Parishes focus on stewardship and United Catholic Appeal

By Greg Otolski

PRAYING FOR PEACE

Members of the U.S. Army join in an interfaith prayer service at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington Oct. 12. The service was organized by the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, marking a month and a day following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Bishops, dioceses mark one month since terrorist attacks

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishops and dioceses used Masses and other special commemorations to mark one month since the terror attacks that killed more than 5,000 people at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field.

Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York, principal celebrant at a “month’s mind” Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral, keyed his homily to the Gospel reading from St. John that reported Mary, the mother of Jesus, and “the beloved disciple,” commonly understood to be the Apostle John, were standing under the cross during Christ’s crucifixion.

“The past 30 days, all of us have been standing under the cross,” the cardinal said.

He said that he himself had felt he needed to “stand under the cross” during the previous month, and had sensed the arms of Christ, Mary and St. John “around me.”

“The term ‘month’s mind’ is not frequently used now, it reflects an old tradition of remembering the deceased with a special service a month after death,” Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington asked Catholics in his Washington Oct. 11 at St. Matthew’s Cathedral.

“I feel we have to do something,” the cardinal said at the Mass, attended by 300 to 400 people. “We will ask God to bring justice and peace to the world, so that men and women will never live in fear again.”

Archbishop Buechlein says prayer is best response to terrorism

BY BRANDON A. EVANS

As the United States continues to fight terrorists in Afghanistan and the country deals with threats of terrorism at home, Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein said people can best respond in these anxious times with prayer.

In addition to praying for peace, the archbishop said people should fast and perform acts of charity to help everyone focus on the need to “love our neighbor.”

Archbishop Buechlein also asks that everyone continue to pray that our government and military leaders will make decisions that will prevent unnecessary killing as the military battles terrorists.

Recently, the archbishop responded to several questions about the “war against terrorism” and how Catholics should respond.

What activities would be appropriate on our part as we live through these troubled times?

Nothing we do is more important than our prayer. It is gratifying to see how, as people of faith, we are turning in extraordinary numbers to God for strength and consolation. Above all, let’s pray for world peace and an end to ethnic bias and hatred.

I suggest that we consider fasting from favorite foods one day a week. It would be a good idea to fast from television or some other form of entertainment on occasion. Fasting from some good thing is a way in which we can experience at least some minimal solidarity with those who are deprived without choice or who are more directly and more severely afflicted by the current tragedy and the aftermath of war.

By JENNIFER DEL VECCHIO

Cardinal Bernard Law, who will speak Oct. 30 at the Marriott Hotel Downtown in Indianapolis, is finding a receptive audience in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Educators already are encouraged to complete the Catholic Educator Process, courses offered at Marian College that teach the history of Catholic education and the dimension of faith which is interwoven in the educational process.

“If Catholic identity is not clearly reflected in all that the school is and does, then that school has failed in the purpose of Catholic education,” he wrote.

Cardinal Law, who will speak Oct. 30 at the Marriott Hotel Downtown in Indianapolis, is finding a receptive audience in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

The keynote speaker for the Celebrating Catholic School Values Dinner is known for finding the money to keep Catholic schools open.

But Cardinal Bernard Law, while tout- ing the academic successes of Catholic schools, maintains that’s not enough. Instead, Cardinal identity and academics have to be interwoven, the Boston cardinal said.

“The critical difference in Catholic schools is the dimension of faith which is interwoven in the educational process,” Law wrote in his column for The Pilot, Boston’s archdiocesan newspaper.

“If Catholic identity is not clearly reflected in all that the school is and does, then that school has failed in the purpose of Catholic education,” he wrote.

Cardinal Law, who will speak Oct. 30 at the Marriott Hotel Downtown in Indianapolis, is finding a receptive audience in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.
STEWARDSHIP

United Catholic Appeal, they also will be asked over the next month to consider the needs of their individual parishes and to contribute their time, talent and treasure as well. All of the money raised for the United Catholic Appeal will be used to pay for home missions and shared ministries in the archdiocese.

Home missions are parishes and archdiocesan schools that need the financial support of all Catholics in the archdiocese to operate. Shared ministries support people in every parish by paying for needs such as the cost of educating our 24 semi- narians, paying for our 31 retiring priests, supporting the work of eight Catholic Charities agencies, supporting the seven archdiocesan high schools as well as paying for evangelization and liturgical renewal efforts.

In the next few weeks at many parishes, members of parish stewardship committees will be talking about the importance of stewardship during week- end Masses. Also, members of parishes will be receiving intention cards in the mail. Kuntz said the parishes had set up the register for this year’s campaign. The intention cards are to be returned at the Nov. 3-4 Masses.

Barbara Williams, director of Catholic Charities in New Albany, said Larry and Marie Smith are just two of the hundreds of people who have helped by Catholic Charities in the New Albany Deanery each year.

“When people give to the United Catholic Appeal, they are truly caring for their neighbors and making a difference in so many lives,” Williams said. “There is so much work that needs to be done, and we wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for the support of everyone in the archdiocese.”

In addition to the United Catholic Appeal, parishioners are also asked to turn their attention to the needs in their individual parishes. The intention card parishioners will be receiving asks them to attend Mass and to pray regularly for the 39 counties in the archdiocese aren’t as large as St. Barnabas, but each parish is working at improving its stewardship plan.

Ron Dooxsee, chair of the steward- ship committee at St. Mary Parish in North Vernon, said parishioners have formed a new stewardship committee.

Many parish members don’t like to get involved in stewardship because they think all they will be doing is pestering people for money. Dooxsee said.

For “parishes like us, that are still trying to really get a year-round stewardship commit- tee going, it’s difficult to have to focus on identifying all the activities that parishion- ers can get involved in and support.”

“When people become involved and take some ownership, the money will fol- low,” Dooxsee said. “It’s difficult in smaller parishes because there are fewer people to do the work, but it can be done. People need to make time for what is important.”

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Capital punishment continues to divide Americans

By Mary Ann Wyand

Capital punishment continues to be a divisive and emotional issue that affects every American. That was the consensus of a six-member panel of experts—representing law enforcement, the courts, corrections, the Catholic Church and abolition organizations—who participated in an Oct. 11 discussion of “The Death Penalty in America” at St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis.

The forum, held on National Turn Off the Violence Day, was made possible by a grant from the Hubert Foundation of Harrison, Ohio. St. Christopher parishioner Thomas Richards of Indianapolis, a former prison superintendent, acknowledged conflicting views in society about capital sentences and said he is personally unconvicted about the death penalty.

“With respect to my position on capital punishment, I’m torn between two different arguments,” Richards said. “Both of these arguments have to do with ethical judgment and morality.”

“On the pro side, I have a feeling that there are some heinous crimes that are so serious that the person who commits them deserves the death penalty,” he said. “And perhaps we need to do that because of the need for societal retribution. On the other hand, there is the sacredness of life, [and the belief] that killing of any kind is immoral, particularly with what’s been going on in this country over the last month,” Richards said. “I am opposed to the death penalty.”

Frequently, he said, emotion clouds discussions about the death penalty.

“It’s important that we talk about it now, particularly with what’s been going on in this country over the last month,” Hammerle said. “Let us not forget that we’re part of the nation.”

Hammerle said his client, Gregory Resnover, was the last Indiana Death Row inmate to die in the electric chair in December 1994.

