes of the archdiocese have raised a combined total of $94 million. Elsener said the gifts represent the generosity of more than 35,000 Catholic households.

Of this $94 million total, $84 million is in pledges and gifts payable over one to 10 years. Another $10 million is in planned gifts.

Individual parishes will use $68 million of the $94 million to meet their own capital and endowment needs. This means 72 cents of every dollar raised in this campaign will be used by a parish for local capital and endowment needs.

The remaining $26 million, or 28 cents of every dollar raised, will be earmarked for the needs of the larger archdiocesan mission and ministries, such as:

- The six interparochial Catholic high schools in Clarksville, Indianapolis and Madison
- Fatima Retreat House
- Camp Rancho Franciscan, the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) camp in Nashville
- Catholic Charities agencies in Terre Haute, Bloomington, Tell City and New Albany
- Home mission parishes and schools in rural and urban areas of the archdiocese
- Seminarian education
- Priests’ retirement
- Lay ministry development and education
- Teacher and catechist training.

Elsener said the stories of sacrificial giving are among the most moving examples of generosity. He thanks the campaign’s stewardship messages have helped some people reacquaint themselves with helping others by contributing to their parishes as well as the larger Church.

“The numbers give an indication of our success, but they don’t tell the real story—that there has been an outpouring of generosity, which is grounded in faith, and that people have responded generously to God’s call.” Elsener said. “People have reflected on what God was calling them to do.”

St. Anthony parishioner Pat Devault

See CAMPAIGN, page 16
spite of our diversity, we come together as one family of faith. We pray together and celebrate Eucharist as a sign of the Church. We share the sacraments of our archdiocese! This is the way we do it, and we work hard to hand it on for future generations. Catholic schools and our parish faith-fur- mation programs for adults, youth and children, were two of the priorities of all of our sisters and brothers (especially those who are most vul- nerable—the poor, suffering, those who have been marginalized by society, etc.) in the ministering to the end of life).

This ministry of charity has had a profound role in the history of our archdiocese and will be even more important as we face the challenges of a new century and a new millennium!

In order to carry on this ministry of charity, in addition to our continuing need for spiritual renewal, we set as the second theme of our symbolic Journey of Hope 2000: "Learning Your Way—to a new archdiocese as a way of life. To do God’s work we want to live the four principles of Christian stewardship: gratitude, countability, generous sharing and the willingness to give back to God with increase. And you, the priests, religious and laity, have a very important role to express my profound and heartfelt grati- tude to you, and to so many others like you, whose time, talent, and service in this local Church, I thank God every day for your priests, religious and lay leaders who serve with us in this archdiocesan mission. Without your gifts of time and talent and your daily sacrifices, we could not carry out God’s work in our central territory in the broadest sense of that term. It is our shared mission to worship God in word and sacrament, to teach and share our faith with others, to offer human service needs through the ministry of charity.

Good stewardship also requires account- ability. I have been saying to the archdiocese, "I talk I have given since I was installed as archbishop in 1992, I have tried to render an account of our stewardship by reviewing our priorities for the past year and by set- ting new priorities for the next year. A year ago it was a priority of our archdiocesan mission. Without your gifts of time and talent and your daily sacrifices, we could not carry out God’s work in our central territory in the broadest sense of that term. It is our shared mission to worship God in word and sacrament, to teach and share our faith with others, to offer human service needs through the ministry of charity.

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Tell City Deanery parishes surpass goals

Parishioner generosity comes in the form of cow raffles, other gifts

By Susan Bierman

TELL CITY—A team approach was the key to successful Legacy of Hope from Generation to Generation campaigns such as that at three Tell City Deanery parishes.

“All three of our parishes surpassed our goals,” said Benedictine Father Jeremy King, pastor of St. Meinrad Parish in St. Meinrad, St. Boniface Parish in Fulda, and St. Martin of Tours Parish in Siberia.

Parishioners from two of the three parishes donated cows for raffles to benefit the campaigns. The money was used to cover campaign expenses, such as the commitment dinners and other social events.

Benedictine Father Adrian Burke is the associate pastor of the three parishes. The three parishes are clustered for pastoral administration. Benedictine Fathers Jeremy and Adrian—both monks of Saint Meinrad Archabbey—became pastor and associate pastor of the three parishes in 1997.

Father Jeremy said each parish has its own identity, and each has its own pastoral council. The pastoral councils spawned separate steering committees for the individual Legacy of Hope campaigns.

The campaigns began at St. Meinrad, St. Boniface, and St. Martin parishes last October. Father Jeremy said joint campaign meetings started with taking care of common business, and then the separate parishes broke off into their groups to discuss the business of the individual parish.

Father Jeremy said he and Father Adrian took on different angles and responsibilities in approaching the campaigns.

“Father Adrian did a lot of the theological underpinnings of the campaign, and I tried to approach some of the practical things that we needed to do,” Father Jeremy said.

“I think the combination proved good,” Father Jeremy said.

Father Adrian and Father Jeremy agreed that one challenge of the campaigns was getting the parishioners to be more aware of the broader Church.

“It was a big concern for me to help them see that there is a larger Church,” Father Adrian said. “There is a Church outside of their identity, but in

the deanery, as well as a diocese, and then the world.”

Father Adrian said it was important for parishioners to understand that “we’re called and given a mission by Christ for the whole world.”

Father Adrian thinks the greatest opportunity for this campaign was to break down some of those parochial barriers. He said the campaigns initially were more a matter of faith development than a financial matter.

During the four weeks leading up to campaign events, Father Adrian focused his preaching on the theme of a universal mission. He included the message of “taking care of what we have today so there is something there to pass on, including our faith.”

Father Jeremy said it was a challenge—a successful one—to get people more connected to the archdiocese. He said the next challenges will be to realize the pledges made toward the campaign, to address how to continue regular stewardship, and to deal with the need that the archdiocese has for ongoing operational income.

“I think we need to respect the fact that people have responded generously, but we need also to respect the fact that they’ve got some limitations,” Father Jeremy said. “So, it’s going to be a challenge, but I think if we face it honestly, and straight-forward, that we will do the best we can.”

St. Boniface Parish

St. Boniface Parish exceeded its $56,400 goal with pledges of $58,000. The 157-household parish plans to use its share on local needs and was a key figure in getting them off to a good start.

“He was a real good motivator,” Father Jeremy said.

