SB 298 fails in Senate committee, 7-4; legislation never makes it to full assembly

By Margaret Nelson

By 6:15 p.m. on Ash Wednesday, hope was ended that capital punishment would be abolished during this session of the Indiana General Assembly.

The Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal and Civil Procedures heard nearly four hours of arguments from a packed Statehouse chamber Feb. 17 before it voted 7-4 against taking Senate Bill 298 to the Senate floor for a vote.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, as general chairman of the Indiana Catholic Conference, was the first speaker to support SB 298, which would abolish the death penalty.

He cited the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' statements against capital punishment in 1980 and Pope John Paul II’s teachings throughout his papacy.

Archbishop Buechlein quoted the Holy Father’s statements during his January visit to St. Louis: “A sign of hope is the increasing recognition that the dignity of human life must never be taken away, even in the case of someone who has done great evil ... I renew the appeal I made most recently at Christmas for a consensus to end the death penalty, which is both cruel and unnecessary.”

The archbishop stated, “Violence breeds violence. ... Would it not better serve our case to impose life imprisonment without the possibility of parole in capital offense cases? "If capital punishment is no longer necessary to protect society, if it lowers the value of all human life, if indeed it does not deter crime ... surely it is time to end the state-imposed taking of human life in Indiana.”

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein.

Indiana judges have the option of sentencing murderers to life in prison without parole. Leaders of the Religious Society of Friends, United Church of Christ, Episcopal, Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran and Jewish faiths, as well as a representative of Amnesty International and some victims’ families, were among those speaking in support of the bill.

Former Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Richard Givan said that the death sentence is not a deterrent, is not applied fairly, and is expensive to execute.

Father Joseph Ross, a priest who has served as a volunteer prison chaplain for three years, talked about his contact with convicted murderers on death row in the Michigan City penitentiary.

“I tell them often that they need not fear God,” Father Ross said. “Will you agree not to kill them?”

Sen. Erline Rogers (D-Gary), a co-sponsor of the bill, endorsed it even though a member of her family was slain. She said she did not want other families—even the families of convicted murderers—to suffer as her family did.

She told the committee a phrase that her 15-year-old orphaned grandson uses: “We be what we see,” noting that the state is both cruel and unnecessary.

Death penalty bill stopped in committee

St. Vincent de Paul expands food pantry ministry in Indianapolis

By Margaret Nelson

The archdiocesan council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) has purchased a warehouse that will be used as a multiparish self-serve food pantry for low-income families in the east and south sections of Indianapolis.

William Quigley, director of the food pantry program, announced that remodeling is beginning this week at the 12,000-square-foot building located at 2111 Spann Ave. SVdP leaders hope the pantry will open in 90 days.

“It will be an entirely different concept than what we have done around here,” said Quigley. “This will be our second biggest venture. Our largest is the warehouse, which distributes clothing, household goods and appliances to low-income people.

“The new building cost $160,000; he said, and it will cost almost that much more to prepare the structure for use as a food pantry.

Quigley explained that, initially, heads of families seeking help will be interviewed. The size of family and other circumstances will be considered. Clients will then receive color-coded cards that entitle them to a certain amount of food in each category. They will be re-evaluated for new cards after six months.

The plan is to let each family “shop” by appointment, he said. Information will be computerized to prevent abuses of the program.

The plan will help the poor obtain appropriate foods. Quigley said that, across the nation, those who work with the hungry estimate that 40 percent of the food given to the poor is wasted.

This new facility will complement the long lines at parish food pantries.
DEATH PENALTY

continued from page 1

is committing murder when it executes those convicted of this crime.

Marion County Prosecutor Scott Newman spoke in favor of keeping the death penalty, calling three people to testify who had lost relatives at the hands of murderers.

Newman said that the threat of the death penalty was used as a deterrent to stop a prison riot in the state.

He said that taking away the death penalty is saying to prosecutors, “Here’s a slingshot. Do the best you can.”

Other prosecutors spoke out in favor of capital punishment, as did members of the Indiana State Police.

Two Catholics on the committee voted to take the measure to the full Senate for a vote: J. Murray Clark (R-Hamilton Co.), a member of St. Luke Parish in Indianapolis; and Thomas J. Wyss (R-Fort Wayne). Joining them were Cletus Dehau (Washington-D-South Bend) and Glenn Howard (D-Indianapolis).

Two Catholics voted against SB 298 at the committee level: William Alexa (D-Vulparus) and Frank Mrvan Jr. (D-Hammond). Others voting against the bill were Robert L. Meeks (R-LaGrange), chair of the committee; Richard Bray (R-Marionville); Luke Kenley (R-Noblesville); David C. Long (R-Fort Wayne) and John Waterman (R-Shelburn).

Chairman Meeks said he tried to be fair by giving the bill a hearing, but that he was voting not to send the bill to the floor “for all the victims” who could not be there to vote against it.

Though similar bills have been introduced before, this is the first time in the 22 years since the death penalty was reinstated by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1977 that a bill to abolish the death penalty has been heard by a committee of the Indiana legislature.

Sen. Morris Mills (R-Indianapolis), sponsor of the bill, said after the vote, “I knew it was an uphill fight. But the issue won’t go away.”

Alexa argued that Wednesday’s arguments for the bill were “more com- pelling” than he had heard before, but asked, “Have we evolved far enough to renew the consensus for the death penalty? It is a sad commentary that we are not at that point.”

Several speakers, including Newman, cited opinion poll figures that 76 percent of citizens support capital punishment. But Washington argued that other polls show only 40 percent of the people approve of the death penalty if given the option of life without parole, which is in place in Indiana.

Convinced that the people would support his position, Washington said, “I’m willing to pay for a poll to see what our constituents think.”

FOOD PANTRY

continued from page 1

which have caused safety and traffic con-cerns at parishes with schools.

The pantry will serve mostly Indian-apolis East Deeney and Indiansapolis South Deanery parishes. Ken Becker is East Deanery president and Pat Jerrell is in charge of South Deeney operations.

They will be in charge of the operation of the pantry until leaders can be elected.

Expected to participate are Holy Cross, Holy Spirit, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Bernadette, St. Mary, St. Philip Neri and St. Therese (Little Flower) parishes in the East Deeney.

South Deeney parishes that may be part of the food pantry are Holy Rosary, Sacred Heart, Good Shepherd, St. John, St. Jude, St. Patrick and St. Roch.

St. Vincent de Paul volunteer leaders have looked at similar operations in Grand Rapids, Mich., and in Seattle, Wash.

“They have worked out beautifully,” said Quigley.

The newly-purchased plant has a walk-in refrigerator on the premises. “We expect that it will look like a discount store,” with pallets piled high with food, Quigley said.

The clients will use grocery carts while shopping, he said, and there will be plenty of fenced-in parking at the loca-
tion.

The food pantry site is near a public bus route.

Quigley said the Gennesaret Free Clinic, a volunteer medical service which provides free health care and prescription medicine for the homeless and poor in Marion County, also will provide services from the building.

“We will need a lot of volunteers,” said Quigley. “And we will need everything it takes to equip a grocery store.”

St. Vincent de Paul has had cooperation from the southeast neighborhood commu-nity and development organizations and Gleaners Food Bank, Quigley said, as well as officials involved in city zoning and the state food commodity program.

“Many neighbors will be clients,” he said. “The atmosphere will be bright and nice, I hope it brings more dignity to those who are in need of food.”