“I witnessed his death,” Hammerle said of Resnover, who was convicted of killing a police officer then spent 14 years incarcerated on Indiana’s Death Row waiting to die. “The loss that I felt, the horror that I felt, in watching him die was something that is an integral part of me, for better or for worse,” Hammerle said. “I am opposed to the death penalty.”

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis will host the National Catholic Youth Conference in December and needs help to make the event a success.

More than 28,000 Catholic youth from across the country will gather at the RCA Dome and Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis on Dec. 6-9.

There are many different volunteer opportunities available, such as helping with the Sunday liturgy, being a hospital aid, greeting people at the St. John the Evangelist Parish spirituality hub and helping with pedestrian traffic flow. Highlights of the conference include:

- an interactive theme park, a speech by Miss America 2000, a service project on literacy, workshops, and a speech by WTIB Channel 13 television anchor Anne Ryder of Indianapolis.
- To become a volunteer, visit the Web site at www.archindy.org/NCYC and fill out the on-line form or call Bernie Price at the Catholic Youth Organization at 317-632-9311.

For more information about the conference, call Marlene Stammmerman or Mary Gault at the archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries at 317-236-1439 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1439.

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Parents and drugs

W hat is it about Americans that makes us so resistant to experi-
ment with drugs? Statistics show that, although we Americans make up only 5 per-
cent of the world’s population, we use 50 percent of the world’s cocaine. And the
problem continues to get worse. Back in the 1960s, only 2 percent of
Americans experimented with an illegal drug. Today it’s 28 percent.

Our country has spent billions of dol-
ars trying to keep drugs out of this country, seemingly to no effect. Despite
the enormous drug busts that make the news from time to time, illegal drugs
continue to get in. They will as long as the demand for them is there.

We are not doing enough to curb the demand for drugs. As long as the
demand is there, dealers will find some way to supply the drugs, especially when
the sale of such drugs is lucrative.

Parents apparently are not suffi-
ciently concerned about the drug prob-
lem to make sure that their children
know about the dangers of drugs. That
has to be changed. Of course, parents
can’t be with their teens all the time, but
somehow they must get the message across that it’s stupid for them to put
illicit drugs in their bodies. Joseph A. Califano Jr., president of
the National Center on Addiction and Sub-
stance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA), says that nine years
of research has shown conclusively that any drug use past the teenage
years without smoking, using illegal drugs or abusing alcohol is virtually cer-
tainly a harbinger of trouble in the institution of marriage. Single-parent families
have become far more common, either through divorce or of women hav-
ing children outside of marriage. This is particularly true in the black commu-
nity where 70 percent of children are born outside of marriage. It should not
be surprising, therefore, that black men are more likely than whites to will
their children outside of marriage. This is a serious matter that should not
be overlooked by anyone in the field of family counseling.

CASA has discovered that well over
1 million of the 2 million adults in
prison are drug and alcohol abusers and
addicts. Yet they receive little or noth-
ing in the way of treatment. Califano
wrote, “Since each addict commits at
least 100 crimes a year, successfully
treating just 100,000 such inmates—
less than 10 percent—will prevent 10
million crimes annually.”

It is usually begun with smoking ciga-
ttes, drinking and smoking marijuana, and the move to harder drugs. Teens who
smoke cigarettes and drink alcohol are 30 times likelier to smoke pot, and
those who have done all three are more than 16 times likelier to use drugs like
cocaine, heroin and LSD.

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illicit drugs in their bodies.
Un desafío: aumentamos nuestra generosidad por más de 0.5%

Es un gran peso para nuestros pas- tores, otros líderes pastorales y para mí y los administradores de la Arquidiócesis el encontrar los recur- sos para continuar con nuestra misión pas- toral. Como cualquier otro esfuerzo humano, el hacer el trabajo de Dios en el ministerio cuesta dinero y tiempo. Es preocupante el que actualmente 20 de nuestras 153 parro- quias y misiones están luchando por poder cumplir con sus obligaciones financieras. Algunas de nuestras parroquias no pueden contratar personal para el mantenimiento, sin mencionar las otras manos necesarias para hacer el trabajo de Dios. Más de otras parroquias están cambiando los dormitorios y tratando de mantener funcionando la ige- stia.

La actual vuelta que ha dado la economía ha complicado aún más las cosas. Si bien las necesidades por todo tipo de ministerios han aumentado.

Nuestro programa de “Planificación para el Crecimiento” comenzó bien y está buscando las maneras de dirigir nuestros recursos.

En un informe sumario de la fase de recolección de datos de esta tarea, fuimos informados que los católicos de la Archidiócesis contribuyen con aproxi- madamente el 1.5% de su ingreso anual a la Iglesia. También fuimos informados que, si los miembros de la Iglesia contribuyeran con un promedio del 2% de nuestro ingreso anual a la Iglesia, nuestras parroquias no tendrían problemas de dinero. Aumentaríamos el ingreso anual general en 17 millones de dólares. De más está que nuestro programa de “Planificación para el Crecimiento” se basa en un estudio informal de nuestras posibilidades. Nuestros equipos de finan- zas y de parroquias están estudiando el asunto a la vez que yo estoy escribiendo.

Mientras desglosan los retos que encar- amos, también quiero agradecer a las parroquias y misiones que están luchando por poder cumplir con sus obligaciones financieras. Nuestros equipos de finan- zas y de parroquias están estudiando el asunto a la vez que yo estoy escribiendo. Mientras desglosan los retos que encar- amos, también quiero agradecer a las parroquias y misiones que están luchando por poder cumplir con sus obligaciones financieras. Nuestros equipos de finan- zas y de parroquias están estudiando el asunto a la vez que yo estoy escribiendo. Mientras desglosan los retos que encar- amos, también quiero agradecer a las parroquias y misiones que están luchando por poder cumplir con sus obligaciones financieras. Nuestros equipos de finan- zas y de parroquias están estudiando el asunto a la vez que yo estoy escribiendo.

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check it out . . .

Missioners from Indianapolis
Archdiocese Serving Outside the USA

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If you know of any missionary whose name has been omitted, please notify the Mission Office, 1400 N. Meridian St., Box 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46206. 317-236-1485.

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishop’s Office for Film and Broadcasting movie ratings

**Corky Romano (Touchstone)**
Rated A-III (Adults) because of recurring comically intended violence, some mild sexual humor including homosexual jokes, brief drug content and intermittent crass language.
Rated PG-13 (Parents are Strongly Cautioned) by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA).

**Iron Monkey (Miramax)**
Rated A-III (Adults) because of intermittent marital arts violence, fleeting sexual references and a few instances of cuss language.
Rated PG-13 (Parents are Strongly Cautioned) by the MPAA.

**Focus (Paramount Classics)**
Rated A-II (Adults and Adolescents) because of brief violence, an implied rape and some profanity.
Rated PG-13 (Parents are Strongly Cautioned) by the MPAA.

William and Mary Patterson will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 20 with a Mass at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin, followed by a reception. They were married on that date in 1951 at St. Mark Church in Indianapolis. They have two children: Agnes Hawley, Mary Jo McGeown, Patty Kaschak, Susan Shanks, Christopher, Daniel, John, Michael, Timothy, Robert, William and the late Matthew Patterson. They also have 26 grandchildren.