St. Meinrad Parish

St. Meinrad parishioner Wanda Del Rio was a bit hesitant about the campaign initially. She believed the parish goal of $106,000 for the 330-household parish was unreachable. However, after hearing Kopeland talk, her feelings changed.

“I thought this is going to be a good thing. I thought it would work,” Del Rio said.

And it did work. St. Meinrad surpassed its goal with $125,000 pledged.

The parish plans to use its share of the money on cemetery and parish hall improvements.

St. Martin of Tours Parish

St. Martin of Tours Parish in Siberia also surpassed its goal. The goal was $30,900, while $52,000 was pledged. The 80-household parish will use its share on floor work and new lighting in the church. The parish hall may also benefit from renovation work.

Your Legacy of Hope gifts make a difference

Twenty-six million dollars (28 cents of every dollar raised) is earmarked for the needs of the larger archdiocesan community. These gifts will be allocated to the following capital and endowment ministries.

Capital needs

• Upgrading Archdiocesan Facilities
  Includes archdiocesan Catholic high schools in Clarksville, Madison and Indianapolis, CYO camp in Brown County and Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis.

• Catholic Charities
  Includes social service agencies in Terre Haute, New Albany, Tell City and Bloomington.

• Home Missions
  Includes parishes and schools in rural communities and urban centers in various regions of the archdiocese.

Endowment purposes

• Priests’ Retirement Fund
  Funds the minimum retirement costs for archdiocesan clergy and reduces parish assessments by at least $200,000 annually.

• Lay Ministry Development and Education
  Includes tuition assistance for lay ministers in partnership with parishes, schools or archdiocesan agencies.

• Seminary Education
  Includes tuition assistance for seminarians attending various seminary colleges and schools of theology.

• Teacher and Catechist Training
  Includes tuition assistance for teachers and catechists in partnership with parishes, schools or archdiocesan agencies.

• Facilities Endowment for High Schools
  Provides "seed money" for renewal and replacement funds at individual high schools.

• Home Missions Endowment
  Includes operating support for Catholic Charities agencies and home missions; also provides start-up funds for new parishes, schools and other archdiocesan ministries.
St. Monica tops $3.5 million goal; pledges $4.2 million

By Margaret Nelson

Father Paul Koetter, pastor of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, has one word to explain why his parishioners pledged $4.2 million to the Legacy of Hope Campaign—“God.”

He believes that many of his parishioners have determined what God wanted them to do—they searched their souls—knowing that this campaign will build up the parish, as well as the archdiocese, to serve the needs of present and future Catholics.

The staff also credits the success of the campaign to the selection of good leadership—at least 500 volunteers helped with the campaign—and careful following of the consultant’s plan. Jim Welter, pastoral associate and business manager, said, “We probably expanded on it.”

The campaign already has made two grants to the Church: $2 million for the 300 to 400 children. There was an all-parish reception after the liturgies.

The corporate phase, which will serve as a cafeteria during the day and can be converted to meet-in-the-round for liturgy. Planners hope to have room for a new office area for school and parish.

"We’re doing ‘plumbing,’” said Welter.

"We are meeting the needs of a lot of people,” said Burns.

"Even organizational and committee meetings for the campaign emphasized the need. Every time we met, we scurried for space,” said Robichaud.

Phase I will include major work to the old gym, heating, air conditioning, and lighting.

A new building will provide additional classrooms and a gym, and a multi-purpose space, which will serve as a cafeteria during the day and can be converted to meet-in-the-round for liturgy.

In our gratitude, we must acknowledge the intercession of our two special Legacy of Hope patrons: St. Francis Xavier and Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin. Let’s enter into the third millennium of Christianity. Thank you for the marvellous gifts you bring to the mission and ministries of this archdiocese. Thank you for the extra miles you traveled on our Legacy of Hope campaign. And, most of all, thank you for your willingness to continue traveling with us toward the kingdom.

In solidarity with Pope John Paul II, and all our sisters and brothers throughout the world, we are journeying together into a time of great challenge and opportunity: the third millennium of Christianity. Thank God, we bring with us the marvellous legacy of hope that we inherited from those who have gone before us. And no matter how many miles we travel, we will be sustained in our journey by a loving God and by the deep faith and hope and consistent generosity of the people of this great archdiocese.

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CAMPAIGN

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of Indianapolis served as co-chair of the Legacy of Hope campaign. From its beginning, DeVault said, she was confident with the parish and the people, including the 300 to 400 children.

"This is our Church,” she said, “and we have to continue to support it. That’s simply how it is.”

The corporate phase

Final figures for Building Commun- ities of Hope, the corporate phase of the campaign, are not yet available. But so far, more than 100 corporations, founda- tions, and individuals have contributed gifts. The minimum goal is $20 million.

Final figures will be reported in the March 5 edition of The Criterion.

As a result of its partnership between the archdio- cesan Legacy of Hope campaign and the corporate and business communities, the corporate campaign at each archdiocese meet the capi- tal and endowment needs of the city-Indianapolis Catholic schools and center- city social service programs.

Jerry Devault, co-chair of the campaign and general chair of the corporate phase, said that with the archdiocese will maintain its solid presence in the center city despite the shrinking population of Catholic residents and the challenges of increased poverty.

The campaign already has made two dreams possible: an East Deanery and a center-city—new school buildings for both Holy Angels School in the Indianapolis West Deanery and Holy Cross Central School in the Indianapolis East Deanery. Elsener said the new buildings will be symbols of new signs of life that will help anchor stability and growth for each neighborhood.

Approximately $9 million will be invested in endowments, producing nearly $500,000 in annual tuition assis- tance for center-city and children. This will assist many schools faced with the chal- lenge of extensive waiting lists.

A multi-million dollar market for the center- city Catholic Charities will help meet capital needs at their facilities and will enable Archdiocesan Church renewal projects.

These programs free people from dependency, help them become pro- ductive citizens, taxpayers and outstanding members of the community,” Elsener said. "The successful completion of the campaign will meet the archdiocesan goal: to provide a new, substantial Catholic presence in the community.”

"People could buy into it," said Father Koetter. He explained that $500,000 was "going downtown. That’s almost like a tithe. I think people were very comfort- able with that.”

Welter said, “I think the video helped. We added a trailer to the archdiocesan video to help express the needs of St. Monica.”

Parishioner Grace Trahan, a morning camerman come out to the parish and took a drawing that shows the areas that will be improved with funds from the campaign.

It takes about eight minutes. She had a cameraman come out to the parish and shoot, said Welter.