The architect, St. Luke parishioner Dave Richardson of Indianapolis, is vice president of the SVJP board and is donat-ing his time for the project.

And Quigley said that Steve Hassler of Hassler Construction, a Vincentian and Christ the King parishioner, is keeping charges at a minimum.

On Quigley’s dream list are volunteers who speak Spanish to help take informa-
tion from these clients who have trouble understanding English.

He hopes many volunteers will help serve the poor at the food pantry. “It will take a lot of people to do this,” said Quigley.

(Readers who wish to volunteer for the food pantry may call Quigley at 317-253-0414.)
Harpist promotes peace and unity with music

By Sarah Gardner
Special to The Criterion

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS— Watching master harpist John Lozier put together a harp is like watching a determined carpenter motivated by a higher inspiration.

Hearing Lozier play the harp is like feeling this inspiration fill a room.

Lozier, an anthropologist and agriculture professor from West Virginia University, incorporated the Harping for Harmony Foundation in West Virginia in 1996. The mission of the organization is to “promote harmony and community, locally and globally, through harp music.”

Lozier traveled to Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on Feb. 7 to promote his mission during a six-day visit. His workshop was just one of the events during Peace and Justice Week at the women's college operated by the Sisters of Providence.

Peace and Justice Week is devoted to five days of religious and peace awareness events for Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College students and faculty.

Four music students—senior Rosa Salazar, sophomore Gwen Mihaljevich and juniors Beth Bell and Jessi McGuire—were chosen to participate in the weeklong harp workshop. One faculty member, assistant journalism professor David Goguen, also participated in the course.

During the workshop, the harp students learned how to make and play their own folk harps, which are over a yard high and have 29 strings arranged in four octaves. Folk harps have no foot pedals.

Lozier designed the folk harps from those found in Latin America. He recently began designing Irish Celtic-type harps.

In between practicing music on already-made harps, the students put together their own harps. The assembly process includes building the body of the harp, then stringing the strings through the soundboard to provide tension.

Lozier estimated that the strings provide 1,000 to 2,000 pounds of tension necessary to create the melodic sounds of harp music.

Lozier said he grew up around music, and began playing the piano at age 7. He later pursued music instructions on the trombone, guitar, violin and fiddle.

He has played the harp for six years, and began doing outreach service with the harp five years ago.

Lozier said he became attracted to the

See HARP, page 11

Harping for Harmony founder John Lozier of West Virginia plays his handmade harp earlier this month on the front steps of LeFer Hall at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College. Lozier teaches people how to build and play harps as a way to promote peace in the United States and in other countries. His five-day workshop was part of Peace and Justice Week Feb. 7-12 at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.
The Active List

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

February 26-28
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College will present the play Those Sisters in Cecil Auditorium Feb. 26 and Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 28 at 2 p.m. Tickets: $6 adults, $4 senior citizens. Information and tickets: 812-354-3100.

St. Anthony, St. Joseph and Holy Trinity parishes will hold their annual weekend retreat at Fatima Retreat House. Holy Cross Father Bill Simmons will open the retreat with Mass on Friday. The theme will be “Working from the Heart—Foundation of a Personal Relationship with God.” Cost: $30 single; $60 couple. Information: 317-631-7498, Dolores A. Miek.

February 27
Cardinal Ritter High School, Indianapolis, 3660 W. 30th St., Booster Club will sponsor a Montie Carlo night beginning at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Information: 317-637-7828.

The Couplet to Couple League will hold Natural Family Planning at St. Luke Parish, Indianapolis, 7973 Holiday Dr. E., beginning at 9 a.m. Information: 317-862-3848, David and Jan Cains.

The Catholic Widowed Organization will hold a pizza party at the Archishop O’Meara Catholic Center, Indianapolis, 1400 N. Meridian St., beginning at 4 p.m.

February 28
Rexville Schoenstatt will present “Penance, Forgiveness and Peace,” at 2:30 p.m. followed by Eucharist at 3:30 p.m. Information: 812-689-3551.

Cardinal Ritter High School will hold its annual Calcutta Gift Gathering luncheon beginning at 1 p.m. at 2742 Patton Dr., Speedway. Information: 317-243-1981.

St. Thomas More Parish, Indianapolis, 4625 N. Meridian St., will hold a T’ai Chi service at 6 p.m. Information: 317-475-0722.

March 2
St. Joseph Parish, Lebanon, will hold an exorcism talk on “Evangelicals and Catholics Together.” The talks will follow the 7 p.m. prayer in the parish chapel. Information: 765-482-7941.

March 4
Scicina Memorial High School, Indianapolis, 5000 Newland Ave., will hold incoming freshmen registration from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the school for families who have not registered for the 1999-2000 school year. A $325 activity fee is due at registration. Information: 317-356-6377, ext. 119.

March 5
The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana will gather for Mass and healing service at Our Lady of the Greenwood, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, beginning at 7 p.m. Information: 317-927-6900.

March 5 & 7
Oldenburg Academy, Oldenburg, will present the musical Godspell in the auditorium Friday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 5 p.m. Cost: adults, $6 advance, $7 at the door; $4 children, 6 and under. Information: 812-934-4440.

March 6
St. Vincent Hospitals and Health Services, Westview field program. Tickets are $3. Women magazine are sponsoring a free family health fair at Lafayette Square Mall. 3125 Indianapolis, 3919 Lafayette Rd. Information: 317-338-2273.

Scicina Memorial High School will sponsor a hotcake breakfast at McDonald’s, 10th and Bosart, Indianapolis, from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., with all proceeds to benefit the track and field program. Tickets are $3. Information and tickets: 317-356-6377.

Lenten Activities
Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25
St. John Parish, Indianapolis, 126 W. Georgia St., will present Lenten Scripture Reflections, a discussion of Sunday readings from 12:45 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Light refreshments provided. Information: 317-635-2021.

March 5, 19
St. Martin Parish, Yorkville, will serve fish dinners from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

February 26, 12, 26
St. Paul School’s Booster Club, Guifford, will serve fish dinners at Father Walsh Hall in Yorkville, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Adults $5; children 10 and under $2.50. Dine in or carry out.

March 3, 10, 17, 24
Mt. St. Francis Retreat Center, Mt. St. Francis, will hold a Lenten series on the dimensions of prayer from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Information: 812-923-8817.

March 5, 12 & 19
Sacred Heart Parish, Terre Haute, 2322 N. 13 ½ St., will present a video/discussion series of the film “Jesus of Nazareth” from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the family center. Information: 812-466-1231.

March 23
Sacred Heart Parish, Terre Haute, 2322 N. 13 ½ St., will present “The Bible—Why it is Holy? A workshop for adults from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the family center. Information: 812-466-1233.

Recurring
Daily
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, meets at 7 a.m. Mass. Call Mass for times.


Weekly
Sundays
Holy Rosary Parish, Indianapolis, 520 Stevens St., celebrates a Triduum (Latin) Mass, 10 a.m. (formerly held at St. Patrick Parish).

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Carlisle, holds “The Not Afraid” holy hour from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Information: 317-862-3848, David and Jan Cains.

The Youth Connection “Catholic Youth Ministry Consultants”

This Ad Is Camera Ready!

Beef & Boards
4689
2x4
Paper
Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center Beneﬁcent Room, 1409 N Meridian St., Indianapolis, 9:30 a.m.