William and Alene Schuman of St. Peter Parish in Franklin County will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Oct. 20. They were married on that date in 1951 at St. Peter Church. They have eight children: Dolores Alexander, Wilma Brennan, Laura Gramman, Lisa Longshore, Michelle Schumate, Diana Yee, Arleen and Dan Schuman. They also have 19 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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right now, we—the United States of America—execute our own citizens by hanging them, burning them at the stake. And then we execute our own citizens by hanging them. We still have a state that shoots people in the head and then we—the United States of America—execute our own citizens by hanging them. We still have a state that shoots people in the head and then we—a politically controlled process from the burning people at the stake. And then we execute our own citizens by hanging them. We still have a state that shoots people in the head and then we—a politically controlled process from the burning people at the stake. And then we execute our own citizens by hanging them.

The United States is guilty of cultural arrogance because it administers capital punishment but claims to be a civilized society, he said. “We lecture the world on human rights, but the fact that we have the death penalty at all, much less the manner that we have it, makes a mockery of that stance in the same way that slavery existing for a hundred years made a mockery of the Declaration of Independence guarantee that ‘all men are created equal and endowed with certain unalienable rights.’”

The death penalty is both racially and economically discriminatory, he said, and is “a politically controlled process from the time an elected prosecutor makes a decision until the time a governor makes a decision or lack thereof on clemency.”

No study has proven that capital punishment deters any violent act, he said. “Does the death penalty really aid victims of violent crime or does it exploit them? Does it really assist [the victim’s family] in coming to grips with it and healing or does it appeal to that which will cause them never to heal?”

Marion County Sheriff Jack Cottey, a member of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis, said he has supported the death penalty as a deterrent to crime throughout its 38 years of service in city and county law enforcement and all 13 years of service in the state legislature.

“At times, you wonder if it’s the right thing to do,” Cottey said. “This is an issue that is deeply rooted, no matter where you’re at [on the issue]. I’ve thought about it a lot. I deal with it every day, and I have not changed my mind. I worked homicides from 1970 to 1982. During those 12 years, I saw a lot of grim situations, some that affected me personally.”

Cottey also said he “respects those who believe in the other side of the issue.”

St. Andrew the Apostle parishioner Charles Schilsa of Indianapolis, a consultant to legislative matters for the Indiana Catholic Conference, said the Catholic Church looks at the sanctity of human life in that respect. The Church opposes the taking of life as the ultimate punishment and opposes the death penalty for a number of reasons.

“The death penalty in this country is not a deterrent,” Kaufour said. “Most states that have the death penalty have higher violent crime rates than most states that don’t. Innocent people are killed and to that me is an unacceptable price [for society to pay].

What kind of society do we want to live in? Perhaps that’s the ultimate question. My answer to that is, ‘I don’t want my society killing anyone for any reason.’”

St. Susanna parishioner Karen Burkhart of Plainfield, Indiana death penalty abolitionist and member of the Indiana Coalition to Abolish Capital Punishment, she said. “He allowed himself to be unjustly condemned and executed. His response was forgiveness. Thus he broke the chain of violence that answers death with death. He showed God’s boundless love for every person regardless of human error or worthlessness.

“In his life, Jesus showed himself opposed to every form of violence,” she said. “Jesus was once asked for his support of the death penalty. His reply was, ‘Let one who is without sin cast the first stone.’”

By Mary Ann Wyand

On Oct. 19, the St. Vincent Foundation will launch a major capital campaign to help finance construction of the new St. Vincent Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis. Foundation officials will announce the campaign goal and the name of a major donor during a fund-raising dinner on Friday night.

The $24 million children’s hospital will be built on the south end of St. Vincent Hospital’s West 16th Street campus in Indianapolis.

Ground was broken in May for the new St. Vincent’s to build new $24 million children’s hospital in Indianapolis

Mary McNulty Young, homone

The Young Family

Rafael Sanchez, Channel 6 (Master of Ceremonies)

Mary McNulty Young, homone

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The Young Family

Rafael Sanchez, Channel 6 (Master of Ceremonies)
Once each year, the National Research Corporation polls the toughest critics in healthcare: the patients. For the sixth year, patients in Central Indiana have named St. Vincent as their most-preferred hospital. And for several years, they’ve also named us as their preferred provider of heart care.

It’s with grateful hearts that we receive this news. And we believe it’s the direct result of caring for the whole person, in body, mind and spirit.

We thank all our associates and physicians for their tireless efforts. And we thank you, Central Indiana. Be assured that for all of us at St. Vincent, the Spirit of Caring isn’t just a promise, but a lifelong commitment.

For more information about St. Vincent, call 338-CARE (2273) or go to www.stvincent.org.

Ranked #1 and #1. The patients have spoken.

For 2001, the NRC names St. Vincent as the most-preferred hospital and the most-preferred provider of heart care.
Work begins on mausoleum at Catholic cemetery in Indianapolis

By Jennifer Del Vechio

Ground was broken Oct. 15 for a new mausoleum at Holy Cross and St. Joseph Cemeteries in Indianapolis. The mausoleum will be built in two phases and will include two buildings. One building will have 116 crypts and the other will have 184 crypts, said Tony Lloyd of the Buchanan Group, who helps manage the Catholic Cemeteries Association. The construction is scheduled to be completed in March.

The design calls for a courtyard between the two buildings that will incorporate elements of the former St. Joseph Chapel that used to sit on the grounds of the cemetery. The statues from the chapel were saved and will be placed in the courtyard. Ornamental concrete from the chapel also will be used in the cornerstones of the new buildings.

A dedication date for the new mausoleum is scheduled for March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph.†

Archdiocesan priests elected to top national black clergy posts

By Brandon A. Evans

Priests from the archdiocese have been elected to two top posts within the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus (NBCCC).

Elections for the NBCCC came at a recent business meeting. Divine Word Father Chester Smith, who resides at St. Rita Parish in Indianapolis, assumes his post as the president of the NBCCC immediately, though it will not take him from his current ministry.

“He got overwhelming support,” said Father Kenneth Taylor, pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Indianapolis and director of the archdiocese’s Office of Multicultural Ministry.

Father Taylor is a member of the NBCCC, along with four other priests from the archdiocese. Father Smith served previously as the vice-president. “He’ll be good. He’s done a good job as vice president,” said Father Clarence Waldon, the pastor of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis. Father Waldon was elected as the caucus’ representative to the National Federation of Priests Councils (NFPC).

The NFPC is a membership organization that represents and aids various councils and associations of priests. Total membership is more than 25,000 priests. The National Board of the NFPC includes representatives from 29 ecclesiastical provinces in the U.S., three religious councils and from the NBCCC.

“Our is one of the few seats that is automatic,” Father Waldon said. His job as representative to the NFPC won’t take up too much of his time.

“All of the positions in the caucus are volunteer,” Father Taylor said. “It calls for a few meetings a year to attend.”

Father Smith’s current responsibilities include traveling throughout the country presenting retreats.†
SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS—Ground was broken at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on Oct. 7 for a 35,000-square-foot health-care unit that will house ill and infirm Sisters of Providence.

Under a clear blue sky and bright sun, several senior sisters who reside in health care turned shovels of dirt with the help of key members of the planning committee in a symbolic gesture to launch the project.

Providence Sister Ann Margaret O’Hara, general superior, led those gathered in a prayer asking God to bless and protect the building project.

Some site preparation already is underway. Construction is expected to begin immediately after bids were awarded on Oct. 16.

