St. Elizabeth’s helps unwed moms face challenges

By Mary Ann Wyand

Choosing life, then choosing adoption as a positive parent-like choice, are rare examples of concern for the well-being of young and teen-age mothers facing uncertain futures for themselves and their babies.

Nationally, 96 percent of young and unwed mothers who choose life during pregnancy also decide to parent their babies—rather than place them for adoption—in spite of countless difficulties presented by the emotional and financial challenges of single parenting.

David J. Siler, St. Elizabeth’s executive director, said the archdiocesan Catholic Charities agency in Indianapolis strives to prepare expectant mothers for childbirth as well as provide parenting and life skills.

“These goals are true to our mission as a faith-based agency,” Siler said, “and true to the social teachings of the Catholic faith.”

St. Elizabeth’s counselors promote adoption awareness to residential and outreach clients, he said, but few birth mothers choose to place their babies for adoption with married couples wanting to adopt children.

During 2001, St. Elizabeth’s in Indianapolis served 123 women and children through its outreach and residential maternity programs in Indiana. The agency provided 3,000 days of residential care and 500 hours of counseling to clients.

St. Elizabeth’s clients have experienced unique life challenges requiring specialized medical and social services in addition to prenatal and postpartum medical care for themselves and their babies.

Adoption gives mother and child hopeful futures

By Mary Ann Wyand

“Love is about sacrifice,” Msgr. Joseph F. Schaeudel, vicar general, told Elizabeth Ball supporters last year. “Love is about placing the needs of another person ahead of our own needs.”

St. Elizabeth’s, an archdiocesan Catholic Charities agency and United Way member agency in Indianapolis, is “very committed to preserving the sanctity of life,” Msgr. Schaeudel said. “It’s such a privilege to support this work of bringing the good news of God’s healing touch, of God’s forgiveness, of God’s mercy, to those in need through the pregnancy and adoption services that are provided by St. Elizabeth’s.”

The archdiocesan Catholic Charities pro-life agencies in Indianapolis and New Albany exemplify God’s love, he said, but need continued financial support to carry out this ministry to unwed mothers and their babies.

“The care that St. Elizabeth’s provides is very intense and it is very expensive,” the vicar general said. “We need your continuing, ongoing support.”

Jerry Semler, chairman, president and chief executive officer of American United Life Insurance Co., and his wife, Rosie, were honorary co-chairs of the 15th annual fund-raiser for St. Elizabeth’s pro-life ministries in Indianapolis last August.

“St. Elizabeth’s provides a trusting, caring place,” Semler said, “where fears are calmed … hope is found and life is respected for the promise it holds.”

David J. Siler, executive director, said Church and community support enables St. Elizabeth’s in Indianapolis to continue to serve as “a place of healing and hope.”

Recent Perry Meridian High School graduate Sara Elizabeth Dean of Indianapols is one of St. Elizabeth’s outreach clients who received healing and hope for the future during the ball.

Survey finds most Americans regard moral truth as relative

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Most Americans believe moral truths “always exist regardless of our own understanding” rather than being “merely the result of individual and cultural beliefs,” according to two Barna Research surveys.

Teenagers and young adults were the most likely to reject moral absolutes and to say their own moral decision-making is based on feelings or self-interest rather than a set of principles, said a Feb. 12 report on the results of the surveys.

Only 13 percent of all adults and 7 percent of teens said they relied on principles from the Bible as the main basis for their own moral decisions.

The report found that belief in unchanging moral absolutes is highest among the 36-55 age group—33 percent—dropping to 14 percent among young adults aged 18-35 and only 6 percent among teen-agers, aged 13-18.

Among those aged 56 and up, 24 percent agreed that there are moral absolutes.

Among teens surveyed, 83 percent said moral truth always exists regardless of the situation or circumstance. That view was expressed by 75 percent of young adults, 55 percent of those aged 36-55, and 61 percent of those over 55.

In all age groups, between 11 and 15 percent said they did not know or hadn’t thought about it.

George Barna, whose firm conducted the research, said the dramatic increase in relativist views in the young adult and teen populations shows an “alarmingly fast decline of moral foundations among our young people.”

The Barna Research Group, an independent marketing research company based in Ventura, Calif., has been serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960

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Bishop Jenky named to head Peoria Diocese

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Pope John Paul II has appointed Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, an auxiliary bishop in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Ind., since 1997, as bishop of Peoria, Ill.

The 54-year-old Bishop Jenky succeeds Archbishop John J. Myers, who was named to head the Archdiocese of Newark, N.J., last July.

“Love is about sacrifice,” Msgr. Joseph F. Schaeudel, vicar general, told Elizabeth Ball supporters last year. “Love is about placing the needs of another person ahead of our own needs.”

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spirit of service awards dinner is April 30 in indianapolis

This year's spirit of Service awards dinner on April 30 will once again help people in need in the Indianapolis area by collecting, dry-cleaning and distributing coats to northwest Indiana families affected by the severe winter of 1999-2000.

The event at the Indiana Roof Ballroom will begin with a reception at 5:45 p.m. and will be followed by the evening's program.

Catholic Social Services provides family support, eldercare, crisis assistance and shelter to the Indianapolis community while serving as an advocate for peace and social justice based on the teaching of the Church.

The keynote speaker for the Spirit of Service awards program will be a force Capt. Scott F. O'Grady, whose plane was shot down in June of 1995 while O'Grady was enforcing the no-fly zone over Bosnia. O'Grady has a courageous, inspiring story about how he survived in Bosnia for six days before being rescued by U.S. Marines.

During the evening, several people will be recognized for following the mission of Catholic Social Services and exemplifying one of the tenets of Christian stewardship by serving people who are less fortunate or who are in crisis. The announcement of the award winners will be forthcoming.