First Tuesdays Divine Mercy Chapel, Indianapolis, 3354 W 10th St., north of St. Michael Church, holds Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7 p.m. Confession is at 6:45 p.m.

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

First Fridays Holy Guardian Angels Parish, Crossway, 405 W 133, has eucharistic adoration after the 8 a.m. Mass. • • •
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Indianapolis, 5533 E. Washington St., holds adoration and prayer service at 7 p.m.

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

Sacred Heart Parish, Indianapolis, 1530 Union St., holds exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 8 a.m. Mass, closing with communion service at noon.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Bedford, celebrates exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following 8:30 a.m. Mass until 9 p.m. The sacrament of reconciliation is available from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

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

First Saturdays St. Nicholas Parish, Sumam, has 8 a.m. Mass, prayer and worship music followed by the Fatima rosary. Monthly SACRED gathering follows in the parish school.

Apostolate of Fatima holds holy hour at 2 p.m. in Little Flower Chapel, 13th and Bosart, Indianapolis.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Greenwood, 335 S. Meridian St., holds First Saturday devotions and the sacrament of reconciliation after 8 a.m. Mass.

Holy Angels Parish, Greenwood, 220 W 26th St., and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St., holds exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11 a.m. to noon.

Second Thursdays Focolare Movement meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Indianapolis home of Millie and Jim Klessner. Information: 317-257-1073 or 317-845-8133.

Third Sundays Mary’s Revival Schoenstatt has holy hour at 2:30 p.m. followed by Mass at 3:30 p.m. (Located on 925 South, 4 mile east of 821 Mass., 12 miles south of Versailles.) Information: 812-689-3551.

Third Mondays Young Widowed Group, sponsored by the archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries, meets at St. Matthew Parish, 4101 E. 56th St., Indianapolis, at 7:30 p.m. Child care available.

Information: 317-236-1586.

Third Wednesdays Catholic Widowed Organization meets from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Information: 317-887-9388.

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

Culver City/Claremont, Indianapolis, 435 W. Troy Ave., Mass at 2 p.m.

Third Thursdays Sacred Heart Parish, Indianapolis, 1530 Union St., holds family rosary night at 7 p.m. • • •

Our Lady of Peace Chapel/Mausoleum, Indianapolis, 9001 Havenstick Rd., Mass at 2 p.m.

Third Fridays The Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana gathers at 7 p.m. for Mass and healing service at the chapel in St. Francis Hall, Marian College, 3200 Cold Spring Rd., Indianapolis.

The archdiocesan Pro-Life Office and St. Andrew Parish, 3922 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, 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 1437, 1305 N. Delaware, 11 a.m.; St. Michael, 6 p.m.; Msgr. Sheridan K of C Council 6318, Johnson Co., 6:15 p.m.; St. Pius X K of C Council 3433, 6:30 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, 3603 S. Meridian, 6:00 p.m. THURSDAY: K of C Council 1437, 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 1437, 1305 N. Delaware, 4:30 p.m.; SUNDAY: St. Ambrose, Seymour, 4:30 p.m.; Cardinal Ritter High School, 3601 S. Meridian, 9 a.m. Msgr. Sheridan K of C Council 6318, Johnson Co., first Sunday of each month, 1:15 p.m.

Advertise in The Criterion Call 226-1772 or advertise!

HARP continued from page 3

harp because of the sense of spiritual har- mony it brought to him. “Harmony is a physical thing,” he said. “It has to do with two things that are vibrating in harmony together. It has a physical basis. Peace and harmony between people is also a physical thing.” Lozier said he believes that music, in and of itself, holds a certain power. “Music can be used to create feel- ings,” he said, “not always peaceful feelings—sometimes excited aggressive feelings. We want to use that power of music for peace.” Harping for Harmony uses the power of harps to introduce people to global music, he said, and to integrate with peace lessons at public schools.

The foundation also helps ﬁnance travel costs for volunteer musicians who take their harps to other countries to pro- mote peace.

In recent years, Harping for Harmony musicians have helped carry out people-to-people projects in Russia, Cyprus, Haiti and El Salvador.

Lozier said the El Salvador project was co-sponsored by Pastors for Peace, an organization which has its headquarters in Indianapolis. Pastors for Peace supports a half dozen nonprofit regional human service organizations.

Lozier said one of Harping for Harmony’s current projects is sponsoring a harp student with the Belfast Harp Orchestra, which teaches harp in divided communities in Northern Ireland. He said the Belfast project is one example of how the harmony of the harp is making a more proactive peace happen.

“They are bringing young people from Catholic and Protestant groups together through the music of the Belfast Harp Orchestra, he said.

The foundation’s other current pro- ject is supporting the Nicaragua Potters for Peace drinking water project. Potters for Peace is led by West Virginia Steve Earp, who is expanding the production of a ceramic water filter.

Lozier said he hopes these projects will help foster the “connectiveness” that he feels the harp can provide.

“The harp makes you feel connected with the whole range of the universe, vibrating with life,” he said.

A new volunteer with the Harping for Harmony Foundation is beginning harpist Virginia Sustarsic from Athens, Ohio. Sustarsic said she ﬁrst found out about Harping for Harmony in early February, and she experienced her ﬁrst workshop at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College this month.

Sustarsic said she is just beginning to play the harp, but feels that it is her calling. She said she believes the most inﬂuential part of the Harping for Harmony workshop was the transition of assembling the harp from pieces to create an actual playing instrument.

“Having a piece of wood and nylon, then playing it, makes the transition great,” she said.

Sustarsic said she believes the great- est joy of playing the harp is the sense of direction it gives her in her own life, as well as for others. “To me, it’s like having an experi- ence of balancing harmony in the plan- ets and our lives,” she said.

At the conclusion of the Harping for Harmony workshop, the new harp play- ers performed both familiar and multi- cultural selections in concert on Feb. 12 at the Hulman Hall Conference Center as part of the college’s celebration of Peace and Justice Week.

(For more information about the Harping for Harmony Foundation, con- tact John Lozier at lozier@wvu.edu or Sarah Gardner is a senior at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.)
Abolish the death penalty

On Ash Wednesday, Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B., general chairman of the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC), the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Indiana, was joined by nearly a dozen other Indiana religious leaders in calling for an end to capital punishment in the state. (See story on Page 1.)

The archbishop was part of a statewide coalition of leaders representing Christians and Jews that supported Senate Bill 298, sponsored by Sen. Morris Mills (R-Indianapolis). The bill called for the end to the death penalty in Indiana.

After four hours of debate, the Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal and Civil Procedures voted against taking the bill to the floor of the Senate for a vote. Passage of the bill had been regarded as a long-shot from the start because most Hoosiers remain in favor of the death penalty as a punishment for capital offenses.

However, the Catholic Church in Indiana has officially opposed the death penalty as punishment for capital offenses since 1972. The U.S. bishops issued a statement opposing the practice in 1980. In recent years, the ICC has reiterated its opposition repeatedly.

In 1995, Pope John Paul II, issued his encyclical Evangelium Vitae (“The Gospel of Life”) in which he said that in modern society the need to impose the death penalty would be “very rare if practically nonexistent.” This language was so pointed and strong that it necessitated revisions in the Catechism of the Catholic Church in order to update it in accordance with the pope’s teaching in the encyclical. The pope is steadfast in his plea for an end to state-sanctioned killing, as was evident during his recent visit to St. Louis.