"It helped people to get a clearer look,” said Father Koetter. The film shows what the staff fondly call “the upper room” in the school, which has been reduced in size several times to meet the growth. It shows things being stored in the rest of the room and desks lined up in the hall.

"It was footage of how crowded we were—kids in rooms that are too small, music classes in the chapel,” he said. “It dramatized what we see every day.”

"I think that was one thing,” Father Koetter. “We didn’t have a controversial need, like to tear down an old church and build a new one.

The pastor said, “We are not building anything glamorous.

"We’re doing ‘plumbing’,” said Welter.

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At St. Monica in Indianapolis, Marcelle Robichaud (from left) co-coordinator; Father Paul Koetter, pastor; Jim Welter, pastoral associate and business manager; and Susan Burns, co-coordinator of the Legacy of Hope Campaign, look over a drawing that shows the areas that will be improved with funds from the campaign.

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ARCHBISHOP

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2. To prepare for the celebration of the Great Jubilee in 2000

We need time to adequately prepare for our celebration of the Great Jubilee to mark the 2,000th anniversary of the com- ing of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Plans will be announced in the near future.

3. To prepare for our major evangeliza- tion

One of the three themes of our Journey of Hope 2001 is evangelization. We intend this to be an extraordinary initia- tive to reach out in the year 2001 to inac- tive Catholics and to those who have no Church home. If we are to realize a great harvest this year, we must approach it fully prepared.

4. To restart and streamline the United Catholic Appeal in the context of parish stewardship

As I mentioned before, the new approach to our annual appeal, which is currently under discussion, represents a logical evolution of our understanding of stewardship and is a natural outgrowth of the practical successes we’ve experienced in the capital and endowment campaign.

Once again, thank you for the mar- velous gifts you bring to the mission and ministries of this archdiocese. Thank you for the extra miles you traveled on our Legacy of Hope campaign. And, most of all, thank you for your willingness to con- tinue traveling with us toward the kingdom.

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The Archdiocese of Indianapolis is the home of 47 Catholic parishes in Marion County and 46 Catholic parishes in central Indiana.

St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, Marcelle Robichaud (from left) co-coordinator; Father Paul Koetter, pastor; Jim Welter, pastoral associate and business manager; and Susan Burns, co-coordinator of the Legacy of Hope Campaign, look over a drawing that shows the areas that will be improved with funds from the campaign.

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Without love, there are no Christian virtues. Without love there is no Christianity! Jesus showed us how to love. Love is central to Jesus’ teaching. Jesus linked love of God and love of our neighbor. I’ll always remember my first visit years ago to St. Ann’s, our local Catholic infant home. The little children there—only a few years old—came up and grabbed all the visitors around the legs! We were startled and immobilized for a moment.

The children were looking for a human touch. They had been deprived of love at home and were looking for signs of love from the staff and even from visitors. A human being’s natural desire for love is hard to suppress. These children showed it spontaneously.

Love often expresses itself in touch. Babies need to be held. Children need to be hugged. In fact, no matter what our age, we all need a hug once in a while—though a daily hug or two is preferable. We never cease needing love. Most of us appreciate a little loving attention. This is evident when we are incapacitated or isolated—in the hospital or far away on a business trip or in a nursing home. A visit, telephone call, note or e-mail message all express tangibly the loving friendship that makes and keeps us human.

In all stages of the life cycle, we need love. We not only need love from others, but we can give it. Love is the most precious thing we have to give. In fact, we need to give love to others in order to be truly happy.

My parents, now grandparents for many years, give love in my nieces and nephews regularly through things such as gifts, overnight visits, birthday meals and attendance at school events. Recently, two of my young nieces reciprocated by taking their grandparents out to lunch! I understood it was a wonderful meal.

In such everyday acts, love is sustained and developed. I am especially happy that this loving spirit is so evident in our family’s next generation. Love makes us a family.

Love can grow throughout life. My own observation, and that of many others, is that having children influences a couple’s growth in love. This is an exhausting experience, especially right after birth! Yet it changes life’s focus.

Loving parents naturally focus on their new child and lessen their focus on themselves. Their perception of the world changes as well. Relatives, friends, baby-sitters, neighborhoods and schools become much more important. Love widens our circle of concern.

After childbirth, a couple’s perception of faith and the Church community often changes as well. Love makes us want to share the most important things in life with our children. I’ve noticed how love’s spiritual or supernatural dimension comes to the fore when the sacrament of baptism is celebrated.

Recently, within a 10-day period, I performed three baptisms for children of couples whose wedding Masses I had celebrated in previous years. Each baptism assembled a different set of relatives and friends, and each was a festive, loving event—recorded for posterity with videos and pictures. Each baptism brought together several generations to share love with each other as God shared love with them. Each baptism was a transformative moment. The Holy Spirit transformed each child interiorly—bringing the Christian virtues of faith, hope and love.

And each child is now a Christian. The Spirit of love, the Holy Spirit, has begun the inner transformation that will continue through a lifetime. The Holy Spirit not only transformed these children, but the family and friends who gathered together, too. These baptisms were occasions when friends and family affirmed their faith and their own dedication to Christian love.

We are made in God’s image; thus we are made to love. And the grace of the Holy Spirit enables us to love most fully.

What is love? Love is a feeling. Joy, humor and warm family feelings filled the baptismal celebrations I mentioned. In one instance, my tiny cousin decided to move her head at the very moment of baptism. Water went everywhere. The family was concerned, then amused. She cried her disapproval! Love is a commitment.

We give our children and ourselves to God. The Holy Spirit touches the deepest part of the soul.

Love grows. As we go through adulthood, we can become more loving. The grace of the Spirit can redirect our lives. The Spirit helps us to “let go” of what is unnecessary, such as excessive concern for material goods, and to grasp and prioritize what is essential, such as time for family outings and events.

Love is a virtue. Like all virtues, it integrates and transforms our thinking, our knowing and our feeling. Love is the central virtue. Our love forms our lives. Our love touches others. Our love reflects God’s love. Our love lasts eternally. † (Oblate Father John Crossin is the executive director of the Washington Theological Consortium. His new book, Walking in Virtue: Moral Decisions and Spiritual Growth in Daily Life, is published by Paulist Press.)

By Fr. John W. Crossin, O.S.F.S.

Love is basic to Christian life

Love—the virtue of charity—is basic for Jesus’ followers. When Pope John Paul II first asked the Church’s people to mark 1999 a year to reflect on charity, he said that “in its twofold reality as love of God and neighbor, (charity) is the summing up of the moral life of the believer.” The Catechism of the Catholic Church notes that, as one of the three theological virtues—with faith and hope—charity is the “foundation of Christian moral activity.” The theological virtues “animate” the moral life and “give it its special character” (No. 1813).