Phase I of the multimillion-dollar project is the construction of a new building that will connect Lourdes Hall and Karcher Hall, both currently used as health-care facilities. It will include a memory loss wing, nursing care wing and expanded physical therapy space, and is scheduled for completion by October 2002.

Phase II will involve the renovation of Karcher Hall to provide greater privacy in bedrooms and bath areas as well as improvements in heating and cooling systems.

The capital campaign to support the building project is called “Treasuring Life.”

“Years of prayer and thought have been invested in this project, and virtually every Sister of Providence has had a chance to participate,” Sister Ann Margaret said. “The project was initiated by the former general superior [Providence Sister Diane Ris] and her council. Our sisters were involved in meetings and surveys, and they had input into the decision-making process.

“We believe this project will benefit our greatest treasures, our sisters who are ill and infirm,” Sister Ann Margaret said. “We, as members of their religious congregation, have pledged our care and support for them. We know that the companions and friends to whom and with whom they have ministered will also want to continue their support.”

Providence Sister Ann Casper, director of the Office of Congregational Advancement, served as mistress of ceremonies for the groundbreaking. She announced that William J. Schuler of Jasper, chairman of the congregation’s National Development Council, will chair the National Campaign Steering Committee.

“I’m excited to be involved so directly in this worthwhile project,” Schuler said. “The silent phase of our fund-raising efforts has already raised more than three-quarters of a million dollars, with another $420,000 in pledges. Our strategy will be to have a national committee and several regional subcommittees in cities where Sisters of Providence have ministered and continue to minister.”

Providence Sister Barbara Ann Zeller, the congregation’s project coordinator, said, “In all that we do, it is the motivation of the heart that makes all the difference. Since 1999, when [Providence] Sister Jenny Howard [former general councilor] convened the health-care planning committee, each detail of this initiative has literally been clothed in the true Sisters of Providence tradition of excellence.”

John Schenck, director of Health Care Services for the congregation, said, “The wants, needs and dreams for health care will serve as a guide for much of what happens over the next two years. The new building will meet a tremendous need.”

By Jennifer Del Vechio

Cathedral High School in Indianapolis has launched a campaign to raise $16 million to support increased learning opportunities and campus improvements.

“The Choice of Futures” campaign, led by Michael G. Browning, chief executive officer and president of Browning Investment, already has raised $5.3 million.

The campaign, slated to raise the money over the next five years, has five initiatives:

* Attract and keep exceptional teachers—Most of Cathedral’s staff is nearing retirement age, meaning the school will have to hire dozens of teachers in the next decade.
* Continuing academic excellence—98 percent of Cathedral graduates enter college and 78 percent of Cathedral graduates return to Indiana to work and live. The campaign would raise money for eight new classrooms, which will be equipped with computers, Internet access and two-way video technology. The plan also calls for a new pre-advanced placement program, expanded advanced placement curriculum and an international baccalaureate program.
* Student diversity—Cathedral’s 1,062 students represent a diversity of faith, race, economics and geography. The school has pledged its support to help limit tuition increases and make Cathedral more affordable for families from all economic backgrounds.
* New student life center—This will house the eight new classrooms, the Joseph Dezelan Chapel—named after the school’s first athletic director—and serve as a spiritual development center to help student growth through faith and service. The chapel will be able to seat at least 250 people. There also will be a state-of-the-art media, library and research center and professional development center. The student life center will have extended hours up to 11:30 p.m. on weeknights and weekends to assist students working on school projects. The center also will be open for the community to use, said Chris Kaufman, director of marketing.
* The campaign has already allowed for some campus improvements, such as a new entrance, a central green space to add to the collegiate atmosphere, improved lighting and increased parking.

Cathedral High School was first operated by the Brothers of the Holy Cross in downtown Indianapolis. A decision by the order to close the school in 1973 led to the opening of the private Catholic high school now located at 5225 E. 56th St.

(For more information about the campaign, call Cathedral High School at 317-542-1481.)

For Jennifer Del Vechio

Plants Ahead

Cathedral High School launches $16 million capital campaign

“Plan Ahead”

Your last will and testament can be an eloquent statement of what you appreciated most in your life.

A bequest to help educate priests and lay ministers at Saint Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology is a good way to thank God for your faith and to pass it on to those who follow you.

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For information, write to the Director of Planned Giving, Saint Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology, St. Meinrad, IN 47577; call (800) 682-0988; or e-mail development@stmeinrad.edu

Submit photo

Cathedral High School’s construction manager, Rick J. Wilson, and Providence Sister Francis Pierre Pegalis (at right), assisted by Paulette Bentley, break ground for the congregation’s new health-care facility for ill and infirm sisters on Oct. 7 at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. Wilson is the construction manager for the project and Bentley is one of the project architects.
Lay participation is increasing in parishes

By H. Richard McCord

“there are no volunteers in this parish,” a pastor recently told me. “We are a community of ministers. A few are paid staff but many more are not.” He made an important point. Though we might speak of people volunteering in a parish, this is not entirely the same as volunteering to coach soccer or help with a political campaign.

By reason of baptism and confirmation, laymen and laywomen participate in Christ’s work as priest, prophet and king (Catechism of the Catholic Church, Nos. 901-913).

This responsibility is entrusted to us by the Lord, the catechism points out, and is “so necessary that, for the most part, the apostolate of the pastors cannot be fully effective without it.”

So what might otherwise appear as “just volunteering” is what parishioners do when they understand their calling to participate in leading their faith community—collaboratively with ordained ministers and the pastoral staff.

In the years since Vatican Council II in the 1960s, there has been a significant increase in the quantity and quality of lay participation in parish life. There are more opportunities to serve, more variety in the roles and responsibilities, and more people coming forward to respond.

A recent national study found that, in the average parish, 20% of parishioners gave 810 hours of service each month. Included in this picture are lectors, special ministers of Communion, musicians, catechists, youth group leaders and many others.

Overall, the trend has been for laity to become more involved in the central concerns of Church life, such as education and visiting the sick, rather than serving only as fund-raisers or organizers of social activities.

The renewed appreciation of lay participation has focused attention on the necessity of leadership formation. In fact, Church law acknowledges that such formation is essential when it says: “Laypersons who devote themselves permanently or temporarily to some special service of the Church are obliged to acquire the appropriate formation which is required to fulfill their function properly and carry it out conscientiously, zealously and diligently” (Canon 231.1).

That’s putting it directly and succinctly!

If potential lay leaders are obliged to acquire appropriate formation, there must be ways for them to do so, and these need to be accessible. Providing these programs and opportunities falls mostly to diocesan authorities, pastors and those in charge of specific parish ministries.

In his 1989 exhortation to the Church on the Christian lay faithfulness (“Christifideles Laici,” 57), Pope John Paul II urged that formation of the laity be ranked among a diocese’s pastoral priorities. The U.S. bishops responded with a “Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation.”

Broadly speaking, all adult faith formation equips laity who witness to Christ and are well-formed and informed of their faith, enthusiastic, capable of leadership in Church and society, filled with compassion and committed to working for justice.

Formation has several interrelated dimensions: spiritual, doctrinal and the cultivation of human values.

Actually, preparation for a specific role in parish leadership should be part of a larger and ongoing program of faith formation. A person can be trained to do many things, whether as a volunteer or an employee, but sharing in parish leadership requires more. It is a work of faith, undertaken at God’s prompting, and it engages the whole person.