At last week’s Senate hearing, Marion County Prosecutor Scott Newman was among those who spoke against the imposition of the death penalty. Newman serves as prosecutor, had 162 homicides last year, the fourth record year for murder in five years.

Newman should also be reminded that a slingshot worked pretty well for David when he went up against Goliath.

In addition, imposition of the death penalty is actually financially more costly to the state than life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. A 1993 study by Duke University professors concluded that the cost of a capital prosecution through to execution was more than double the cost of a noncapital prosecution plus the cost of imprisonment.

For any number of solid reasons above and beyond the theological and moral ones, Indiana needs to join the other 12 states that no longer kill capital offenders. And the U.S. needs to join the other 104 nations of the world that no longer impose death for capital offenses.

As the Senate committee vote indicated, the Church’s pro-life stand on this issue remains noncultural. But that is nothing new for Catholics. While this issue continues to be emotional and controversial, Catholics need to continue to oppose the imposition of the death penalty. It’s obviously not the popular stand to take. It just happens to be the right one.

— William R. Bruns

Seeking the Face of the Lord

I write profoundly with the chief editorial writer of The Indianapolis Star who confines justice and mercy in her Feb. 18 column on capital punishment. There is a big difference.

Nor are justice and forgiveness incompatible social virtues as her argument would assert. Drawing a “line in the sand” to tell criminals that murder is heinous is a social necessity, but nothing has proven that capital punishment accomplishes this necessity. Indeed life imprisonment without parole is no dunging for criminals on “death row.”

On Ash Wednesday, as the general chairman of the Indiana Catholic Conference, the public policy voice for the five Catholic dioceses of Indiana, I offered the Roman Catholic position on the death penalty at a state legislative committee hearing. Let me explain our Catholic position in brief.

We believe it is everyone’s duty to recognize the sacredness of all human life and to recognize, name and reject as anti-life any action that threatens, diminishes or extinguishes life. We are trying to be consistent in support of this belief. Our opposition to abortion and euthanasia is well known. Our opposition to death as a penalty for capital offenses is less known to the general public, even though our National Conference of Catholic Bishops spoke out against capital punishment as early as 1980.

In his 1995 encyclical “The Gospel of Life,” Pope John Paul II stated: “It is increasingly clear that capital punishment is unnecessary to protect people’s safety and the public order, so that cases where it may be justified are very rare if practically nonexistent.”

In his recent visit to St. Louis, the pope elaborated on his earlier teaching. He said: “The new evangelization calls for followers of Christ who are unconditionally pro-life, who will proclaim, celebrate and serve the Gospel of life in every situation. A sign of hope is the increasing recognition that the dignity of human life must never be taken away, even in the case of someone who has done great evil. Modern society has the means of protecting itself, without definitively denying criminals the chance to reform.” (cf. “The Gospel of Life,” #27). I renew the appeal I made most recently at Christmas for a consensus to end the death penalty, which is both cruel and unnecessary.

Surely all of us in our state—leaders and citizens—are concerned about the rise of violence in Indiana. No community, whether urban, suburban or rural, whether city or town, is safe from violence these days. We need to draw the line in the sand while we also must work together to strengthen a culture of life to counter the ever-growing culture of death.

Violence breeds violence, and we believe the death penalty is having that adverse effect. We need to protect our communities from violence, yet there is no evidence that indicates the death penalty has had such an effect. (Ironically, there is also evidence that the death penalty is often more costly than life imprisonment, largely because of the legal appeal system.) Would it not better serve our cause to improve our judicial system without the possibility of parole in capital offense cases?

We believe all human persons are created in God’s image and that all life is sacred. We believe the death penalty erodes human dignity and thus lowers the value of all human life. The death penalty has not and does not deter violent crimes.

Statistics are available to show that states which have not sanctioned the death penalty experience significantly less violent crime. Nor does the death penalty honor the victims or their families.

Sadly, at the heart of it all, as evident in The Star column, the death penalty seems to be more about revenge than about justice. Furthermore, there is growing concern for a culture of life that death penalty erodes human dignity and thus lowers the value of all human life. The death penalty has not and does not deter violent crimes.

We believe all human persons are created in God’s image and that all life is sacred. We believe the death penalty erodes human dignity and thus lowers the value of all human life. The death penalty has not and does not deter violent crimes.

We believe all human persons are created in God’s image and that all life is sacred. We believe the death penalty erodes human dignity and thus lowers the value of all human life. The death penalty has not and does not deter violent crimes.

We believe all human persons are created in God’s image and that all life is sacred. We believe the death penalty erodes human dignity and thus lowers the value of all human life. The death penalty has not and does not deter violent crimes.
Buscando la Cara del Señor

Arzobispo Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.

Pena de muerte, justicia y misericordia

D

ninguna manera estoy de acuer-

la con el director de redacción
del diario The Indianapolis Star

confundido la justicia y revancha

sobre la pena de muerte en su columna
de 18 de febrero. Hay una gran dife-

La justicia y la misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más

de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es

justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

Las intenciones vocacionales del Arzobispo Buechlein para marzo

Los jóvenes: que ellos acepten el ánimo del Espíritu Santo, para que puedan
discrimen su papel en la Iglesia, especialmente la llamada de Dios a hacer
decidirse y entrar en una vida religiosa.

Pena de muerte, justicia y misericordia

D

ninguna manera estoy de acuer-

la con el director de redacción
del diario The Indianapolis Star

confundido la justicia y revancha

sobre la pena de muerte en su columna
de 18 de febrero. Hay una gran dife-

La justicia y la misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).

me proteger, sin negar a los delincuentes
sos en nuestro apoyo de esta
cuestión de reformar a un delincuente.
me creemos que la pena de muerte

Ramón), el Papa explicó en muchos detalles en

la pena de muerte en nuestra sociedad.

El Santo Padre hizo comprender que

el valor de toda la vida humana. La

La justicia y misericordia no son vir-
tudes sociales incompatibles como sug-
ire su columna. Es necesario dibujar
una “línea en la arena” para informar-
les a los crímenes que el asesinato es
pero no hay evidencia alguna de
la pena de muerte logra esta necesidad.
de hecho, la cadena perpetua es más
de la Navidad refer-

Hace recientemente en la Navidad refer-

Vida, #27).
JENNINGS Co.—“If you build it—they will come.” At least this is what Franciscan Sister Christine Ernstes, parish life coordinator at St. Denis Parish in Jennings County, believes.

Sister Christine is referring to a new parish hall. The Batesville Deanery parish hopes to use its share of the Legacy of Hope from Generation to Generation capital campaign money to build the hall.

St. Denis is a mission of Immaculate Conception Parish in Millhousen. Father William Ripperger is the priest minister. Father Francis J. Eckstein is the priest moderator.

The 38-household St. Denis Parish surpassed its campaign goal. The goal was $20,900, and $32,840 has been pledged. According to Sister Christine, the parish wants a parish hall for gathering space.

She said, although the building project is currently in “the dreaming” stage, groundbreaking is estimated within the next three to five years.

Currently, the 95-person capacity church is the only facility on the property, and it doesn’t have indoor plumbing.

“We don’t have anything to offer other than Sunday liturgy. If we want to do some adult faith formation, we really don’t have a place to go,” she said.

The faith formation programs for children and youth are shared with Immaculate Conception Parish. Seventy children are enrolled in the preschool through sixth grade, while another 66 students attend junior/senior high faith formation. Kathy Westrick is the administrator of religious education.