For information on corporate sponsor tables, parish sponsorships or general information about the Spirit of Service program, call Alex Camp at 317-236-1447 or 800-832-9836, ext. 1447.

volunteers sort winter coats

Sandy Spiak, a volunteer with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Gary, Ind., sorts winter coats sent by the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Buffalo, N.Y. The two agencies cooperated with each other by collecting, dry-cleaning and distributing the coats to northwest Indiana families affected by the severe winter.
Four schools chosen to implement new education program

By Jennifer Del Vechio

Four schools in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis have been chosen to implement the new Teacher Advancement Program.

The program, referred to as TAP, will begin this fall at St. Lawrence, St. Jude and St. Brannas schools and Father Thomas Scexina Memorial High School, all in Indianapolis.

One of the goals of TAP is to develop, reward and retain the best teachers in Catholic schools. A few new programs will be developed under TAP to assist and report on student performance and progress, and to improve the curriculum in schools.

TAP is one way to make Catholic school teachers’ pay more competitive with their public school counterparts, said Paulette Conner, director of the program.

teachers can earn extra money by applying to be a master or mentor teacher. Those not chosen as a master or mentor teacher can still earn additional compensation based on their professional performance and their students’ achievements, Conner said.

TAP also allows more professional development opportunities for teachers and

Youth rally is May 5 in Starlight

By Brandon A. Evans

In a country where half of all marriages end in divorce, a small parish in the corner of the archdiocese is touting a unique achievement—more than 10 percent of its membership is celebrating significant wedding anniversaries ranging from 50 to 66 years. This year, a 14th couple will be added to the group.

The couples received a certificate from the Sisters of Providence.

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Nonviolence in the Holy Land

On Dec. 31, 2001, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Michel Sabbah, marched with other religious leaders and more than 2000 peaceful protesters seeking “an open Jerusalem.” Nearly a month later, on Jan. 28, 2002, more than 50 combat officers and soldiers in the Israeli army refused to serve in the West Bank or Gaza Strip because of Israel’s “occupa-
tion and repression” of the Palestinian people—especially during the last 16 months of violence.

These expressions of nonviolent protest and civil disobedience stand in marked contrast to the vicious cycle of terrorist attacks (indiscriminately aimed at Israeli civilians in public places) and repressive counter-attacks (including firing heavy machine guns into Palestinian neighborhoods and shooting at children who throw stones).

As Patriarch Sabbah told the American bishops at their meeting last June, violence begets violence, and the cycle of ever-escalating violence begets violence in the Holy Land. This means that Israelis and Palestinians must both commit to find-
ting nonviolent solutions to their serious problems. Nonviolence is not simply the absence of armed conflict. It is a posi-
tive, life-giving principle that is com-
pletely compatible with Jewish, Christian and Moslem spiritualities. It is

also the only realistic way to find prac-
tical solutions to the wide-ranging issues that confront all the peoples of the Middle East today.

No good can come from the current cycle of ever-escalating violence (repression, attack, counter-attack). Israelis concerned about security, and Palestinians concerned about freedom both need to recognize—beyond all doubt—that they will never achieve their legitimate aspirations violent means.

The message of Pope John Paul II for World Peace Day, Jan. 1, 2002, challenges all people of good will to reflect on the question: How do we restore the moral and social order of nations and peoples who have been subjected to such horrific violence ...

...by a remedy that combines jus-
tice with forgiveness?

“True peace,” the pope says, “is the fruit of justice, that is, the virtuous and legal guarantee which ensures just dis-
tribution of benefits and burdens. But because human justice is always fragil-

d and imperfect ... it must include ... and be completed by the forgiveness which heals and rebuilds troubled human rela-
tions from their foundations.”

Is it hopelessly naïve to think that Palestinians and Israelis might one day forgive one another and, so, find peace through justice? Patriarch Sabbah and other religious leaders and concerned citizens in the Holy Land should con-
tinue their efforts to protest peacefully and to find just and forgiving solutions to their people’s problems. There is simply no other way.

—Daniel Conway

Follow Christ through prayer and service

One of the exhilarating signs of hope for our local Church is the annual Rite of Election of catechumens and candidates at the beginning of Lent. Through the Church, in this Rite of Election, we are as a body of bishops and people receive the call of Christ to prepare for the Easter sacraments. It is wonderful to witness the joy of these folks as they receive this call to friendship with Christ and us.

It is no accident that the Rite of Election happens at the beginning of Lent, when the Church invites us to reflect on how Jesus experienced his “commissioning” for public ministry.

At his baptism in the Jordan River, Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit just as we are. And the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert to pray before he began his ministry of preaching, teaching and healing.

Before he began his public min-
istry, it was as if Jesus wanted to get away from the cycle of ever-escalating violence... how was he to get our human family to turn away from sin and return to God? How could we get us to take God seriously in our day-to-day life... how would he lead us to real free-
dom from the slavery of self-
centered-ness?

At the outset, Jesus was tempted and the temptation story shows once and for all the strategy Christ chose for our salvation. Rather than the way of power and glory, Jesus chose the way of suffering and the cross.

Rather than choosing power and force, he chose the selfless way of sacrificial love. The baptism and temptations of Jesus give public notice that his mission is one of ser-
crificial love. Jesus chose the way of suffering and the cross.

In his report of the baptism of Jesus, St. Luke notes carefully that it happened while Jesus was praying. And so in the baptism of Jesus and the account of his temptation, which mark the beginning of his ministry of charity, two themes are struck for all of Christian life. Prayer and service are the hallmarks of a follower of Jesus Christ.