The ministers themselves and those they serve should expect nothing less than a comprehensive formation.

(H. Richard McCord is director of the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat for Family, Laity, Women and Youth.)

Lay ministry training must focus on discipleship

By Fr. Herbert Weber

Who are the lay ministers in a parish?

On the one hand, there are specific ministerial roles such as taking Communion to the hospitalized or leading preschool children in their own Liturgy of the Word during Sunday Mass.

On the other hand, there are the countless other ministers carried out by Church members, such as sitting with a neighbor who suffers from Alzheimer’s disease so his spouse has personal time or spending a few hours sorting clothes at the St. Vincent de Paul Society store.

There are many types of lay ministry, and not all require formation or training. Even when there are formation programs, they vary tremendously in content and scope.

Some of the finest formation programs are not directed toward any single ministerial function. They are meant to help participants realize and put into action their baptismal call. Other formation programs are very specific, such as training married couples to lead engaged couple conferences.

It must be noted that the primary reason for developing the laity as ministers is not to fill some gaps created by a shortage of clergy. Instead, this is about all baptized persons discovering that the call to serve is part of being a Christian.

The most essential aspect of any lay ministry training program is a focus on discipleship. I recall spending time with one parish that was instituting new extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist. The session was designed to explore theologically the call to follow Jesus (discipleship) as well as to reflect upon a spirituality based in the Eucharist. Only at the end did team members lead the new extraordinary eucharistic ministers through the “how-to” of distributing Communion.

Ministry—for laity or the ordained—is not merely about “doing things.” Ministry is a response to a call to share in Christ’s own work of teaching and healing.

By Fr. Herbert Weber

†

Lay ministry requires formation

This Week’s Question

As a volunteer parish leader, what formation or preparation did you receive for your role?

“I’ve been a pastoral minister since 1993. I received training in 1993. It was a series of meetings, one per week for six weeks. They were conducted by the pastoral minister on staff, and the training covered such things as listening and empathy skills.” (Beverly Maxwell, Edina, Minn.)

“I serve as the liturgical coordinator for our parish. Following archdiocesan guidelines, the orientation (for ministers) includes a study of the theology and historical roots of their ministries. Then we have a walk-through session to show them the practical applications of their ministries. We also have a yearly mini-retreat.” (Karen Conoan, La Vista, Neb.)

“I’m a lector. We had a two-hour training session here at the church. It was conducted by the pastor. For part of this session, we watched a videotape about expression and about the importance of preparing for the readings in advance.” (Yvonne Cameron, Rome, Ga.)

Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: What would you accent in telling a young person what the Sunday liturgy means to you?

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

**Epitaphs on my mind before hallowed feasts**

Since my last four columns have been about the evangelists, I thought I’d stray a bit and write something about the authors of the 21 letters in the New Testament. The trouble is, that in most cases there is no one who wrote those letters.

Sure, all except the Letter to the Hebrews are attributed to someone. Scholars today, though, that they were actually or traditionally written by a single person. This is the case for the first five books of the Old Testament, but we know he didn’t. Wisdom material was attributed to Solomon, but we consider a wise man, and David is said to have composed the psalms. Perhaps he composed some of them.

Thirteen of the letters in the New Testament bear St. Paul’s name. Here is a list of those who have written the New Testament letters:

- John: Apostle to the Hebrews
- Peter: Letter to the Hebrews
- Paul: Ten letters, including the Letter to the Hebrews
- James: Letter to the Romans
- Jude: Letter to the Thessalonians
- Barnabas: Letter to the Galatians
- John: Letter to the Romans
- Peter and John: Letter to the Corinthians
- Paul and Peter: Letter to the Corinthians
- Paul and John: Letter to the Corinthians
- Paul: Letter to the Philippians
- Paul: Letter to the Colossians
- Paul: Letter to the Philemon
- Paul: Letter to the Ephesians

And apparently our volunteering was valuable, since the current lack of it seems to be one of the issues of the Boy Scouts and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Such groups could certainly profit from having more volunteers, but some rarely see the value of their time.

There’s another thing. The opportunity to volunteer, especially among our children, has increased so much we can’t even keep track of them. If we’re interested, we can consider historical walking tours of cities, or sing with amateur choirs, or update maps for the U.S. Geological Survey. We can put out newsletters for charitable organizations, or keep the gardens beautiful at historic sites, or sort food at neighborhood food banks. We can coach kids’ sports or teach adults to read, not to mention all the church activities we could get involved in.

Volunteering isn’t dead yet. To be sure, it’s expanded from working the church rummage sale once a year, but we need more than ever and there’s something out there for everyone to help with. We just need to say “Yes.”

(“Cornucopia,” a member of St. Paul’s Apostle Parish in Greencastle, is a regular columnist for Catholic News Service.)

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**Raising hands to volunteer**

We’ve heard a lot in recent years about the demise of voluntarism. Until the terrorist attacks on Sep. 11, the прекраснadelic (the first five books of the Old Testament), but we know he didn’t. We consider a wise man, and David is said to have composed the psalms. Perhaps he composed some of them.

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Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewey

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**Faithful Lines/Elise Henry Marthaler**

**Epitaphs on my mind before hallowed feasts**

It doesn’t really matter what I say, but putting personal problems in perspective—could well end up on my own grave marker. Personalized epitaphs are fun pretentious to write them for famous people. With Halloween approaching at the end of October, we might all like to do a bit of “stuff” and maybe even go for the “ghostly” components. There are a few lines adapted from famous poems and song titles that will probably go unrecorded in the book of life that we’re very sorry. Still, we did something good.

And apparently our volunteering was valuable, since the current lack of it seems to be one of the issues of the Boy Scouts and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Such groups could certainly profit from having more volunteers, but some rarely see the value of their time.

There’s another thing. The opportunity to volunteer, especially among our children, has increased so much we can’t even keep track of them. If we’re interested, we can consider historical walking tours of cities, or sing with amateur choirs, or update maps for the U.S. Geological Survey. We can put out newsletters for charitable organizations, or keep the gardens beautiful at historic sites, or sort food at neighborhood food banks. We can coach kids’ sports or teach adults to read, not to mention all the church activities we could get involved in.

Volunteering isn’t dead yet. To be sure, it’s expanded from working the church rummage sale once a year, but we need more than ever and there’s something out there for everyone to help with. We just need to say “Yes.”

(“Epitaphs, a member of St. Paul’s Apostle Parish in Greencastle, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.”)

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**The Human Side/Eugene Heinrich**

**Understanding what is barely understandable**

How to cope best with the strain of the horrific events of Sept. 11 and the uncer-

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How to cope best with the strain of the horrific events of Sept. 11 and the uncer-
The Book of Exodus is the source of this weekend’s first reading from the Bible.

God gave the Hebrew people a land when they escaped from Egypt, but securing the land was a battle fought against a series of enemies, one of whom was Amalek. Often, these enemies had considerable resources, and occasionally their resources were greater than those possessed by the Hebrews. Certainly, this reading implies that Amalek had no incoherent image.

To rebuff Amalek’s attacks, the Hebrews needed supernatural help. When Moses lifted his hands above the game, this help was forthcoming. When he lowered his hand, the help ceased.

Moses held up the hands of the battle. God, the staff of the God. The staff already has brought victory. Moses used it to overcome the pharaoh in Egypt. It is not as if the staff contains some magical power. Rather, it symbolizes the power God wields over all things.