Nell Pfeifer, a parishioner for 33 years, said the need for a parish hall is realized every year at Easter when the parish gathers for coffee and doughnuts in a small room inside the church. Sister Christine added that the people come in shifts.

“You come in and you get your things and you move out, because there’s not enough room to hold everyone,” Sister Christine said.

Alice Chandler, a parishioner for 12 years, said there may be some mixed feelings about building a parish hall; however, it’s viewed as a great asset.

“I don’t think there’s anyone who doesn’t want it; however, there may be people here who aren’t sure we can afford it,” Pfeifer added.

Chandler said a new hall could be an evangelization tool. It will allow the parish to invite people to St. Denis—and maybe even join the Church as well. “It will open a lot of doors,” Chandler said.

According to Sister Christine, this new facility will help keep the parish, which was established 1894, “alive and well,” and it will leave something for the parishioners who follow. Chandler agrees.

“They [parishioners] looked at what the Church has given them over the years, and now it’s time to give back to the Church,” Chandler said.

The people at St. Denis realize that they are the Church. Because the parish has been without a resident priest since the early 1900s, stewardship isn’t a new concept.

Sister Christine said parishioners realize they aren’t just giving to the parish, they’re giving to God. She believes it is through stewardship that one returns gifts back to God. “It’s not just a gift to the parish,” she said.
Like true human love, God’s love is sacrificial

By Fr. Eugene LaVerdiere, S.S.S.

I have seen love in my parents. After 64 years of marriage, they are still in love.

They truly care for one another. They even share chores, ordinary things like cooking, washing the dishes, cleaning and making their bed.

At 90, Dad plows the driveway with a snow blower. And Mom, 86, watches him from the sun porch. They also pray together.

They love their children and grandchildren. We feel it. In their love, they are still giving life to us. In my parents, I recognize true love. I can describe it through its manifestations.

My Mom and Dad sacrifice their comforts and their likes for one another. There is nothing too great that they would not do for one other. But if they heard this, they would laugh and say, “This is no sacrifice!”

I can describe their love as sacrificial love, but I try to define it and it fumble over the words.

It is worse when I try to define God’s love.

We can barely speak of God’s love, let alone define it.

God is love! In the First Letter of John, we read, “God is love,” and “God is love” (1 Jn 4:8).

If we take John’s statement seriously, it becomes extremely challenging. If God is love, we have to ask, what is love?

Like life, love is hard to define, if not impossible.

A dictionary definition of the term “love” might apply to a few aspects of human love, but it would hardly be adequate to define the love of God. Still, in attempting to tell what God’s love is, we have to start with human love.

We can approach God’s love from the experience of human love. Like our parents, God’s love gives life to us. We love others with the same love we receive from our parents. We also love others with the same love we receive from God.

We can also approach human love and God’s love from classic passages in the New Testament. Like us, New Testament writers describe love, including God’s love, from its manifestations.

Paul’s description of true love is justly famous: “Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests” (1 Cor 13).

So is Paul’s description of God’s love: “Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us” (Rom 5:7-8).

Like true human love, God’s love is sacrificial.

From John we have a similar teaching: “In this way, the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him” (1 Jn 4:9).

Jesus manifests God’s love: Jesus is the manifestation of the love of God. Jesus is the love of God made flesh. If the Word of God was made flesh in Jesus, so was the love of God.

In Jesus, the love of God became human love.

Paraphrasing the Prologue of John’s Gospel (Jn 1:1-18), we can really say that like the Word, love was in the beginning, and the love was with God and the love was God.

And the love of God became flesh and made its dwelling among us in Jesus Christ. The only Son, who is at the Father’s side, has revealed the Father.

God’s love transforms our lives

By David Gibson

To say God is love is to say God knows us, is actively interested in us and is completely committed to a positive relationship with us.

In a January 1999 speech, Pope John Paul II said the revelation that God is love shows that God won’t stop loving us—God is incapable of that.

In recognizing God as love, we discover that God is love.

In a January 1999 speech, Pope John Paul II said the revelation that God is love shows that God won’t stop loving us—God is incapable of that.

Love doesn’t change things slightly.

Love transforms things in enriching ways.

Our notion of God is transformed when God is seen as love. Our notion of ourselves is transformed too, our vision of what life is for is revolutionized.

The love makes all the difference. †

(David Gibson edits Faith Alive!)

So in Jesus, we can see the Father’s love.

We can see God’s love in Jesus’ life, in his teaching, his ministry, especially in his passion, where out of love he gave his life for us, and in his resurrection.

Every story in the Gospels manifests the love of God in Jesus’ life.

We see the love of God at work in Jesus very dramatically when he heals someone.

One time Jesus was teaching in a synagogue on the Sabbath, and when he saw a badly crippled woman, incapable of standing up straight, he spontaneously called to her and said, “Woman, you are set free of your infirmity.” When Jesus laid hands on her, she stood up straight and glorified God.

Today, we would glorify God with her. But in New Testament times, the leader of the synagogue was indignant that Jesus healed her on the Sabbath. It was against their tradition to work on the Sabbath (see Lk 13:10-17).

We could add to Paul’s description of the qualities of love that love is courageous and challenging.

We can see God’s love in Jesus when he prays on the cross: “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do” (Lk 23:34).

The love of God in Jesus is not only sacrificial. It is healing. It could also be challenging. It is also forgiving.

Yes, God is love. And the love of God was made flesh in Jesus’ love. †

(Blessed Sacrament Father Eugene LaVerdiere is a Scripture scholar and senior editor of Emmanuel magazine.)

Discussion Point

Helping others shows God’s love

This Week’s Question

For you, what does it mean to say God is love?

“We’re all made in God’s image, and when we help others we’re showing God’s love within us.” (Edward Eldridge, Philadelphia, Pa.)

“I would say it means that he accepts us the way we are; he is all forgiving, and we can trust him.” (Sheila Abel, Owingsboro, Ky.)

“To say God is love is to surrender to acceptance of the humanity of another. … Judgment is rejected. ‘Let the one among us without sin cast the first stone.’ Love can be as simple as spending part of each day and all of our life letting our stone of judgment drop silently to the ground.” (Florence Reyes, New Brunswick, N.J.)

“I’m here in the Church because God as my Father is the one who wanted me. I was away from the Church, but God’s love for me brought me back.” (Michelle Vistocco, West New York, N.J.)

Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: What question would you most like to ask an expert about the Mass?

To respond for possible publication, write to Faith Alive! at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. †
Stewardship in America

Conversion to Christ means accepting the ent, and how we spend our money.

...into one integrated whole the fragmented Christians to become disciples who fol-

...the experience of a personal encounter... 

A third priority (stewardship) is implied in the pope's teaching on lifelong conver-

...the pope's teaching on lifelong conver-

...of mail to be your personal guide. Your have a case. My column is syndicated... 

...the person... 

...be more... 

...the number of mail to be your personal guide. Your have a case. My column is syndicated... 

...the person... 

...be more...
The Book of Genesis provides this Lenten week with its first Scriptural reading.

Genesis is most often associated with its stories of the Creation. However, it is a marvelous source of revelation about God and about the nature of humans in its many other sections.

An example of this occurs in this week’s reading. The central figure is Abraham. Scholars today believe that Abraham indeed was truly a person at one time in history, certainly not the fabrication of an enthusiastic religious imagination. Christians and Muslims, as well as Jews, revere him.