As a virtue, charity calls us “to love as (Christ) does,” the catechism notes (No. 1825). Love is basic. You can’t take the love out of Christianity and still have Christianity. † (David Gibson edits Faith Alive!)

Discussion Point

God’s love inspires love for others

This Week’s Question

When is it most difficult to love?

“When I have been so busy that I haven’t focused on God’s love for me.” (Lois Greifendorf, Grand Junction, Mich.)

“When people are unkind.” (Jay Gerhring, Moorhead, Minn.)

“When someone has betrayed you.” (Linda Sandleback, Prairie du Chien, Wis.)

“When things aren’t going your way.” (Deb Pfeffer, Portage, Mich.)

“When someone has hurt you.” (Gloria McArdle, Perth Amboy, N.J.)

“It’s more difficult when that love is not returned.” (David McMahon, David City, Neb.)

Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: What do you do to make Sunday special in addition to participating in the Eucharist?

To respond for possible publication, write to Faith Alive! at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. †
Lessons in the Book of Job

In this series of columns about the wisdom books of the Old Testament, let’s consider the Book of Job. All of our lessons be considered as one of the literary masterpieces of all time.

Sometimes we hear that someone has “the patient ear,” meaning that she or he is an extremely patient person. When I think of that, I wonder if the person who coined that expression ever read past the second chapter of the Book of Job. In the first two chapters of this folktale, best read as a drama, Job indeed is patient. After God permits Satan to afflict him severely, Job says merely, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I go back again. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.” And later he says, “We accept good things from God; and should we not accept evil?”

The first two chapters, though, are the prologue to the book, just as the last chapter, which tells of the restoration of Job’s prosperity, is perhaps the coda. What makes this a literary masterpiece is the cycle of speeches from chapters 3 to 42. And there we find not just one, but all. At least. He curses the day he was born at all. He curses the day God created him. How much more expressive than spoken language—especially when the hands and arms are used to describe God’s glory or language—especially when the hands and arms are used to describe God’s glory or

Kashner, Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? Why does God allow injustice to occur? When friends, who originally came to comfort him, are convinced that he must be guilty of some terrible sin, Job forever suffering is intense, and they become annoyed with Jon’s protestations of his innocence. Job’s friend for God to explain why he has permitted this, and finally God answers. But not in the way that Job wants. God does not answer to justify the reasons for his actions, he doesn’t answer the question “Why?” Rather he refers to his own omniscience, his knowledge of God’s affairs. He shows Job that happiness and success are not rewards for living righteously and neither are griev and failure punishments for evildoing.

This is for Job. He quickly recovers his attitude of humility and trust in God. In fact, his humility and trust are strengthened by the suffering he endured. Thus, over the 2,500 centuries since this book was written, this poor man has stood as proof that suffering is not a sure sign of wickedness.

What’s the lesson we should learn from this book? It’s that we do not know why we have suffered. To good people and that innocent people can be afflicted for no apparent reason. Their sufferings are a test of their faith. They will be rewarded in the end but not necessarily in this life. Meanwhile, our finite minds cannot understand the depths of God’s divine omniscience and omnipotence.

Cynthia Dewes, a member of The Criterion, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.

The Human Side

“Father, I really fear for the future of Catholic education these days!”

A woman who said this is 83 years old and living in a retiree home. She knows the history of education very well.

A recent article is based on recent articles in The Washington Post and The New York Times which report a growing division between Church leaders and Catholic universities and colleges on the issue of Catholic identity.

Her fear is well founded. Faculty members in Catholic universities are resistant to any that impinges on how they are to teach. They wonder why the Church is so deeply entrenched in our culture life when such interest was almost nonexistent in the past. On the other hand, the bishops are concerned that theology and Catholic identity have been watered down on campuses and that Catholic tradition is losing its influence. Rather than the bishops are responsible for preserving that tradition, they feel a responsibility step in.

At the heart of this division is whether academic freedom is being threatened and whether the Catholic faith is being lost. Although these concerns can’t be reduced to essence of the problem, my concern goes beyond this. I fear that if the issue of Catholic identity is not addressed directly, Catholic colleges and universities are doomed. Never before has our world needed the values that are taught in Catholic education as much as it does now. Three examples of these need are found in the fields of ecology, genetic engineering and the digital communications revolution.

We conceivably could destroy the Earth through the misuse of its developments in genetic manipulation could race ahead in ways that greatly represent the progress we are making in the Internet, despite its potential, can easily be abused.

If ever we needed sound, up-to-date Catholic theology and philosophy, it is today. We need to educate our young people in the nature of the Church and not only what is, and is not, real progress, what our moral issues are, and what we must and can be done so that God is not lost from our culture’s view.

I also fear that the energies of our Catholic universities and colleges are being scattered and disrupted. I fear we are moving into a situation similar to the one we so recently experienced in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate: partisanship; reason giving way to emotion; posturing at the expense of truth. What most frightens me is that this could create a vacuum that will be filled by self-righteous people on the far right and far left.

During the past 30 years, half the seminaries in the United States closed. Some argue that it is to the advantage of the Internet. Despite its potential, can easily be abused.

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During the past 30 years, half the seminaries in the United States closed. Some argue that it is to the advantage of the Internet. Despite its potential, can easily be abused.
The Book of Genesis provides this first Sunday of Lent with its first biblical reading, and a fasci- nating reading it is. The case in reading, and attempting to discern, the Creation Narratives of Genesis, it is use- ful to construct a theoretical model of how these stories were told in the first place.

For the ancient Hebrews, as for devout believers at any time and any- where, a solemn responsibility was felt in transmitting religious ideals to the next generation. Precisely, this responsi- bility was being served in the telling of these stories.

Also, the purpose was not to give a scientific blueprint of how creation had occurred in nature, nor to tell history simply for the sake of reporting how people in the past acted and responded to life. Rather, telling a central theologi- cal fact was the sole and always most compelling purpose.

In the case of the Creation Narratives, the point was that God created all things and all life. He alone is the source of being and of goodness.

Therefore, the story applies if the verses of Genesis are taken quite liter- ally, or if the “Big Boom” theory is accepted. The whole context makes clear that Genesis and Romans so powerfully instruct. We are limited. We can make mistakes even quite innocently. In our limitation, in our pride, in our masquer- ade to avoid admitting our inadequacies, we lean not only to the ridiculous but also to sin.