As Jesus begins his public min-
istry of prayer and service, his teach-
ing theme is simple: “Turn away from sin and return to the Gospel.” It is the clarion call adopted by the Church for Ash Wednesday as our Lenten challenge for preparation for the Easter sacraments.

Like all the rest of us, our candi-
dates and catechumens are reminded that as they prepare for the joy of receiving the Easter sacraments during this sacred time, they are given a special grace to turn their hearts from sinful ways to the good news, to the person of Jesus Christ.

On the two previous Sundays, the candidates and catechumens were formally elected to become a sacra-
ment of Christ’s election for all the world. They were designated by the Church to become a priestly people, initiated into the worship of the Church. They were elected to partic-
ipate in the ministry of Jesus, as part of his sacramental body, the Church.

They were elected to prepare for the Easter sacraments that will empower them to join a priestly people with a priestly mission, the mission of wor-
ship and service.

The elect are accompanied in a special way on the journey to Easter by family and friends who support them in faith. We assure them that they are also lovingly supported by the larger community of our local Church, to whom they will be joined forever as the Easter Vigil and solemn Easter Eucharist.

We would all do well to recall that initiation into the body of Jesus is a configuration to Christ himself, not laid down his life for his friends. As we accept the name and the identity of Catholic Christian, we agree to try to live as Jesus whom we call the Suffering Servant. We agree to live for others. Living for others means dying to self, and this kind of suffering service does not come nat-
urally and easily. And so we need to pray. We need the grace of the Easter sacraments. And so we need to cele-
bate the Eucharist, the summit and source of all life that makes gener-
ous service possible.

With our catechumens and can-
didates, we all need to thank the Lord in prayer for the grace of the Easter sacraments. Perhaps we take the gift of our faith and the grace of the sacraments for granted. May the remaining time of preparation for Easter be a time of renewed faith nourished by extra prayer and a desire to live for others.
uno de los más emocionantes signos de esperanza para nuestra iglesia local, es el rito anual de la elección de los catecúmenos y los candidatos al diáconato que se celebra en la Iglesia de Cristo. A través de esta ceremonia, los candidatos se comprometen a seguir la vocación y el servicio que Dios les ha dado.

La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en febrero

“...a medida que aceptamos el nombre y la misión de Jesús, quien dio su vida por sus amigos. A medida que le pones el nombre de Jesús, le pones el corazón y el espíritu de Jesús. Entonces, el diocesano, o el diácono, sigue a Jesús..."
Prayer: Centering Prayer, "Prayer and Spiritual Practices in church. The topics are: "Introduction to Prayer," "Learning 7:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the six Fridays until March 22 at the present an adult education series available. Proceeds benefit various parish ministries. For more information, call the parish at 317-636-4478. There will be a half-hour Lenten organ concert at 12:40 p.m. on the Wednesdays in Lent until March 27 at St. John the Evangelist Parish, 126 W. Georgia St., in Indianapolis. The concerts, which are free, will follow the 12:10 p.m. Mass. Each concert will feature a different local organist. For more information, call the parish at 317-635-2021.

St. Louis de Montfort Parish, 11441 Hague Road, in Fishers, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese, invites all those interested to visit the parish's perpetual adoration chapel. The parish also needs committed adorers who can take an hour each week to pray before the exposed Blessed Sacrament. For more information, call Mike or Sara Dugan at 317-845-7537 or the parish office at 317-842-6777.

A free performance of the St. John Passion will be presented at 7 p.m. on March 8 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in a different local organist. The performance features ancient chants of the Passion and were first published, in Latin, in 1585. The performance features ancient chants and the Victoria choruses in English. The Cathedral Chamber Choir, Father Richard Griswold, T.K. and M. Mary Martha Johnson will be featured.

Father Thomas Sceccia Memorial High School in Indianapolis is presenting a video Lenten Fish Fry on Fridays of Lent from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. until March 22 at the school from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mass will be held in the church at 3:50 p.m., with Stations of the Cross at 3:15 p.m., followed by Benediction. For more information, call the parish at 317-357-8352.

St. Gabriel Parish, 6000 W. 34th St., in Indianapolis, will hold its Lenten Fish Fry on the Fridays of Lent from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. until March 22. The menu includes pizza, fish dinners and sandwiches. Carryouts is available. Proceeds benefit the Church's fish ministration. For more information, call the parish at 317-291-7014.

St. Gabriel Parish, 6000 W. 34th St., in Indianapolis, will present an adult education series with the Marian College Department of Theology that will focus on the catechism's teaching on prayer. Sessions will be held from 7:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the six Fridays until March 22 at the church. The topics are: "Introduction to Prayer," "Learning to Pray," "The Holy Mass and the Rosary," "The Life of Prayer: Centering Prayer," "Prayer and Spiritual Practices in the Catholic Tradition," "The Lord's Prayer: The Our Father" and "The Lord's Prayer: The Seven Petitions." For more information, call the parish at 317-291-7014.

St. John Passion will be presented at 7 p.m. on March 9 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at the Simon of Cobb's Church for 400 years. They were written for use with the ancient Vatican chants of the Passion and were first published, in Latin, in 1585. The performance features ancient chants and the Victoria choruses in English. The Cathedral Chamber Choir, Father Richard Griswold, T.K. and M. Mary Martha Johnson will be featured.

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Lenten penance services are set around the archdiocese.