For Jews, his memory is especially treasured since he was the founder of the Hebrew race, and since he was very critical in the emergence of the understanding of the one, almighty God.

In this reading, God speaks to Abraham. This very communication reveals how blessed was Abraham, and that in the future all will acclaim Abraham. This very communication set the stage for the Covenant, that is a marvelous source of revelation about God and about the nature of humans in its many other sections.

The Second Epistle to Timothy supplies the second reading. As Paul travelled the Mediterranean world in his apostolic endeavours to proclaim Jesus Lord and God, others who also had been graced with a knowledge of the Redeemer and who knew God often accompanied him.

The apostles knew Jesus. They knew the Lord’s identity. Their word could be accepted.

Reflection

Lent necessarily sounds a somber note. Finally, at the sides of Jesus, definitely not on equal footing, are Moses and Elijah, the great prophets of Jewish belief. The message is clear. Jesus is God.

In this announcement, God reveals that Abraham will sire a “great nation” and that in the future all will acclaim Abraham as the father of a great and noble people.

It set the stage for the Covenant, that singular, profound relationship between God and the Hebrew people that for these many millennia has so dominated their concept of themselves.

The Transfiguration revealed the Lord’s true identity to the apostles.

As we begin Lent in earnest, the season reveals this to us. As we resolve to be closer to God, to be holier, to be worthier in our Christian lives, the strength of Jesus is in us.

Who is he? He is God, with all God’s power and love.

Question Corner

Fr. John Dietzen

Church allows funeral Mass with ashes present

Q Could you explain the Church’s position on cremation? For years we have been told that cremation is permitted for anyone at any time. Some of our clergy claim that cremation is allowed only in emergencies (epidemics, disasters, etc.) or when individuals are too poor for a traditional funeral. This has upset some older people who have arranged, with their children’s consent, to be cremated. Is there a change or is the Church’s position on this issue correct? The Pennsylvania Conference of Catholic bishops has worked hard to educate the faithful about the good and noble reasons for cremation.

A Catholic church law permitting cremation has not changed basically since 1964, when the Congregation of the Holy Office lifted the long-time ban on the practice.

Cremation was once forbidden because it was promoted years ago by groups, particularly in Europe, who used cremation as an argument against the resurrection and immortality. It is ridiculous, they claimed, to believe God can gather all that smoke and ashes together to make us rise.

Almost no one holds that position today. Reasons for desiring cremation have more to do with health, economics and other private or public concerns. The relaxation of the rule. In fact, Catholic funeral liturgy explicitly provides for burial rituals in the context of cremation. (See “Introduction to the Rite of Funerals” and Canon 176.)

Most recently (1997), regulations were relaxed even further, allowing funeral masses with the ashes present.

I don’t know how your parish staff might have come up with those conditions, but nothing in Church law limits cremation to emergencies, financial strains or other such circumstances.

However, two important cautions do need to be considered.

First, while it allows cremation, our Church makes clear a strong preference for the traditional custom (in our culture at least) of burying the body in a tomb. St. Augustine noted 1,600 years ago that Christians in Crematoria are more for the living than the dead. He meant that at a time of death, friends and relatives have many lessons to learn about life and death, the shortness of time on earth and priorities that become confused in the normal course of daily living.

His point was that we need to remember to confront us in the presence of the body of a friend or a family member.

My Journey to God

A Different Kind of Fasting

Let us fast from judging others … and feast on patience.

Let us fast from anger … and feast on appreciation.

(Pennsylvania Conference of Catholic bishops)

Let us fast from bitternes … and feast on forgiveness.

Let us fast from self-control … and feast on compassion for others.

Let us fast from strong arm … and feast on hope.

Let us fast from idle gossip … and feast on patience.

Let us fast from idle gossip … and feast on the reality of Light.

Let us fast from apparent darkness … and feast on the Son of Justice.

Let us fast from thoughts of illness … and feast on the healing power of God.

Let us fast from apparent darkness … and feast on the reality of Light.

Let us fast from strong arm … and feast on hope.

Let us fast from idle gossip … and feast on patience.

Let us fast from worry … and feast on trust in God’s Providence.

Let us fast from complaining … and feast on appreciation.

(Providence Sister Margaret Kern is a member of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.)
February 26-28
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College will present the play “The Active List,” 1400 N. Meridian St., Greenwood, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, beginning at 7 p.m. Information: 317-926-6900.

March 3, 10, 17, 24
Mt. St. Francis Retreat Center, Mt. St. Francis, will hold a Lenten series on the dimensions of prayer from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Information: 812-923-8817.

March 5, 12, 19
Sacred Heart Parish, Terre Haute, 3214 S. 17th St., will present a videodiscussion series of the film “Jesus of Nazareth” from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the family center. Information: 812-466-1231.

March 23
Sacred Heart Parish, Terre Haute, 2324 S. 13 ½ St., will present “The Bible—Why is it Holy?” A workshop for adults from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the family center. Information: 812-466-1231.

Recurring
Daily
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, offers adult religious education classes from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mass. Information: 734-826-2790

Thursday
Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 175th St., holds prayer group from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Thursdays
St. Lawrence Parish, Indianapolis, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mass.

February 11
A pro-life rosary is recited at 7 a.m. in front of Affiliated Women’s Services, Inc., 2215 1/2 Lafayette Square Mall, Indianapolis. Information: 317-852-3195.

First Mondays

The Youths Connection “Catholic Youth Ministry Consultants”

This Ad Is Camera Ready!

Beef & Boos 4689 2x4 Paper

© 1999 CNS Graphics

Page 10 The Criterion, Friday, February 26, 1999

The Active List

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

February 26-28
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College will present the play “Three Sisters,” 1400 N. Meridian St., Greenwood, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, beginning at 7 p.m. Information: 317-926-6900.

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

March 2
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Greenwood, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood, hosts a prayer group from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the chapel. Information: 812-466-1231.

March 5, 19
St. Martin Parish, Yorkville, will serve fish dinners from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

February 26
March 12, 26
St. Paul School’s Booster Club, Guilford, will serve fish dinners at Father Walsh Hall in Yorkville, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Adults $5 children under $2.50. Dine in or carry out.

St. Anthony Parish, Indianapolis, hosts a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.

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

St. Patrick Parish, Salem, Holy St. Hubert, will hold a prayer service, 7 p.m.

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

St. Lawrence Parish, Pharmaceutical, 1210 E. Mass, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

St. Lawrence Parish, Indianapolis, hosts adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mass.

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

St. Patrick Parish, Salem, Holy St. Hubert, will hold a prayer service, 7 p.m.

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


St. Louis de Montfort Parish, Fishers, 11441 Hagae Rd., offers adult religious education classes from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5869.

Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 175th St., holds prayer group from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 379 N. Warman, Indianapolis, hosts a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.


Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 175th St., holds prayer group from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 379 N. Warman, Indianapolis, hosts a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.


St. Louis de Montfort Parish, Fishers, 11441 Hagae Rd., offers adult religious education classes from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5869.

Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 175th St., holds prayer group from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 379 N. Warman, Indianapolis, hosts a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.


St. Louis de Montfort Parish, Fishers, 11441 Hagae Rd., offers adult religious education classes from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5869.

Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 175th St., holds prayer group from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 379 N. Warman, Indianapolis, hosts a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.