Second, the devil is real and strong. The devil is the source of temptation and can be very alluring.

Third, Jesus is the almighty, the Son of God, the Redeemer. In the Lord is our sure path, or sanctuary, our power, our forgiveness for past faults, and our eter- nal life. 

Readers may submit seasonal prose or poetry for faith column

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith or experiences of prayer with Lenten, Easter, spring or Pentecost themes for possible publication in the “My Journey to God” column.

Please include name, address and telephone number with submissions. Send material for consideration to “My Journey to God,” The Criterion, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206 or by e-mail at criterion@archindy.org.

Exodus

The Good Lord always provides manna in the wilderness water from the rock Promised Lands upon shifting sands and miracles for us

Best of all in every hot struggle the touch of a Wounded Hand reaches the gentle within the rough

My Journey to God

By Mike Russo

(MyDale Russo, formerly a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, in Bloomington, now resides in the Diocese of Tulsa, Okla.)

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Feb. 21, 1999

• Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7
• Romans 5:12-19
• Matthew 4:1-11

The reading warns Christians to be care- ful of these false religions because they only bring harm. St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans is the source of the second reading. Verse 5:12 is one of those few passages in Scriptures dogmatically exegeted by the Church. The Church has defined through this verse that sin was a freely embraced act of humans, in the person of a unique ancestor, and that Jesus is the Redeemer. For the Gospel reading, this Liturgy of the Word presents the dramatic story of the temptation of the Lord in the desert. It is a Synoptic story, it appears nowhere in John. However, among the Synoptics, Matthew and Luke treat the story with far greater detail than Mark.

The message is both frank and uncom- promising. Evil exists. The devil is a per- sonal figure. Christ is the Son of God, able to command the devil. Despite great power, the devil is limited.

Reflection

The Church takes us today to the first Sunday of Lent, and for many begins the long process of reflection and commit- ment that is Lent. These three readings marvelously introduce us to the season and to the reality of life.

First, it is good to consider what Genesis and Romans so powerfully instruct. We are limited. We can make mistakes even quite innocently. In our limitation, in our pride, in our masquer- ade to avoid admitting our inadequacies, we lean not only to the ridiculous but also to sin.

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Use of ‘Father’ as title dates to early Christians

Q I am an art therapist major, and am working on my dissertation exploring the relationship of God the Father as reparative, or compensating, physically or emotionally, for an absent earthly father. Several helpful insights have come from some Scripture texts about father- hood, and the father- hood of God. One important area in which I’ve not found much information is the background of the religious use of the title “father,” especially, of course, in the Catholic Church.

When did this tradition begin? What does it mean? Why do we address the priest as father if Jesus said to call no man earthy father because we have one Father, who is in heaven?

Can you give any information about this or guidance on where to find more information? (New York)

A You’ve certainly chosen an intriguing and difficult topic. Maybe the fol- lowing thoughts will give you some direc- tions to work on.

The use of the title “father” goes back to early Christian centuries, when it was applied primarily to bishops as teachers and to those monks who served as spir- itual directors or guides, generally to peo- ple in the local community.

Later it referred also to mendicant friars, members of religious orders (Franciscans, Dominicans and others) who depended solely on God’s providence and the gifts of people for their necessities.

In more modern times, the usage spread from Ireland to England, particu- larly with the strong urging of Cardinal H. Manning about 120 years ago, and then to the United States and some other countries.

Today, the custom of calling all priests father is by no means universal. It is limited almost exclusively to English- speaking nations.

When the title “father” is applied to priests, the reasons are simple and rather obvious. They are the usual ministers of those sacraments that, in the name of Christ and his Church, give us the new birth and life of grace.

They have the responsibility, by their continuing care and support, to nurture the life of God which we share as Christians in a manner similar to the nurturing role of our natural fathers.

For this reason, St. Paul, for example, does not hesitate to call himself the father of his converts. “Even if you should have countess guides to Christ,” he tells them, “yet you do not have many fathers, for I became your father in Christ Jesus through the Gospel” (1 Cor 4:45).

He twice calls Timothy his son, because he had brought Timothy’s family to the faith of Christ (Phil 2:2 and 1 Tim 1:2).

Understood literally, the polemical lan- guage of the passage in Matthew to which you refer (Chapter 23) would forbid call- ing our natural fathers by that name or referring to our instructors as teachers.

The whole context makes clear that Matthew’s Jesus was not hung up on the words “father” and “teacher,” but that he condemned the practice of some Jewish leaders of the day heaping titles on them- selves out of pride and self-importance.

As one of the most respected Protestant Scripture commentators notes, “If one takes this command literally, the titles ‘doctor’ and ‘professor’ as well as ‘rabbi’ and ‘father’ are forbidden to Christians in addressing their leaders” (Interpreter’s Bible, Vol. 7, on the Gospel according to Matthew).

You will find much additional infor- mation on this topic in any good encyclopae- dia, including the New Catholic Encyclopedia. The New Jerome Biblical Commentary contains much explanation of the religious references to God and others as Father.

Q We read with interest your recent column about missing Sunday Mass. Using the following telephone number, I easily found a Catholic Church in another state. The name is Mass in Transit, and the number is 800-523-9480.

Maybe some of your other readers would be interested. (Pennsylvania)

A I am grateful to this reader and a number of other correspondents who reminded me of this service. There is also a website that reaches the same conclusion. (A free brochure answering questions Catholics ask about cremation and other funeral practices is available by sending a stamped and self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 325, Peoria, Ill. 61651.)
classes from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5569.

Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 317-864-3700, holds prayer group from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Wednesdays
Marian Movement of Priests cencere prayer group from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 315 W. 30th St., Indianapolis, behind St. Michael Church. Information: 317-821-8016.

Thursdays
St. Lawrence Parish, Indianapolis, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mass.

St. Mary Parish, New Albany, Shepherds of Christ Association gather at 7 p.m. to pray for lay and religious vocations.

St. Patrick Parish, Salem, St. Mary holds a prayer service, 7 p.m.

St. Malachy Parish, Brownsburg, celebrates Liturgy of the Hours, evening prayer at 7 p.m. 317-852-3195.

Fridays
St. Susanna Parish, Plainfield, 1210 E. Main, holds adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

St. Lawrence Parish, Indianapolis, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Parish, Indianapolis, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Benediction and Mass.