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

Batesville Deane

Feb. 26, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Batesville
March 17, 7 p.m. for Sacred Heart of Jesus, Batesville, Holy Rosary, and Good Shepherd at Good Shepherd
March 18, 7 p.m. at Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
March 19, 7 p.m. at St. Mark
March 20, 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Greenwood, Greenwood
March 24, 4 p.m. at St. Jude

Indianapolis West Deane

Feb. 26, 7 p.m. at Mary, Queen of Peace, Danville
Feb. 27, 7 p.m. at St. Michael
Feb. 28, 7 p.m. at St. Susanna, Plainfield
March 6, 7:30 p.m. at St. Christopher
March 7, 7 p.m. at St. Malachi, Brownsburg

Indianapolis East Deane

March 10, 2 p.m. at St. Anthony
March 11, 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel
March 12, 6:30 p.m. at St. Monica
March 17, 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity
March 20, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph
March 21, 7 p.m. at Holy Angels
March 21, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas More, Mooresville

New Albany Deane

Feb. 27, 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany
Feb. 28, 9 a.m., 10 a.m., and 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, New Albany
March 4, 7 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Starlight
March 5, 8:15 a.m.-noon and noon-3 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence High School, Clarksville
March 6, 8:15 a.m.-noon and noon-3 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence High School, Clarksville
March 6, 7 p.m. for St. Augustine, Jeffersonville; and Sacred Heart, Jeffersonville
March 7, 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany
March 10, 3 p.m. at St. Joseph, Corydon
March 12, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Navilledon
March 12, 7 p.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs
March 13, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs
March 14, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph Hill, Sellersburg
March 14, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Charlestown
March 16, 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs
March 17, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Lanesville
March 18, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Bradford
March 21, 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul, Sellersburg
March 21, 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary, New Albany
March 24, 7 p.m. at Holy Family, New Albany
March 25, 7 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville

Seymour Deane

March 1, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Salem
March 6, 7 p.m. at St. Patrick, Salem
March 7, 7 p.m. at St. Bartholomew, Columbus
March 12, 7 p.m. for Most Sorrowful Mother of God, Vevay, and Prince of Peace, Madison
March 13, 7 p.m. for our Lady of Providence, Brownstown, at St. Ambrose, Seymour
March 15, 7:15 p.m. at St. Anne, Jennings County
March 17, 2 p.m. for St. Rose of Lima, Franklin, and Holy Trinity, Edinburgh, at Holy Trinity, Edinburgh
March 18, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, North Vernon
March 22, 7:15 p.m. at St. Joseph, Jennings County

Tell City Deane

March 8, 7 p.m. for St. Martin of Tours, Gibson; St. Boniface, Fulda; and St. Meinrad, St. Meinrad, St. Meinrad
March 14, 7 p.m. at St. Augustine, Leopold
March 19, 7 p.m. at St. Mark, Tell City
March 19, 7 p.m. at Holy Cross, St. Croix
March 20, 7 p.m. at St. Isidore, Bristow
March 24, 7 p.m. for St. Michael, Connettof; St. Pius, Troy; and St. Paul, Tell City

Terre Haute Deane

March 3, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Rockville
March 6, 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Woods Village, St. Mary-of-the-Woods
March 12, 6:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary, Seelyville
March 12, 7 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle, Greensville
March 14, 1:30 p.m. deanery service at Sacred Heart of Jesus, Terre Haute
March 14, 7 p.m. deanery service at St. Benedict, Terre Haute
March 24, 6 p.m. at St. Patrick, Terre Haute
March 25, 7:30 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary, Terre Haute†

Let Us Share The Gift Of Faith We Have Received

Catholic social teaching proclaims we are keepers of our human family whatever our nationwide, racial, ethnic, and economic differences.

Through prayer, reflection, and solidarity with the poor we can respond to the needs of others.

I join in prayer with Pope John Paul II for our suffering brothers and sisters and remember them by saying

I bequeath to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith the sum of $____ for its work with the poor in our missions at home and abroad.

Your gift will live on.
Help pregnant teen-agers, the options for birth fathers.

Children are parenting children,” Siler said, “and the odds for success are certainly stacked against 14- and 15-year-old girls, from difficult family backgrounds, breaking from this pattern.

Elizabeth’s ministry is incredibly delicate,” he said. “We educate girls regarding adoption so they can make informed decisions. We help them to see what is realistic. The challenge is trying to meet the individual needs of each client and encourage what is best for both the mother and child. That’s incredibly difficult the majority of the time, but each situation depends on how you define success. We cannot make their decisions for them and we cannot judge them.”

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“Many times, without agencies like St. Elizabeth’s to help pregnant teen-agers, the options for unwed mothers and their children would be very limited,” he said. “We are here to present adoption as a positive parenting choice, but when our clients choose to parent we give them the help they need to be more successful at raising healthy children.”

St. Elizabeth’s employs a full-time independent living coordinator, who works with residential and outreach clients to teach them parenting and life skills. The agency’s goal is helping each mother reach self-sufficiency.

“Teen mothers are going to experience the common problems faced by adolescents, including normal bodily changes,” Jones said, “but also are faced with pregnancy and adult issues they may not be equipped to handle.”

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In addition to helping the teen-agers learn to better understand themselves and cope with life problems, St. Elizabeth’s provides pregnancy and adoption services to young, unwed mothers who often struggle with family problems and substance abuse.

When older and facing single parenthood are more likely to place their infants for adoption, he said, but most teen-age mothers want to parent their babies.

The costs to society caused by this breakdown in family life are tremendous, Siler said, because nearly all unwed mothers in America are choosing to single parenthood as their choice.

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“People in this country are going to have to become more sensitive with regard to single parenthood, and we cannot judge them.”

We cannot make their decisions for them and we cannot judge them.

“Many times, without agencies like St. Elizabeth’s to help pregnant teen-agers, the options for unwed mothers and their children would be very limited,” he said. “We are here to present adoption as a positive parenting choice, but when our clients choose to parent we give them the help they need to be more successful at raising healthy children.”

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In addition to helping the teen-agers learn to better understand themselves and cope with life problems, St. Elizabeth’s staff members help them prepare for labor and delivery, childcare and self-sufficiency.