St. Louis de Montfort Parish, Fishers, 11441 Hagae Rd., offers adult religious education classes from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5869.

Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 175th St., holds prayer group from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 379 N. Warman, Indianapolis, hosts a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.


St. Louis de Montfort Parish, Fishers, 11441 Hagae Rd., offers adult religious education classes from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5869.

Holy Name Parish, Beech Grove, 89 N. 175th St., holds prayer group from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 379 N. Warman, Indianapolis, hosts a rosary and Benediction for vocations at 2 p.m.


St. Louis de Montfort Parish, Fishers, 11441 Hagae Rd., offers adult religious education classes from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. There is a minimal fee. Information: 317-842-5869.
Before You Select Your Next CD, Consider Select Guarantee Annuity™

Select from competitive rate guarantees with features CDs just don’t have!

Limited Time Offer
$15,000 minimum

Before You Select Your Next CD, Consider Select Guarantee Annuity™

Features:
- Tax-Deferred Interest
- Penalty-Free Interest Withdrawals
- Annuitization After The First Year Available
- Lifetime Income Options
- Guaranteed Death Benefit
- Nursing Home Waiver (Most States)
- No Sales Charges Or Fees

For more information, call . . . Jim Sorg

317-359-9621 or 800-272-6091

www.sorg-ehrman-insurance.com/sei

Sorg-Ehrman Financial Services

1709 North Shadeland Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46219

Before You Select Your Next CD, Consider Select Guarantee Annuity™

Select Guarantee Annuity issued by USG Annuity & Life Company®, Rates subject to change. Select Guarantee Annuity paid to the named beneficiary at the annuity's termination. Before you select any annuity, you should read the prospectus. The annuity contract contains important terms and conditions, including fees and expenses. For more information, call 317-359-9621 or 800-272-6091.

This Ad Is Camera Ready!

Srs. of Providence 1340
3x8 Paper
Parishes throughout the archdiocese have scheduled communal penance services for Lent. The following is a list of the services reported to The Criterion that will be held through March 23.

Bloomington Deanery
March 2, 7 p.m. at St. Jude, Spencer
March 3, 7:30 p.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, Bloomington
March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Mitchell, for St. Vincent de Paul, Bedford, and St. Mary, Mitchell
March 18, 7 p.m. at St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville

Batesville Deanery
March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg
March 14, 2 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Millhousen
March 14, 4 p.m. at St. Mauro, Napoleon
March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Peter, Franklin Co.
March 21, 7 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

Connersville Deanery
March 8, 7 p.m. at Holy Guardian Angels, Cedar Grove
March 11, 7 p.m. at St. Andrew, Richmond

Seymour Deanery
March 5, 7 p.m. at American Martyrs, Scottsburg
March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Patrick, Salem
March 18, 7 p.m. at St. Bartholomew, Columbus

Indianapolis South Deanery
March 9, 7 p.m. at Holy Name, Beech Grove

See PENANCE, page 13
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Roch</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Barnabas</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Our Lady of the Greenwood, Greenwood</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Nativity</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Mark</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terre Haute Deanery</td>
<td>11, 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Ann, Terre Haute</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Benedict, Terre Haute</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Village, St. Mary-of-the-Woods</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Philip Neri</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis East Deanery</td>
<td>March 11, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Holy Spirit, Seelyville</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Holy Cross, For Holy Cross and SS</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter and Paul Cathedral</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Michael</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Simon the Apostle</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Little Flower</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Mary</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Bernadette</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Philip Neri</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Secchia Memorial High School</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis North Deanery</td>
<td>March 9, 7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Matthew</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Andrew the Apostle</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Thomas Aquinas</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Joan of Arc</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Christ the King</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Pius X</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Immaculate Heart of Mary</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Luke</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis West Deanery</td>
<td>March 3, 7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Michael</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Christopher</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Malachi</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Holy Trinity</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Monica</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Gabriel</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Holy Angels</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Mary, Queen of Peace, Danville</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Albany Deanery</td>
<td>March 9, 7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Michael, Bradford</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Francis Xavier, Henryville, host St. Michael, Charlestown</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Mary, Navilleton</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>to 1 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence Junior/Senior High School, Clarksville</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>to 3 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence Junior/Senior High School, Clarksville</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Joseph, Corydon, host Most Precious Blood, St. Peter</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Mary, Lanesville</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>St. John the Baptist, Starlight</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Mary, New Albany</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PICCARDS**

**RESTAURANT** at The MARTEN HOUSE Hotel and Conference Center

**Piccard's Buffets**

- **Breakfast**
  - Mon.-Sat., 6:30 - 10 a.m.
  - Sundays, 6:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
  - $5.95 PER PERSON

- **Lunch**
  - Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
  - $6.95 PER PERSON

- **Dinner**
  - Mon.-Sat., 5:30 - 10 p.m.
  - $8.95 PER PERSON

**$100 Off Friday Dinner Buffet featuring Seafood Items**

Dinner Reservations: Call 317-872-4111 1801 West 86th St. • Indianapolis

**A SEAFOOD LOVER’S DREAM**

Call Now For Reservations 317-872-9670
Open Monday thru Saturday
8845 Township Line Road
Indianapolis

**New Orleans House**

Enjoy all the succulent Alaskan Crab Legs, all the super delicious Steamed Shrimp, Fresh Oysters on the Half Shell, Fresh Broiled Scallops, Steamed Clams, Mussels cooked in Wine, Jambalaya, Barbequed Ribs, Frog Legs, Oysters Rockefeller, Escargo and fabulous Homemade desserts including Cheese Cake, New Orleans Pie, Huge Bowls of Fresh Strawberries, Chunks of Fresh Pineapple, and Ice Cream with Hot Fudge and Walnuts. To complement this feast, an outstanding selection of fine domestic and imported wines.

Plan to visit our other fine New Orleans House Restaurants in Louisville and Lexington!

**A FABULOUS SEAFOOD FEAST**

Enjoy all the succulent Alaskan Crab Legs, all the super delicious Steamed Shrimp, Fresh Oysters on the Half Shell, Fresh Broiled Scallops, Steamed Clams, Mussels cooked in Wine, Jambalaya, Barbequed Ribs, Frog Legs, Oysters Rockefeller, Escargo and fabulous Homemade desserts including Cheese Cake, New Orleans Pie, Huge Bowls of Fresh Strawberries, Chunks of Fresh Pineapple, and Ice Cream with Hot Fudge and Walnuts. To complement this feast, an outstanding selection of fine domestic and imported wines.

**Official New Orleans House unique gifts!**

- Birthdays • House Blend Coffee • Tee Shirts • Official N.H. Apron
- Anniversaries • Golfer Gourmet • Coffee Mugs
- Cajun Spice Mix • Official Hats • Gift Certificates
- Gift Certificates AVAILABLE!
Rest in peace

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


CURRIE, Currie. †


Institute of Charity Father Michael J. Ferran was Holy Rosary assistant pastor

Father Michael J. Ferran, of the Rosarian Institute of Charity, died in Florida on Feb. 2.

Born in Ireland, he joined the Institute of Charity in 1934 and professed vows in 1936. He was ordained there in 1943.

Father Ferran taught at the order’s scholasticate before becoming a chaplain in the Royal Air Force in World War II.

Arriving in the U.S. in 1951, he served as chaplain and teacher in schools and hospitals in Illinois and Missouri.