First Saturdays
St. Nicholas Parish, Sunman, 602 N. Cherry St., has First Saturdays Mass, 8 a.m. Mass, praise and worship music followed by the Fatima rosary. Monthly SACRED gathering follows in the parish school.

St. Joseph University Parish, Terre Haute, holds eucharistic adoration after the 9 a.m. Mass until 5 p.m. with rosary at noon.

First Sundays
St. Patrick Parish, Salem, St. Mary holds a prayer service, 7 p.m.

St. Lawrence Parish, Indianapolis, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Benediction and Mass.

First Sundays
St. Patrick Parish, Sellersburg, prayer group meets in the church from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Information: 812-246-4555 or 812-246-9735.

First Mondays
The Guardian Angel Guild holds its board meeting, Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center Benevolent Room, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, 9:30 a.m.

First Tuesdays
Divine Mercy Chapel, Indianapolis, 3354 W. 30th St., north of St. Michael Church, holds Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m. Confession in at 6 p.m.

St. Joseph Hill Parish, Sellersburg, 2605 St. Joe Rd. West, holds holy hour for religious vocations with Benediction and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 7 p.m. Mass.

First Fridays
Holy Guardian Angels Parish, Cedar Grove, 405 E. 52nd St., hosts exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Indianapolis, 3533 E. Washington St., holds adoration and prayer service at 7 p.m.

St. Joseph Parish, Sellersburg, 2605 St. Joe Rd. West, holds eucharistic adoration following the 8 a.m. Mass until noon.

Indianapolis, 28th St. and Martin Luther King Jr. St., hosts exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11 a.m. to noon.

Second Sundays
First Fridays Movement meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Indianapolis home of Millie and Jim Konin. Information: 317-257-1073 or 317-845-8133.

Third Sundays
Mary’s Riceville Schoenstatt has holy hour at 2:30 p.m. fol- lowed by Mass at 3:30 p.m. (Located on 925 South., 8 mile east of 421 South., 12 miles south of Versailles.) Information: 812-689-3551.

Third Mondays

Third Wednesdays
Catholic Widowed Organizations meets from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Information: 317-807-2927.

Holy Family Parish, Selm- bury, holds a support group for widowed persons at 7 p.m. Information: 812-934-2524.

Calvary Chapel/Maineum, Indianapolis, 453 W. Troy Ave., celebrates Mass for Life, 8:30 a.m., followed by walk to the abortion clinic at 2951 E. 38th St. to pray the rosary and return to St. Andrew Parish for Benediction.

Bingos
TUESDAY: K of C Council 437, 1305 N. Delaware, 11 a.m.; St. Michael, 6 p.m.; Mgr. Sheldon of K of C Council 6318, Johnson Co., 6:15 p.m.; St. Pius X K of C Council 3433, 6 p.m.; K of C, 1040 N. Post Rd., 9 a.m.-noon. WEDNESDAY: St. Anthony, 6:30 p.m.; St. Roch Parish, St. Roch School, 360 S. Meridian, 6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY: K of Council 437, 1305 N. Delaware, 5:45 p.m. Holy Family K of C, American Legion Post 500, 1926 Georgetown Rd., 6:30 p.m.; FRIDAY. St. Christopher, Indianapolis, 6:30 p.m.; Holy Name, Beech Grove, 5:30 p.m. SATURDAY: K of C Council 437, 1305 N. Delaware, 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY: St. Ambrose, Seymour, 4 p.m.; Cardinal Ritter High School, 6 p.m.; Mgr. Sheldon of K of C Council 6318, Johnson Co., first Sunday of each month, 1:15 p.m.

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The season of Lent which we are about to observe is yet another gift from God, who wants to help us to rediscover ourselves as his sons and daughters, created and made new through Christ by the love of the Father in the Holy Spirit.

The Lord will prepare a banquet for all peoples. These words which inspire the present Lenten message lead us first to reflect upon the gracious providence of the Heavenly Father toward all men and women. We see this providence in the very act of creation, when God “saw all that he had made, and it was very good” (Gen 1:31). It is then confirmed in the privileged relationship with the people of Israel, whom God chooses as his own people to begin the work of salvation. Finally, in Jesus Christ this gracious providence comes to its fullness: in him, the blessing of Abraham is shared with all peoples and through faith we receive the promise of the Spirit (cf. Gal 3:14).

Lent is the favorable time to offer to the Lord sincere thanks for the wonders he has done for humanity in every age, and especially to recognize that “our homeland is in heaven” (Phil 3:20). In contemplating this wonderful call which comes to us from the Father in Christ, we cannot fail to see the love the Father has for us. This year of preparation for the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 is meant to help us renew our sense that God is the Father, who in the beloved Son shares with us his own life.

The experience of the Father’s love urges Christians to give of themselves to others, obeying a logic of service and solidarity in openness to their brothers and sisters. The arenas in which the Church through the centuries has borne witness to God’s love in her word and action are vast. Still today we see immense areas in which the work of Christians must bring to bear the charity of God. New forms of poverty and the pressing questions which trouble many hearts await a concrete and appropriate response. Those who are lonely, those on the margins of society, the hungry, the victims of violence, those who have no hope must be able to experience, in the Church’s loving care, the tenderness of the Heavenly Father who, from the very beginning of the world, has kept every individual in mind in order to fill each one with his blessings.

If we live Lent with our eyes fixed on the Father, it becomes a unique time of charity, manifested in our spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Our thoughts about the defeat we experience in the flux of human experience impel us to conversion. It gives us the sense of being loved by God and impels us to begin the work of salvation. It has already been accomplished in Christ; but it still has to be accomplished fully in each of us. In his death and resurrection, the Son of God has bestowed upon us the gift of eternal life, which begins in the Paschal Mystery but will have its definitive fulfillment in the eternal Easer of heaven. Many of our brothers and sisters can bear their situation of misery, discomfort and sickness only because they are certain that one day they will be called to the eternal banquet of heaven. Lent therefore directs our gaze beyond the present time, beyond history, beyond the horizon of this world, towards perfect and eternal communion with the most Holy Trinity.

The blessing which we receive in Christ breaks down for us the wall of time and opens to us the door which leads us to a full share in the life of God. “Blessed are those invited to the wedding-banquet of the Lamb” (Rev 19:9). We cannot forget that in this banquet—anticipated in the sacrament of the Eucharist—our life finds its final goal. Christ has gained for us not only new dignity in our life on earth, but above all the new dignity of the children of God, called to share eternal life with him. Lent invites us to overcome the temptation of seeing the realities of this world as definitive and to recognize that “our homeland is in heaven” (Phil 3:20).