“Teen mothers are going to experience things they have never experienced before,” Jones said. “We help them understand their parental role and we help them to accept the spiritual aspect of becoming a parent—that God has a plan for their lives and can meet their needs and the needs of their children.”

Elizabeth’s, an archdiocesan Catholic Charities agency and United Way member agency, and Cradle of Hope Adoption Center of Silver Spring, Md., will co-sponsor an international adoption information session from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on March 19 at St. Elizabeth’s, located at 2500 Churchman Ave., in Indianapolis.

The seminar is offered at no cost and will include presentations by couples that have participated in the international adoptive process as well as information on international adoptions and adoption opportunities in Russia, China and Guatemala.

For more information or directions to St. Elizabeth’s, contact Renee Hummel, adoption counselor, at 317-787-3412, ext. 15, or e-mail rhummel@stelizas.org.
for her examples of courageous love by choosing life, then choosing adoption, for her self-esteem and self-confidence. They learn [the life skills] to make it on their own.

“KeithStormes, executive director of St. Elizabeth’s Regional Maternity Center, and 70 percent of the pregnant teens admit to drug use or alcohol consumption at the time of conception.

“We’ve had 400 births, and 13 percent of those mothers have chosen to make an adoption plan,” Stormes said. “When the young women come in, we explain the options of adoption and parenting.”

The average age of clients is 16, she said, and most of the girls are homeless.

“Nationally, two out of three teen-agers who become pregnant drop out of high school,” Stormes said, “but 85 percent of the girls who go through our program receive a high school diploma or general education degree. Ninety-five percent of the girls who come to us for help are technically qualified as homeless because they have been kicked out of their home due to the pregnancy, and they qualify for government assistance. But 77 percent of the girls who go through our program are able to work their way off the rolls of government assistance. They learn [the life skills] to make it on their own.”

“Pregnancy is like the tip of the iceberg,” he said. “The girls have a significant amount of baggage, including a lack of self-esteem and self-confidence. They don’t have a lot of respect for themselves. Generally, the girls come to us from a single-parent family, or a family with a new stepfather who looks down on the daughter because she is pregnant.”

Stormes said most of the teen-age mothers hadn’t thought about adoption until St. Elizabeth’s staff members explained the benefits of placing an infant in a loving, two-parent adoptive home and how the child receives a good education and grows up in a stable environment.

“The birth mother makes the choice to parent or place their child for adoption,” he said. “It’s rewarding to see the mother become comfortable with the recognition that she is not capable of caring for her child given her current situation in life. It’s doubly rewarding to see another family extremely happy after having a child placed in their care.”

Regardless of the birth mother’s choice to self-parent or place her child for adoption, he said, “We try to provide the new mom with a sense of self-confidence and self-worth. Our contact with the mothers has no official end. They can come back to us [for counseling or other help] as long as they need to. Whenever they want to come back, they are always welcome.”

A client who chooses adoption finds consolation “from knowing that she has the skills to be able to go on and continue with her life,” Stormes said, “and from knowing that her child will be well taken care of.”

Some members of the St. Elizabeth’s Regional Maternity Center advisory council help the 12 full-time and six part-time staff meet the individual needs of the teen-agers facing crisis pregnancies.

St. Elizabeth’s Regional Maternity Center typically houses 35 to 45 residential clients a year in the maternity and transitional housing facilities, he said. “All the archdiocesan pro-life ministry relies on financial and volunteer help to meet expenses.”

“We have a lot of the casual supporters who continue to keep us in their giving plans, and that’s been a big help,” Stormes said. “We also seek the horizon for support from foundations, corporations and matching gifts. The toughest part is the ‘love, income-eligible clients’ is the Medicaid and Medical requirements, but a couple of doctors have been with us for a long time and we’ve got quite a team.”

Sara’s mother, who has a different last name, “is very proud of her daughter.

“Each time she makes another mother’s nightmare to find a place for her ragged daughter is pregnant,” she said. “I don’t know how she ever made the courageous decision to place her daughter for adoption, but she did and I know in my heart that it’s the right decision.”

After a month and a half talking to Sara, “I realized that it was much more than we ever hoped for.”

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Adoption

Sara said, “I will continue to support St. Elizabeth’s in any way I can for the rest of my life. I know that my son was put in my life by God for a very important reason, and he made my world so much harder but so much better. Since the day he was born, I prayed every day about him and I tried to make the best decisions for him.”

Sara saw Austin on his birthday last summer and is grateful that her adoptive parents want him to know his birth mother.

“My life is much easier now that I have dealt with all this hard stuff during the past couple of years,” she said. “I asked God for his help in guiding me, leading me to the right places, showing me what to do, and teaching me how to love and be selfless.”

Sara said she would advise teen-age girls who are pregnant “to have faith in God and don’t be afraid to ask for help because there are people who want to help you.”

“When I first walked through the doors at St. Elizabeth’s, I was really scared, but they gave me the help I needed,” she said. “I had a friend who introduced me to the program and I thought it was the right thing to do.”

“Austin brought me closer to my family and to myself,” Sara said. “I’ve dealt with all this hard stuff during the past two years,” she said. “I asked God for his help in guiding me, leading me to the right places, showing me what to do, and teaching me how to love and be selfless.”

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Expert uses anecdotes to spice up discussions of Vatican art

WASHINGTON (CNS)—When Enrico Bruschini talks about Vatican art treasures, his arms sway, his head bobs and weaves, and the words flow from a grinning face. His conversation combines historical facts, an eye for detail and a storyteller’s ease in spicing it all up with anecdotes. The anecdotes surrounding the artists and their masterpieces come from tradition, he points out. “It’s not ‘history.’ That’s—maybe—too serious a word,” he says with a wiggle of his right hand. “ ‘Legend’ is too light. ‘Tradition!’