Father Ferran served as assitant pastor at Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis from 1954 to 1956, before going to Illinois. There, he was pastor of St. Matthew, Farmington, for 30 years before he retired in 1991. Survivors include two sisters, Rita Wright and Maureen Carie.

This Ad Is Camera Ready!

Merrill Lynch 6770 2x8.5 Paper

This Ad Is Camera Ready!

Oaklawn 1708 3x4

Marian statue is gift for Chicago

WILMINGTON, Del. (CNS)—A 33-foot statue’s recent journey from Wilmington to St. Louis and back took a Chicago man one step closer to a childhood dream.

The more than 8,400-pound, stainless steel statue of Our Lady of Chicago, created by Wilmington sculptor Charles Cropper Parks, was transported more than 500 miles to receive a general papal blessing during Pope John Paul II’s visit to St. Louis in late January.

But the statue is destined for Chicago, not St. Louis, according to St. Germaine parishioner Carl Demma of Oak Lawn, Ill., who financed its creation.

“I want to give something back to my city and my faith,” Demma said. “I want the children to see it—that’s the main thing.”

The origins of the statue can be traced to Demma’s childhood. He grew up in All Saints Parish in Chicago, and often helped the nuns there with grocery shopping.

One day, Demma recalled, he saw a statue of Our Lady of Chicago that had been blessed by the Pope. It was at the convent. “It was awesome,” he said. “Through all the things in my life, I’ve always talked to Mary.”

When he was 9, Demma said, he went downtown with St. Germaine’s pastor and noticed a statue on top of the Chicago Board of Trade Building.

“I thought it was Mary, but I found out it was the goddess of wheat,” he said. “That’s when I first decided to someday build a statue of Mary that all Chicago could see.”

Thirty-seven years later, in 1982, Demma saw Parks’ earlier Madonna, Our Lady of Peace, and knew Parks was the sculptor he wanted to create the statue. He asked Parks to create a Mary that would inspire children to have a devotion to the Blessed Mother.

Demma plans to display the statue in various Chicago parishes for two years. He said it will then be permanent- ly placed near the Kennedy Expressway, where it will be seen by people passing by in millions of cars every year.

Because the statue of Our Lady of Chicago is too heavy to transport upright, and raising and lowering it frequently by crane could damage it, Demma purchased a special hydraulic lift that will be attached temporarily to raise the statue to its feet at one parish and then lower it for the trip to the next.

The lift is being made by Doug Johnson of Bruce Industrial Co. in Wilmington. Johnson’s father, Gary Johnson, drove the truck on which the Madonna was transported to St. Louis.

Johnson parked the truck in a strategic spot along the papal route, then a crane was used to lift the Marian statu- te to its feet so the pope could see what he was blessing. Later, the statue was returned to Delaware for completion of the lift.

Parks, who is Protestant, said sculpting a statue of Mary is no cost a religious experience for him than creating another statue, of a child, for example. Both sub- jects mirror to him the beauty of God’s creation.

Consequently, said Parks, he was surprised by 1982 by the “hoopla” surrounding his statue of Our Lady of Peace, which now stands at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Santa Clara, Calif.

When the statue of Our Lady of Peace was displayed in Wilmington’s Rodney Square before being exhibited in California, the faithful covered it with strips of paper on which they had written their individual petitions.

In St. Louis, the statue of Our Lady of Chicago elicited similar petitions. Parks said “We collected two big, black plastic bags [of petitions]. When we got back, I looked at them, and every one was asking for something, like ‘Please pray my son off drugs,’

Parks said now he under- stands that “people pray to Mary to intercede for them with God.”

Demma declined to reveal most of the Marian statue’s cost, saying “the money was immaterial.”

The statue of Mary that Parks created for the parish in California reportedly cost $350,000.

Wherever it goes, Demma said, he hopes the Our Lady of Chicago statue will be a source of inspiration, espe- cially to young women rais- ing children.

Demma said he wants the statue dedicated to all the women who have been important in his life.

“I always connected Mary with my mother and my aunts when I saw their suf- fering,” he said. “You have to go to Mary.”

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Memorial Program

The symbol shows the giving and receiving hands. The hand of Christ gives to the world. The hand of the Vincentian receives the gift and in turn gives to the waiting hand of the poor. Memorial donations enable us to fulfill the meaning of the symbol.


For the Vincentian receives the gift and in turn gives to the waiting hand of the poor. Memorial donations enable us to fulfill the meaning of the symbol.

This Ad Is Camera Ready!

Ask Your Funeral Director or Write SVDP Society • Box 19133 • Indianapolis, IN 46219

The symbol shows the giving and receiving hands. The hand of Christ gives to the world. The hand of the Vincentian receives the gift and in turn gives to the waiting hand of the poor. Memorial donations enable us to fulfill the meaning of the symbol.
Positions Available

Full-Time Pay for Part-Time Work

in our MODERN offices.

between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

skills are a must. Benefit package for full-time staff

care for and provide stimulating environment for alert,
ing experienced (minimum of 1 year) ventilator nurse to

Deadline for application is Friday, March 19, 1999.

Music, St. Joan of Arc Church, 4217 N.

by April 1 to: Anjanette Muehl, Director of

accompany and reading skills as well as

accompany cantor at 5:30 Mass 3

St. Joan of Arc Church seeks pianist to

219-972-6372. E-mail: olgrace@netnitco.net

Pianist

St. Joan of Arc Church seeks pianist to accompany cantor at 5:30 Mass 3

Sunday/month. Qualifications include good accompaniment skills as well as

basic knowledge and/or experience in Roman Catholic Liturgy. Send résumé and references

by April 1 to: Anjanette Muehl, Director of Music, St. Joan of Arc Church, 4217 N. Central Ave., Indianapolis, 46205.

Pilgrimages

Director of Parish Religious Education/Formation

Our Lady of Grace Church, Highland, Indiana, a Northwest Indiana Catholic community of approximately 2000 families

located near Chicago, has an opening for a full-time Director of Religious Education and Formation. BAMA in Religious Education, Theology or equivalent. Parish experience preferred. Position entails continuation of comprehensive religious educa-
tion/formation from Preschool through Adult and development of Youth Ministry. Submit résumé and cover letter by May 1, 1999, to Search Committee, Our Lady of Grace Church, 3005 Condit Street, Highland, IN 46322-1702. 219-838-0395. Fax: 219-972-6372. E-mail: olgrace@netnitco.net.

Superintendent of Schools

The Diocese of Gary is accepting applications for the position of superintendent of the Office of Catholic Schools. The superintendent is responsible for guiding and coordinating the educational activities in the dioce-
s’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.

Send letter of intent, résumé and three letters of recom-
mendation to Rev. Sammie L. Maletta, Vicar General, Diocese of Gary, 9292 Broadway, Merrillville, IN 46410.

Deadline for application is Friday, March 19, 1999.

Ventilator Nurse

Top Rated Home Health Agency with a reputation for excellent client service and employee relations is seek-
ing experienced (minimum of 1 year) ventilator nurse to care for and provide stimulating environment for alert, oriented patient in Indianapolis. All shifts available. Flexible weekend hours. Strong nursing and people skills are a must. Benefit package for full-time staff includes medical, legal, paid vacation and 401K. Competitive salary with shift differentials. Interested parties may inquire at 317-251-0700, Monday-Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. EOE.
This Ad Is Camera Ready!

Marsh
1553
Full Back Page