Without God, humans can accomplish nothing that is perfect and good. Humans are finite. They suffer from fatigue, as does Moses in this reading. It is all the more reason why they need God.

Already on several occasions in this season, and again this weekend, the Church presents to us Liturgies of the Word that contain a reading from the Second Epistle to Timothy.

The epistle is a letter to Timothy, one of Paul’s disciples, mentioned as such in 1 Timothy. Here, Paul exhorts the Church to work together, be virtuous, and to love one another.

The place of the dishonest judge should not be exaggerated. The basic point is that the judge is himself a sinner, yet he is able to do his job fairly and mercifully is a trait that implies the presence of God.

The passage that God writes straight in crooked lines. Most of the message, of course, is that God answers prayers, even if the answer involves unworthy instruments.

Reflection

An everlasting consequence of Original Sin is that humans extol themselves to a very unrealistic and high level. This tendency occurs all around us in the midst of the Electronic Age with all its scientific marvels.

It occurred with equal force 200 years ago, or 300 years ago, or 500 years ago, and it will occur centuries from now. We never learn.

The Liturgy of the Word this weekend, especially in the first and second readings, tells us of our limitations and our need for God.

My Journey to God

The War of Love vs. Hatred

As I live, says the Lord God, I swear I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked man, but rather in the wicked man’s conversion, that he may live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! (Ez 33, 11)

I read this unsettling Scripture passage from Ezekiel shortly after the horrific events of Sept. 11. I could not make it jibe with news reports of vandicated American Muslim mosques and other acts of hatred and retaliation.

I could not find in God’s words to this or any prophet approval of these mis-guided acts. Even when Moses commanded the Levites to destroy the Israelites who had worshipped the golden calf, their destruction was motivated not by revenge, but by justice, by the need to preserve the fragile faith of the one God.

The Taliban make a great deal of noise, but they cannot make a legitimate case for a jihad, a holy war, even by the teachings of Moses. They are the blowback of the innocents in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania violate every tenet by which their own prophet defined jihad. No, the Taliban kill because they hate.

By Patricia Happl Cornelw

Early books offer classic views about spiritual life

Q What is your opinion of the book by Thomas a Kempis, The Imitation of Christ? A priest strongly urged me to read it for meditation but I’m not finding it helpful. It seems so “other-worldly,” and not much connected to my life. It’s been a classic for centuries, the priest said, so maybe I’m missing something. (California)

A The Imitation of Christ has indeed been one of the most widely read books on Christian spirituality since it was written, probably sometime early in the 15th century. Printed in numerous languages, its beneficial influence on Christian spirituality has been immeasurable.

You put your finger, however, on one reason other spiritual writings have been found more useful in these later times. The Imitation was among the first works of what was then referred to as “Devotio Moderna,” a new devotional. It was called modern because it placed greater emphasis on the inner life of the individual, on interior meditation, in opposition to the rather speculative and philosophical focus of spirituality in preceding centuries.

“Devoitio Moderna” centered more on Christ’s humanity and on self-denial. It was especially suspicious of scholarly speculation. What does it profit if you speak learnedly about the Trinity but displease the Trinity by your lack of humility?” it asked. “I would rather feel contrition than know how to define it.” (I.1)

Another favorite theme was that involvement with the world brought only temptation and danger. It quoted approvingly the noted Roman philosopher Seneca’s statement, “Whenever I go out among men, I come back less a man” (I.20).

In other words, the Imitation seemed more a guide for monks and women religious than for people at work in the world. The message, not uncommon at that time, seemed to be that the model of Christian spirituality was monastic; people in the world, therefore, became holy only insofar as they imitated the prayer and self-constrained life of monks.

“Then the more constraint you put on yourself,” said the Imitation, “the more progress you will make; that is certain” (I.25).

This view of the spiritual life was countered by later writers who maintained that all vocations and professions provide the means and direction for a saintly life, that holiness was closely connected with doing one’s work well, within the framework of Christian love of God and neighbor.

A fairly influential and influential example of this approach was St. Francis de Sales. Writing nearly 200 years after the Imitation, he declared in his Introduction to the Devout Life (Chapter 3), “It is an error, nay rather a heresy, to wish to banish the devout life from the army, from the workshop, from the courts of princes, from the households of married folk.”

Devotion which is purely contemplative, monastic and religious, he continued, cannot be practiced by these “worldly” callings, which are also suitable for leading to perfection.

Writings and teachings along these lines by St. Francis significantly inspire Catholic and other Christian spirituality to our day. In fact, even admitting his somewhat dated style and expressions, it is still difficult to find a book for Christians with a call for life more down to earth, practical and encouraging than his Introduction to the Devout Life.

The Imitation of Christ continues to provide solid guidance for our spiritual lives. It only needs to be balanced, perhaps in some instances corrected, with a conviction that Christian sanctity for most of us is intimately bound to our vocations and relationships with each other, that here too the Church lives and carries on the mission given it by our Lord.
Peace poster raises funds for disaster relief efforts

By Mary Ann Wyand

“Pray for Peace.”


“Pray for Peace” is the result of my own feelings of sadness and loss at the tragedy our country experienced on Tuesday, Sept. 11,” Schluge said. “That day happened to be my birthday, and a strange one it was. This painting/collage is symbolic of the devastation of violence, with the World Trade Center in flame and smoke, contrasting with the healing presence of Christ, extending his hands toward the skyline.

The buildings in the city are cut from a newswaper analyst of the events, published the following day,” she said. “The garment Christ wears is cut from the text of Luke, which was the Gospel for the Thursday following the attack, not chosen specifically, but the designated reading from the liturgical cycle. There, we find the words, ‘… Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you…’ This painting symbolizes, for me, our very human struggle to respond to evil in the way Jesus would have us do.”

The Our Lady of Lourdes parishioner is selling prints of her painting for $25, with all proceeds to go to disaster relief efforts underway by Catholic Charities, the American Red Cross New York City Catastrophe Fund, the New York Police and Fire Widows and Children’s Benefit Fund or the Salvation Army.

Schluge said the cost of the first-edition print also can be directed to any local or national organization that works to promote peace, goodwill and brotherhood.

“We live in a violent world,” she said. “We live in a violent country, and I think prayer is the answer. That’s the message of the painting—Jesus and the Gospel reminding us to pray for peace and ask for God’s wisdom. It has to do with what our Christian faith says about processing this tragedy.”

Schluge described her artwork as “dark” and said she knows it won’t appeal to some people, but it expresses reality and has an important message and purpose.

“The Islam teachings are also about serving God,” she said. “For the ideal follower of Islam, like the ideal follower of Christ, our goal is—like we used to say in catechism when we were little—to know, love and serve God in this world so that we can be happy with him in the next.”

Schluge said Joyce Brandt of Zionsville, a longtime friend, funded the printing of 100 copies of the watercolor so all proceeds could benefit disaster relief efforts.

“Pray for Peace” is the third painting that Schluge created to assist charitable organizations. “Share Peace,” which depicts children of all nationalities playing together in a tree, was created in 1999 to benefit the pro-life work of the Julian Center, Reach for Youth, the Irish Children’s Fund and Right to Life of Indianapolis. “May Crowning Day,” completed last year, shows children of all nationalities in a religious procession. That project benefited Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

“Pray for Peace” is one of Schluge’s favorite themes, and much of her artwork, which she describes as “naïve,” is devoted to promoting peace and harmony.