In contemplating this wonderful call which comes to us from the Father in Christ, we cannot fail to see the love the Father has for us. This year of preparation for the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000 is meant to help us renew our sense that God is the Father, who in the beloved Son shares with us his own life. From the history of salvation which he accomplishes with us, and for us, we learn to live with new fervor the life of charity (cf. 1 Jn 4:10).—the theological virtue which in my apostolic letter Tertio Millennio Adveniente I urged people to explore more deeply during 1999.

The experience of the Father’s love urges Christians to give of themselves to others, obeying a logic of service and solidarity in openness to their brothers and sisters. The arenas in which the Church through the centuries has borne witness to God’s love in her word and action are vast. Still today we see immense areas in which the work of Christians must bring to bear the charity of God. New forms of poverty and the pressing questions which trouble many hearts await a concrete and appropriate response. Those who are lonely, those on the margins of society, the hungry, the victims of violence, those who have no hope must be able to experience, in the Church’s loving care, the tenderness of the Heavenly Father who, from the very beginning of the world, has kept every individual in mind in order to fill each one with his blessings.

If we live Lent with our eyes fixed on the Father, it becomes a unique time of charity, manifested in our spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Our thoughts go especially to those excluded from the banquet of everyday consumerism. There are many like Lazarus who knock on the door of society—all those who have no share in the material benefits which progress has brought. There are situations of persistent misery which cannot but impinge upon the conscience of Christians, reminding them of their duty to address these situations both as individuals and as a community.

It is not only individuals who have opportunities to show their readiness to invite the poor to share in their prosperity. International institutions, national governments and the centers controlling the world economy must all undertake brave plans and project to ensure a more just sharing of the goods of the earth, both within individual countries and in relations between nations.

Dear brothers and sisters, as we begin the journey of Lent, I address this message to you in order to encourage you along the path of conversion, a path which leads to an ever deeper knowledge of the mystery of goodness which God has in store for us. May Mary, Mother of Mercy, strengthen them in their duty to address these situations both as individuals and as a community. And may the Church through the centuries has borne witness to God’s love in her word and action be a sure sign of hope.
Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Mon, the week before it is to be published, to be sure to state date of death.

Obligations of archdiocesan priests and religious sisters serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in The Criterion.

Order priests and brothers included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connections to it.


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STEVEN'S MORTUARY

This Is The Criterion Friday, February 19, 1999

Page 23
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Church recognizes 1987 healing at Lourdes

LOURDES, France (CNS)—Church authorities recently declared that a “sudden and complete” healing of a paralyzed man occurred at the Marian shrine at Lourdes 12 years ago. Bishop Claude Dagens of Angouleme announced the Catholic Church’s official recognition of the healing in a statement at the shrine Feb. 10.

“In the name of the Church, I recognize publicly the genuine character of the healing of which Jean-Pierre Bely was the beneficiary at Lourdes on Friday, Oct. 9, 1987. This healing, which was sudden and complete, is a personal gift of God for this man and an effective sign of God who is savior, and which was accomplished through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes,” the bishop said.

Bely, who lives in the Diocese of Angouleme, discussed his healing in an earlier interview. “At Lourdes,” he said, “I had the distinct impression of complete forgiveness, filled with gentleness. It is as if God winked on me.”

Bely, now 63, lives in a small house in La Couronne, a village of 2,000 inhabitants on the outskirts of the village of 2,000 inhabitants on the outskirts of Lourdes. He said he had the distinct impression of complete forgiveness, filled with gentleness. It is as if God winked on me.”

Bely said he chose not to make a fuss “for the sake of all the other sick people who were there.” He stayed in his wheelchair and waited until he was reunited in privacy with his wife and two children, then revealed the healing.

In the interview, he said he came to Lourdes “bedridden and on a stretcher.” He took part in the October pilgrimage, the sacrament of the anointing of the sick. He felt what he described as “a sensation of coldness,” then “a gentle warmth” that seemed to fill his whole body. “Later, I took my first steps,” he said, “just like a baby who is learning to walk.”

Approximately 2,000 cases per year are reported to the Medical Office at Lourdes, where a team of doctors examine cases thoroughly to check three key features: that a genuine, verifiable healing has taken place; that the healing is lasting and effective; and that there is no “natural” or “medical” explanation for the healing. Of 6,500 cases the medical experts have pursued, some 2,500 were finally declared as “extraordinary” by the medical team. Only 66 passed the hurdle of the canonical examination. The most recent miracle was that of a 12-year-old Sicilian girl, Cirrolli Delizia, recognized in 1989. †
Parishes plan Lenten penance services

Parishes throughout the archdiocese have scheduled communal penance services for Lent. The following is a list of the services which have been reported to The Criterion.

**Bloomington Deaneary**
- Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul Catholic Center, Bloomington
- March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg
- March 14, 2 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Millhouseen
- March 14, 4 p.m. at St. Maurice, Napoleon
- March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Peter, Franklin Co.
- March 21, 2 p.m. at St. Joseph, St. Leon, for St. Joseph, St. Leon and St. John, Dover
- March 22, 7 p.m. at St. Louis, Batesville
- March 24, 7 p.m. at St. John, Osgood for St. John, Osgood and St. Magdalen, New Marion
- March 26, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Greensburg
- March 31, 7 p.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Rock, St. Mary-of-the-Rock for St. Mary-of-the-Rock, St. Mary-of-the-Rock and St. Cecilia, Oak Forest

**Connerville Deaneary**
- Feb. 22, 7 p.m. at St. Bridget, Liberty
- March 8, 7 p.m. at Holy Guardian Angels, Cedar Grove
- March 11, 7 p.m. at St. Andrew, Richmond
- March 14, 1:30 p.m. at St. Anne, New Castle
- March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel, Connerville

**Batesville Deaneary**
- Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Aurora
- March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg
- March 14, 2 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Millhouseen

**Indianapolis South Deaneary**
- Feb. 22, 7 p.m. at SS. Francis & Clare, Greenwood
- March 9, 7 p.m. at Holy Name, Beech Grove
- March 9, 7 p.m. at St. Roch
- March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Barnabas
- March 11, 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Greenwood, Greenwood
- March 11, 7 p.m. at Nativity
- March 16, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark
- March 28, 4 p.m. at St. Jude
- March 28, 4 p.m. for St. Patrick, Good Shepherd, Sacred Heart and Holy Rosary at Holy Rosary