Italian-born Bruschini has been using this approach for years to usher U.S. VIPs through the labyrinth of Rome’s artistic and historical patrimony. His listeners have included then-President Bill Clinton and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton; Chief Justice of the United States William H. Rehnquist; and George W. Bush when he was governor of Texas.

Now retired, Bruschini was the fine arts expert from 1982 to 1998 for the U.S. Embassy to Italy. He also served in the same capacity at the U.S. Embassy to the Vatican after diplomatic relations were established in 1984. The jobs involved being a tour guide for visiting U.S. officials.

“I still get calls from congressmen telling me of friends arriving who want to take my tour,” he told Catholic News Service Feb. 8 in Washington.

Bruschini was visiting Washington to promote his book, “In the Footsteps of Popes: A Spirited Guide to the Treasures of the Vatican.”

It contains anecdotes such as why the “Pieta” in St. Peter’s Basilica is the only statue signed by the Renaissance master Michelangelo. The sculpture depicts Mary cradling the dead Jesus.

Michelangelo was young and little known in Rome when he did the “Pieta,” notes Bruschini’s book. He discreetly joined the crowd looking at his statue and became irate when someone attributed it to another artist, it says. So, continues the book, he returned that night to carve his name in Latin on the sash across the chest of M ary.

“The book was written in a light way but with serious research. I want everyone to understand the art,” Bruschini said.

Bruschini was visiting Washington to promote his book, “In the Footsteps of Popes: A Spirited Guide to the Treasures of the Vatican.”

Inspiration for the book came from the questions Americans would ask him while taking his tour. This would lead him to seek answers in art books and scholarly research.

“This ‘seek and ye shall find’ curiosity has been Bruschini’s method of learning art since he was a child,” Bruschini noted.

Bruschini, 59, was born in Rome and credits his Catholic education for inspiring his love of art. A key moment came when he was 13 and his class went on a tour of the Roman Forums.

To answer his own questions about what he saw, Bruschini said, he bought a guidebook and started to study on my own, systematically.”

He has no university degree in art. His degree is in international economics, and he was initially hired by the U.S. Embassy in 1970 as a staff official.

Poking around the huge palaces that form the embassy complex, Bruschini noted all the pieces of art and began examining them. One that especially caught his eye was a statue of Venus. It was believed to be a copy of a work by 18th-century sculptor Giambologna. Through painstaking research, mainly at the Vatican archives, Bruschini gathered proof that it was an original Giambologna.

In 1982, he was named the embassy’s art historian. In 1984, he was appointed the embassy’s fine arts curator.

“At the time, he was the No. 1 art historian in the State Department,” Bruschini recalled.

How do U.S. dignitaries like his tours? President Clinton came back for seconds, Bruschini answered.

“When Clinton arrived in 1994, he was supposed to tour the Roman Forums for about 15 minutes, Bruschini said.

“He enjoyed it so much we spent two hours, then the Secret Service said he couldn’t stay any longer because he had to meet the Italian president,” he added.

Last October, Clinton returned with his daughter, Chelsea, and called to arrange another tour.

“We went back to the forums. When it was lunchtime, Clinton asked if we could go to the Vatican, too. So I made a few quick calls and we went to the Vatican Museums. The room is one of several featured in Enrico Bruschini’s guide book, In the Footsteps of Popes: A Spirited Guide to the Treasures of the Vatican. 

CNS photo

Find the answers in the new, 2002 edition of the Directory and Yearbook for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

This colossal head of Emperor Augustus is kept in a niche in the Courtyard of the Piazzale at the Vatican. It was found at Aventine Hill in Rome 500 years ago. “If this is the only head, try to imagine the rest of the statue!” says art historian Enrico Bruschini.
Faith can dispel the inner workings of fear

By David Gibson

Fear is a sign of the times. That makes it a worthy subject for Lenten reflection. A common fear of these times takes the form of apprehension that seriously injurious events might happen in our world. In times of terrorism, there is a sense of waiting for “the other shoe to drop.”

Some fears are realistic. Some are misplaced. Some need to be displaced. What do we fear? That might be a question to start with in Lent.

Pray to God about fears

Do we fear we won’t be able to cope with unexpected developments? Do we fear failure? Illness? Do we fear for our safety? Do we fear God isn’t there for us? Our fears can be natural. Fortunately, our fears become the stuff of our praying. Lots of times what we fear is the outcome of events. We can’t foresee, understand or control the outcome.

But doesn’t that seem like the perfect thing to talk to God about?

(David Gibson edits Faith Alive!)

Discussion Point

‘Put aside anxious thoughts’

This Week’s Q question

What is your advice—for you or for another person—for handling a real fear?

“We take action on the fear. Embrace the fear. This will lessen the fear because we typically fear the unknown. Taking action on the fear helps us to learn more about it.” (Marlinee Martin, Martinsburg, W.Va.)

“The way I face fear is to talk with God: ‘God, this situation is before me for some reason. Help me to handle it the way you want me to handle it.’” (Fran Roehrich, Bismarck, N.D.)

“The following prayer of St. Francis de Sales has been my mainstay in perilous times. It has helped me to remember to take one day at a time: ‘Do not look for- ward to what might happen tomorrow; the same ever-lasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day. Either he will shield you from suffering or he will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace, then, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginings.’” (Rosalie Spellacy, Troy, N.Y.)

Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: Describe an important characteristic of someone you consider holy.

To respond for possible publication, write to Faith Alive! at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C., 20017-1100.
Why the militant Islamists hate us

Sudanese opposition leaders have accused the military regime in Sudan of using religious rhetoric to divide the country.

Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewey

Don't let the elderly face life alone

Aging is a sensitive subject in society.

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

Appreciation, happiness go hand in hand

At my grandfather David's early sports games, his mother claimed my encouraging shouts were so restrained that I barely conveyed enthusiasm. However, since David began playing soccer at the age of 13, I have found that the older they feel, the more it seems that the pat too many and they bite the hand that feeds them, unlike any other rational creature alive. And there is no forewarning of how many pats are allowed.

But, I digress.

My point started out to be that older people often feel ignored. It is a reality that older people are extremely lonely. It's true that "no (wo)man is an island," and we all depend upon others for intellectual and sometimes physical support.

We all discovered at some time that we cannot humanize our membership help, probably when a spouse went on an extended trip and we were forced to do everything by ourselves with no adult to talk to. Or, as a single parent, having to be both mom and dad most of the time, or an unmarried working person coping with the world.

But it's different in the case of old people. They may have a lifetime wealth, or even the energy or the money to seek diversion or the company of others when they feel lonely. Not so, the frail, the ill, many of their friends are steadily decreasing. Many of their peers have died, others are ill, unable to drive, or don't have the money to take in a movie or lunch together.

Pets, then, are an answer to the problem. But what about the loneliness and attention of fellow humans be even better? Somehow, our society rejects the idea that old people are productive or interesting or relevant. We tend to stick them in retirement villages or visit them on major holidays, or when there's nothing else to do on a Saturday afternoon, or when we are attempting to share their experiences with us and patronize them with sentimental rhetoric that puts them in the world. But it's different in the case of old people. Old people provide us with the experience, the wisdom we've never had, or relevant. We tend to stick them in retirement villages or visit them on major holidays or when there's nothing else to do on a Saturday afternoon, or when we are attempting to share their experiences with us and patronize them with sentimental rhetoric that passes for respect.

We have much to learn from each other, and to enjoy together. Older folks love to share their stories, their photographs and their memories of events the rest of us only know from history texts. Younger people can respond with their plans and dreams, and explain to them the mysteries of modern technology and culture. Old people provide us with the experience and wisdom we've never had, or relevant. We tend to stick them in retirement villages or visit them on major holidays or when there's nothing else to do on a Saturday afternoon, or when we are attempting to share their experiences with us and patronize them with sentimental rhetoric that passes for respect.

Cynthia Dewey, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greencastle, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.

Parish Diary

Go get people together to read the Bible

It is lamentable that, until recently, Bible study was not a typical offering of many Catholic parishes. Today, however, Parishians are discovering that getting people together to read the Bible because of possible misinterpretations of what the text contains. Catholic households did not even own a copy of the scriptures. More often the family Bible gathered dust on the shelf serving only as a place to record family events such as births and baptisms.

Thankfully, this began to change in 1965 when Vatican Council II issued a document on sacred Scripture called Dei Verbum (The Word of God). Catholics were encouraged to read the Bible as a gift of God's own Will. As Father Richard J. Neuhaus has observed, the council opened the Church more to the world. In a sense, the Protestant Reformation won the 16th-century debate about the role of the Scriptures in the life of the Church.

We are now reading the Gospel of Mark, beginning today. We have a cycle of readings at Sunday Mass this year. It is the most satisfying part of my week. In it, I am asked to read one passage, which is the most satisfying thing I do as a priest, as a pastor.

For example, in the seminary, the great biblical scholar Sulipican Father Raymond Brown told us that when we teach the Bible we must not only know the text, but the context. That's why, in the first week of April, we need to have some kind of a background for the Easter story. We all had some trouble figuring out what the disciples meant in light of those terrible events.

Discussing the Gospel in Bible study gives me a fresh perspective that I would never occur to me in the ordinary consumption of passages.

Every now and then, I hear from priests who tell me that their ministry has become arid. But there is a way to tap into the understanding of the text that is offered to the Samaritan woman at the well. Get some people together. Open the Bible. Start reading.

(Father Peter J. Daly is a regular columnist for Catholic News Service.)
The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Feb. 24, 2002

- Genesis 12:1-4a
- 2 Timothy 1:18-19
- Matthew 17:1-9

The Book of Genesis is the source of this Lenten weekend's first reading. Genesis is the first book in the sequence of biblical books. It is among the first five books of the Bible. This is more than a coincidence in numbers.

For many long centuries, Jews have looked upon, and still look upon, the first five books of the Bible as containing the essence of God's initial Revelation. They contain the foundations of belief in God and in defining at a very basic level the human relationship with God.

This weekend's reading deals with Abraham. Scholars say that Abraham once actually existed. He is not a figment of imagination or literary construction. He was, and is, the very real figure in the Jewish story of salvation. He was the first father of the Chosen People. He established the people's link with God. To him, God spoke. He was unwaveringly loyal to God.

In this selection, God promises that Abraham will sire a great nation. This nation will be intimately connected with God. It will be intimately associated with God. As a people see this nation, they will see the reflection of God.

Supplying the second reading this weekend is the Second Epistle to Timothy. The recipient of this epistle, Timothy, was an early disciple of Paul and an early bishop of the Church. Paul took a great interest in Timothy. He encouraged Timothy, and he counseled him in his path to God and in his life as a Christian leader.

Even in February 2002, in the midst of Lent, God is with us in visible ways. He is here through the Apostles. They were the Lord's special students. Because of their faith and their efforts, the Church exists. In the Church, the Apostles, with their special election as the witnesses of Jesus, still speak and act.

Matthew's Gospel

The story is familiar. Jesus takes Peter, James and John to a high mountain. (Scholars dispute which mountain in modern Israel was the mountain mentioned in this text. The tradition is that it was Mount Tabor, not too far from Nazareth. A rather tradition says it was elsewhere.)