“When I think of the Peaceable Kingdom,” Schluge said, “I think of how someday Jesus will come back and there won’t be any more pain or suffering.”

(To purchase copies of the print, contact Adele Schluge at 317-352-1090 or by e-mail in care of vhouse@aol.com. Checks should be made out to the charity of choice, and mail orders should include a separate $5 check made out to the artist to cover postage, handling and insurance.)

Since its earliest beginnings, St. Francis Hospital & Health Centers has been committed to its community. To meet the needs of those it serves, St. Francis offers a full range of services including cardiac care, bone marrow transplants, OB and women’s services and orthopedic surgery, for which it was recently rated “Best in the Nation.” Call (317) 782-7997 for more information.

Leading the way to a healthier community.

Prints of “Pray for Peace,” a watercolor and cut-paper collage of Jesus and the burning World Trade Center towers created by Indianapolis artist Adele Schluge, are being sold to raise funds for disaster relief efforts following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania.

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ARCHBISHOP continued from page 1

More than ordinary acts of charity at home, at work, at school and in our neighborhoods are immediate ways in which we can make peace. Especially in these days of tension, it is important to reflect on “who is our neighbor?” We are especially concerned for our children. Parents tell me how much the unprecedented terrorism and our military response preoccupies their children. I would hope that standing by our children with a reasonable amount of information might assuage their fear. Praying with them in a calm manner could only be a helpful way to assure them of God’s love. If I were a parent, I would want to monitor my children’s exposure to the media’s constant focus on the war and possible terrorist responses.

A final suggestion would be to pray for moderation on the part of the media. Those responsible shoulder a special responsibility in difficult times. I have in mind the penchant to expose military strategies in the public forum or to overly dramatize and uncover even unthought of potential terrorist acts which might be inflicted on our society.

In the end, keep close to God and pray for peace are the best responses for all of us. What should our attitude be as we continue to live in the dreadful shadow of the Sept. 11 tragedy?

I suggest that we take our lead from that of Pope John Paul II. On Oct. 11, the Holy Father led the bishops gathered from around the world in synod at the Vatican in a day of prayer for world peace and, in part, for the conversion of terrorists. I think that is exactly where our emphasis should be.

Pope John Paul II proposed six intentions for the prayers of the assembled bishops: the deceased, government leaders, the conversion of the terrorists, the victims’ families and friends, rescue workers, and “the children of Abraham”— namely Jews, Muslims and Christians. I would encourage us also to include members of the military, and their families who worry about their welfare, keeping in mind that some of these people are our own neighbors. These intentions would serve us well in shaping our attitudes in this difficult time.

What are we to think of the declared “war on terrorism?”

Several weeks ago, in my column in The Criterion, I presented the Church’s teaching on the manner in which we can judge the morality of war as it is presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (cf. #2309 and #2310). As of today, most moral theologians would agree that President Bush and his national and international advisers have followed a careful approach to military action in order to protect society from further heinous acts of terrorism. For that we can be grateful.

We pray that they will pursue any further military action with utmost care in order to avoid unnecessary killing and especially the killing of innocent civilians. The responsibility of government in this situation, fraught with complications, is grave.

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TERROR continued from page 1

“The events of Sept. 11 have forced us to come to grips with our faith and trust in God,” said Bishop Paul S. Loverde of Arlington, Va., in whose diocese the Pentagon is located. He made the comments during an Oct. 11 memorial Mass at St. Thomas More Cathedral.

“Do we believe that he is always with us, in good times and in bad? Do we believe that nothing can separate us from God’s love, revealed in Jesus, which is simultaneously the victory over sin and death?” Bishop Loverde asked.

“At St. Paul’s conviction ours, namely, that no one and nothing, however terrible or devastating, either known or yet to be known, can ever separate us from God’s love, revealed in Jesus, which is simultaneously the victory of life over sin and death?”

Bishop Nicholas A. DeMarrio of Camden said the loss of so many innocent people is a special type of martyrdom. “We believe that they were embraced by the heavenly Father,” he said.

“I suggest that we take our lead from that of Pope John Paul II. On Oct. 11, the Holy Father led the bishops gathered from around the world in synod at the Vatican in a day of prayer for world peace and, in part, for the conversion of terrorists. I think that is exactly where our emphasis should be.”

Bishop Loverde continued, “We implore tenacity and perseverance from God’s love.” Bishop Loverde proposed six intentions for the prayers of the assembled bishops: the deceased, government leaders, the conversion of the terrorists, the victims’ families and friends, rescue workers, and “the children of Abraham”— namely Jews, Muslims and Christians.

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WASHINGTON (CNS)—Catholic Charities USA has laid out its vision of an economic stimulus and domestic relief initiative for the country following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"While much has changed since Sept. 11, many things remain the same," Sharon Daly, Catholic Charities USA's vice president for social policy, said Oct. 11 in testimony before the Senate Finance Committee's Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy.

Among needs she said remain the same and must be addressed is Daly listed the minimum wage, child-care assistance, affordable housing and health care for the uninsured.

"In fact, in many cases, these domestic needs will be exacerbated by the economic downturn that appears to be deepening since the Sept. 11 attacks," Daly said. "Low-wage workers—those who make at or just above the minimum wage—are the first to feel the impact of an economic downturn, and are the least able to withstand its effects. Accordingly, it is more important now than ever for Congress to take steps to aid the working poor."

While Census Bureau figures released in September showed the nation's poverty rate declining to 11.3 percent in 2000—its lowest level since 1974—requests for emergency food assistance nationwide, including at Catholic Charities agencies, were up 30 percent, mostly from the working poor, Daly said.

"According to our front-line caseworkers, the typical family coming to us for emergency food assistance is a parent working at or even $1 or $2 above the minimum wage," she said.

"Each month, after paying rent, utilities and child care costs, and arranging transportation to and from her job—often far from where she lives—she has no money left to put food on the table. And that's a good month," Daly continued. "If she gets sick, for example, and has unpaid medical bills, or loses time off work, she will get behind in the rent."

Daly said federal poverty guidelines, based on the premise that a family's primary expense is food, "are no longer an accurate measure of what a family needs to survive without assistance from government or private charities.

Today's families spend the bulk of their income on housing and child care."

Without government action, she added, "the situation will only get worse." The principle of subsidiarity is an important component of Catholic social teaching. Daly testified, "but it does not mean that the federal government should cede responsibility for the poor."

Daly said Congress should pass the Strengthening Working Families Act.

Among its provisions are:

* A "pass-through" allowing states to give child support payments directly to custodial parents and their children as a way to reduce the poverty rate for such households.

* Expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit for families with three or more children. An estimated 2.6 million children would be lifted out of poverty, according to Daly.

* Restoration of block-grant funding for social services to $2.38 billion, the level promised to states in the 1996 welfare law. Daly called it "truly incomprehensible" that Congress cut the program by one-third and transferred the budget authorization to the highway bill.

* Reauthorization of $200 million in child welfare funds this year, and $1 billion over five years.

* Initiatives for promoting responsible fatherhood.

Daly also touted the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments Act of 2001. President Bush has called for spending $67 million on the plan, which Daly called "a relatively modest amount considering the urgent need."