**Terre Haute Deaneary**
- March 11, 1:30 p.m. at St. Ann, Terre Haute
- March 11, 7:30 p.m. at St. Benedict, Terre Haute
- March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Village, St. Mary-of-the-Woods
- March 21, after Liturgy at Holy Rosary, Seelyville
- March 21, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Rockville
- March 26, 8 p.m. at St. Patrick, Terre Haute
- March 29, 7:30 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary, Terre Haute

**Indianapolis North Deaneary**
- March 9, 7 p.m. at St. Matthew
- March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Andrew the Apostle
- March 11, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas
- March 14, 3 p.m. at St. Joan of Arc
- March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas
- March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Pius X
- March 18, 7 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary
- March 18, 7 p.m. at St. Luke
- March 20, 7 p.m. at St. Lawrence

**New Albany Deaneary**
- March 9, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Bradford
- March 11, 7 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier, Henryville, host St. Michael, Charlestown
- March 13, 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyd's Knobs
- March 17, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyd's Knobs
- March 18, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany
- March 18, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Navilleton
- March 18, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School, Clarksville
- March 19, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School, Clarksville
- March 21, 3 p.m. at St. Joseph, Corydon, host Most Precious Blood, St. Peter
- March 21, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary, Lanesville
- March 22, 7 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Starlight
- March 23, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary, New Albany
- March 24, 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart, Jeffersonville, host St. Augustine, Jeffersonville
- March 25, 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul, Sellersburg
- March 25, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph Hill, Sellersburg
- March 28, 7 p.m. at Holy Family, New Albany
- March 29, 7 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville

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**News briefs**

**U.S.**

**Decision on Big Ten highlights Notre Dame's religious identity**

NOTRE DAME, Ind. (CNS)—The University of Notre Dame’s decision not to join the Big Ten athletic and academic consortium highlighted the school’s Catholic identity, said Holy Cross Father Edward Malloy, Notre Dame’s president, on Feb. 5 when he announced the trustees’ decision to remain independent. “Just as the universities of Michigan or Wisconsin or Illinois have core identities as the flagship institutions of their states, so Notre Dame has a core identity, and at that core are these characteristics—Catholic, private, independent,” Father Malloy said.

**WASHINGTON (CNS)—Students at Georgetown University ended a four-day sit-in at the campus president’s office Feb. 9 after administrators agreed to steps meant to hold suppliers of Georgetown-licensed merchandise responsible for factory working conditions. With the protest, Georgetown students joined a recent surge in collegiate efforts to fight sweatshop conditions at factories supplying University licensed products.**

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**India**

**Bread for the World's annual letters offering targets debt relief**

VIENNA (CNS)—Bread for the World’s annual letters offering targets debt relief were announced. Benigni sat alongside Pope John Paul II in a Vatican appearance Feb. 9 after the nominations were announced. Benigni sat alongside Pope John Paul II. He said he did not know how much a papal blessing contributed to the seven Oscar nominations garnered by his film, “Life Is Beautiful.” "I’m not sure if he had time to influence the nominations with his prayers, but it certainly gave me beautiful emotions," Benigni told Italian television and newspapers Feb. 9 after the nominations were announced. Benigni sat alongside Pope John Paul II Jan. 10 as the pope watched the movie in the Vatican.

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**VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Education, not birth control, is the key to helping the world’s women make important decisions about their lives, a Vatican official said. “The ability of a woman to make decisions is not dependent on the reduction of her fertility, but on the level of her education,” said Msgr. Frank J. Dewane, a U.S. official at the Pontifical Council Cor Unum. He led the Vatican delegation to a Feb. 8-12 meeting sponsored by the United Nations to review progress made in the five years since the U.N. conference on population and development in Cairo, Egypt.**

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Elementary Principal

HOLY ROSARY. Parish office, 4625 E. 12th St., celebrates a Tridentine (Latin) Mass, 10 a.m. (formerly held at St. Patrick Parish).

Superintendent of Schools

The Diocese ofGary is accepting applications for the position ofsuperintendent for the Office of Catholic Schools. The superintendent is responsible for guiding and coordinating the educational activities in the diocese’s 30 elementary schools and three high schools. Major job requirements include collaboration with other diocesan offices and state and national organizations as well as working with public school administrators at both the local and state level. We are seeking candidates who are practicing Catholics, working toward or have a doctorate degree, have an Indiana Administrator license, and central office experience. The ideal candidate will have a record of achievement and dedication to Catholic education and experience in administration.


Ventilator Nurse

Top Rated Home Health Agency with a reputation for excellent client service and employee relations is seeking experienced (minimum of 1 year) ventilator nurse to care for and provide stimulating environment for alert, excellent client service and employee relations is sought.

Applications should be submitted by March 5, 1999.

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Elementary School Principal

Little Flower Parish in Indianapolis is seeking qualified applicants for the position of elementary school principal. Little Flower School has a current enrollment of 490 students in a program which includes preschool through grade eight. Applicants must be practicing Catholics with a current administrator license. Applications should be submitted by March 5, 1999.

Inquiries/resumes should be directed to: Annette “Mickey” Lentz, Archdiocese of Indianapolis Office of Catholic Education, 1440 N. Meridian, Indianapolis, IN 46202-1410 or phone 317-236-1438.

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Superintendent of Schools

The Diocese ofGary is accepting applications for the position ofsuperintendent for the Office of Catholic Schools. The superintendent is responsible for guiding and coordinating the educational activities in the diocese’s 30 elementary schools and three high schools. Major job requirements include collaboration with other diocesan offices and state and national organizations as well as working with public school administrators at both the local and state level. We are seeking candidates who are practicing Catholics, working toward or have a doctorate degree, have an Indiana Administrator license, and central office experience. The ideal candidate will have a record of achievement and dedication to Catholic education and experience in administration.


Ventilator Nurse

Top Rated Home Health Agency with a reputation for excellent client service and employee relations is seeking experienced (minimum of 1 year) ventilator nurse to care for and provide stimulating environment for alert, excellent client service and employee relations is sought.

Applications should be submitted by March 5, 1999.

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Elementary School Principal

Little Flower Parish in Indianapolis is seeking qualified applicants for the position of elementary school principal. Little Flower School has a current enrollment of 490 students in a program which includes preschool through grade eight. Applicants must be practicing Catholics with a current administrator license. Applications should be submitted by March 5, 1999.

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