Under the measure, a mother who loses her children to foster care because she has a substance abuse problem could get the treatment necessary for her to regain custody of her children, Daly said. Right now treatment resources are inadequate, she added.

The bill also lists states use federal Safe and Stable Families funds to support programs that allow parents who feel incapable of caring for a newborn to relinquish custody of that child at a state-approved location shortly after the birth while being protected from prosecution for child abandonment.

It also would restore assistance funds for families who adopt children with special needs through private agencies such as Catholic Charities, Daly said.

In January, the federal Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families issued a policy restricting adoption assistance to special needs adoptions processed only through state agencies.

Daly also provided guidelines for an economic stimulus package to benefit the poor. "We are not experts in tax policy. We are, however, experts in human suffering," she said.

At the package's core would be "tax relief for those 35 million low-income Americans who saw no benefit from the tax legislation passed by Congress earlier this year," Daly said.

She also proposed delaying the repeal of the estate tax, and cutting the second and third stages of the tax relief plan for the top 2 percent of U.S. households, saving an estimated $125 billion.

Daly said unemployment benefits should be awarded to laid-off, part-time workers who meet other eligibility criteria.

"Congress should use federal funds to provide a temporary increase of at least 15 percent in the level of unemployment benefits and, for persons at the lowest benefit levels, Congress should guarantee a minimum dollar increase in benefits," Daly said.

Access should be expanded to federal Medicaid and state children's health insurance programs to include working parents and children with disabilities. The fiscal 2002 budget resolution approved by Congress provided $28 billion for health care for the uninsured.

Daly also recommended passage of the Legal Immigrant Children's Health Improvement Act, which gives states the option to extend federal and state health insurance benefits to immigrant women and children.

The State Children's Health Insurance Program should "at a minimum" restore eligibility to legal immigrant children and pregnant women for Medicaid and food stamp benefits, she added.†
Rest in peace

Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Mon. the weekly publication date of death. Obituaries are listed elsewhere of archdiocesan priests and state date of death. For consideration, obituaries should be submitted in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Mon. the week of publication; be sure to include any pertinent information about the deceased, including name, age, date of death, funeral arrangements, and any special notes or memories. Obituaries for archdiocesan priests and other important individuals will be published in The Criterion. Please submit obituaries in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Mon. the week of publication for consideration.


BEST, Margaret Huber, Rose of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs, archdiocese are listed elsewhere of archdiocesan priests and state date of death. Obituaries will be published in The Criterion. Please submit obituaries in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Mon. the week of publication for consideration.

The Criterion, Friday, October 19, 2001

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D.C., on April 2, 1903. She entered the congregation of the Sisters of Providence on Feb. 10, 1929, professed first vows on Aug. 15, 1931, and professed final vows on Aug. 15, 1936. Sister Francis was a dental assistant in the dentist’s office at St. Mary-of-the-Woods for 52 years. She retired in 1985. She taught in schools staffed by the Sisters of Providence in Indiana and Massachusetts.

In the archdiocese, she taught at Sacred Heart School in Terre Haute, the former St. Margaret Mary School in Terre Haute; the former St. Ann School in Terre Haute and St. Susanna School in Plainfield.

Franciscan Father Thomas Moravan, pastor of St. Jude Parish in Hellen- wood, Tenn., was the speaker for the archdiocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society’s annual meeting on Oct. 14 at Plainfield.

By Mary Ann Wyand

PLAINFIELD—“God has blessed you many, many, many times over for the things you do to help others,” said Franciscan Father Thomas Moravan when St. Vincent de Paul Society members during the annual meeting of the archdiocesan Vincentian conference on Oct. 14 in Plainfield.

“Christians are the hands and feet of Jesus in the world today,” he said. “You are bringing Jesus to the poor.”

Last year, St. Vincent de Paul Society volunteers in the archdiocese served 59,000 clients at its warehouse distribution center, client food pantry and parish-based food pantries as well as through home, hospital, nursing home and prison visits.

To maintain these ministries, the Vincentians need vol- unteers to help with home visits and the telephone Help Line as well as assist at the distribution centers and pantries. The conference also would appreciate help from retired executives with backgrounds in finance, business, advertising and sales to help expand the ministry.

Moving to Indianapolis in 1977 to serve as pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish changed his life forever, Father Moravan explained. He learned that by helping the poor, we are introducing them to the compassion and love of Jesus.

“Since then, most of my pastoral life has been spent working with the poor, sharing material goods with them and leading them to Christ,” he said. “I call my ministry evangelization through social ministry because we are lead- ing people to Christ. By helping the poor, we are introduc- ing them to the compassion and love of Jesus.”

Since 1989, Father Tom has ministered in the poor in Appalachia in the Diocese of Knoxville, Tenn.

“Most of the people who come to the St. Vincent de Paul Society for help are not even churched,” he said. “If they can experience a little love, caring, hope and strength from us, they begin to get a glimpse of Jesus. People have faith because of what you do.”

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St. Vincent de Paul Society volunteers ‘bring Jesus to the poor’

BY FRANCISCAN FATHER THOMAS MORAVAN

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General Agent - Knights of Columbus

A Mass of Christian Burial for Franciscan Sister Carmita Moravan, 77, was celebrated on Oct. 15 in the motherhouse chapel of the congregation of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis in Oldenburg. She died on Oct. 11. The former Jo Ann Moran was born in Rushville. She entered the Oldenburg Franciscan community in 1953 and professed final vows in 1949.

Sister Carmita taught at the former St. Michael School in Charlestown, St. Mary School in North Vernon, St. Mary School in Rushville and St. Joseph School in Shelbyville. She also taught at schools in Ohio, Missouri and Illinois.

Surviving are one sister, Clara Louise (Peggy) Siefert of Milroy, Ind., and three brothers, William Moravan of Kremlin, Ind., and John D. Moravan and David P. Moravan of Rushville.
Catholics were “consistently devoted to supporting the Holy Father and the Holy See on countless initiatives for spreading the Gospel of Christ throughout the world, particularly in their uncompromising defense of the sanctity of human life and the family.”

Cardinal urges solution to Hispanic vocations crisis

ATLANTA (CNS)—The priests vocations crisis affects the entire U.S. church but is sharpest among Hispanics because they are increasing much faster, said Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington. “If we don’t find solutions, the problem will be bigger in the future,” he said. Cardinal McCarrick spoke in Atlanta during the Oct. 1-4 annual meeting of the National Association of Hispanic Priests about ways to solve the scarcity of Hispanic priests. “The Church has no doubt that at least a third of all the Catholics are Hispanic,” the cardinal said. “A major problem of this shortage is that there is no awareness that the shortage exists,” he added.

Grant goes to Catholic graduate school to promote rural ministry

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Washington Theological Union, a Catholic graduate school of theology for ministry, has received a grant to fund a project to train lay leaders for rural ministry. The grant is from the SC Ministry Foundation, a public grant-making organization that promotes the ministry and mission of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati. The project director for the grant is Sister Brid Long, a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Louis, who is chairwoman of the theological union’s pastoral school of theology. Sister Brid said the pilot program is a joint effort between the graduate school and Clenmary Home Missions in the Diocese of Jackson, Miss. 

Prayers Answered

THANK YOU Sacred Heart of Jesus & St. Jude for prayers answered for N.S.

THANKS TO St. Jude for prayers answered for recovery of Lourdes, St. Therese & St. Jude, thank you for prayers answered for N.S. 

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