In a moment of brilliance and drama, Jesus appears, not just in human form but also as God. It was a spectacular moment for these Apostles.

This reading contains an element present in so many others. The Lord's special students were the Apostles. Therefore, they had memories of Jesus unlike the memories of others, for the Apostles' memories were much more extensive.

And again and again, the Gospels remind us of this privilege given the Apostles. Certainly, the Evangelists continued to inform us of the Apostles' nearness to Jesus to reinforce their identity.

Reflection

Lent is well underway. Hopefully, for us all, the process of Lent is underway. It can be demanding. Drawing near to Jesus in any realistic sense requires determination, focus and action.

Thus, the Church encourages us as Lent progresses. Its encouragement, first of all, is in its presentation of the story of the Transfiguration. The Lord is more than a human. He is God. In Jesus are life, truth and undying love.

Through the words of Genesis, the Church reminds us that we are called to be one with God. We are destined to be among those whom God called to be Abraham's great people. In us, the light of God should shine through us, the love of God should reach the world.

God loves us with an everlasting love. Paul stressed this fact in his letters to Timothy. We do not stumble upon God. He comes to us in our need.

Even in February 2002, in the midst of Lent, God is with us in visible ways. He is here through the Apostles. They were the Lord's special students. Because of their faith and their efforts, the Church exists. In the Church, the Apostles, with their special election as the witnesses of Jesus, still speak and act.

My Journey to God

Honored to Serve

Life offers needed tasks that many find unpleasant to perform. May I receive the grace to do them willingly, with kind and empathetic efforts to relieve the pain to which the sick may be resigned.

May I not be too proud to mop the floors, To scrub the skillet, and to wash the clothes. As if they were our Lord's. My Father knows With how much love I offer Him these chores.

May I be granted the ability To ease the burdens that God's children bear And gain the blessings promised those who care, And serve the Lord's "least brethren" selflessly.

Distributed though an urgent need may be, Honor me, Father: Entrust it to me.

By Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan

(Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan is a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin.)

Daily Readings

Monday, Feb. 25
Daniel 9:4b-10
Psalm 79:8-9, 11, 13
Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday, Feb. 26
Isaiah 1:10, 16-20
Psalm 50:8-9, 16b-17, 21, 23
Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday, Feb. 27
Jeremiah 18:18-20
Psalm 31:5-6, 14-16
Matthew 20:17-28

Thursday, Feb. 28
Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1:1-4, 6
Luke 16:19-31

Friday, March 1
Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28
Psalm 105:16-21
Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday, March 2
Micah 7:14-15, 18-20
Psalm 103:1-4, 9-12

Sunday, March 3
Third Sunday of Lent
Exodus 17:3-7
Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8
John 4:42-54 or John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 30-42

Question Corner/ Fr. John Dietzen

Christians honor Jesus with cross and crucifix

Q Why does the Catholic Church use the crucifix, with the figure of Jesus, while Protestants use a cross without the image of Jesus? (Mississippi)

A The difference in the two types of cross is related to different ways Christians have honored the humanity of Jesus. It predates by centuries the differences between Catholic and Protestant customs.

During the first 800 years of Christianity, the passion and death of Christ were viewed, in both theology and art, not so much as experiences of horror and pain as expressions of the triumph of God in Jesus Christ, over suffering and death.

The Fathers of the Church, recognized as among the greatest early bishops and theologians, saw the five wounds of Christ (hands, feet and side) as the sources of grace, giving birth to his body, the Church.

This understanding of our Lord's death explains why, during those centuries, Christian crosses rarely bore the image of the suffering Christ. The conviction that the death of Christ was part of the entire paschal, or Easter, mystery expressed itself by predominant emphasis on the Resurrection, even in the events on Calvary.

For the same reasons, crosses frequently were adorned with precious jewels. Even when the physical body of Christ was present on crosses, it was often the risen living Lord that was shown, rather than the anguished, dying Christ that became common later.

Interestingly, the more mystical, otherworldly vision of Christ triumphant and ruling over all creation, prevalent in early Christianity, largely continues to this day in the theology and iconology of the Eastern Catholic Churches.

The more graphic realism, showing Jesus with the crown of thorns and disfigured with blood, began around the 10th century. With today's renewed emphasis on the Resurrection and its central role in the history of salvation, something like jeweled crosses and crucifixes with the body of the risen Christ are again not uncommon in Catholic churches.

No one to my knowledge has explained satisfactorily why Protestant Churches customarily use crosses with the body of the Lord. Perhaps it was another way some Reformation leaders distanced themselves from Roman Catholic practice, which, as I explained, by that time generally portrayed on its crosses a suffering and humiliated Christ.

Q I hope you can advise me on something bothering me right now. One of my great-grandparents will be married this spring. He is Lutheran, and the ceremony is in a Lutheran church.

What should I do during the wedding as far as kneeling, sitting, taking Communion or whatever else? Do I just sit and listen? (New York)

A Under ordinary circumstances, you are free, as a Catholic, to participate in the ceremony in the same way others are attending, except that you should not receive communion.

Judging from ceremonies I’ve shared in other Churches, I cannot imagine there would be anything contrary to the Catholic faith that should make you hesitate.

For instance, a Lutheran might stand, kneel (some Lutheran congregations kneel during parts of the service), recite a prayer—“in other words, follow the lead of others present. We are encouraged by the Catholic Church to share in prayer with those of other faiths, particularly at special occasions like weddings, funerals and eucharistic services.

As I said, you should not receive communion during the Lutheran service, if Communion is offered. For us, reception of Communion is a significant sacramental expression of common belief and religious commitment, and faith community with those with whom we receive this sacrament.

For this reason, Catholic regulations indicate that we should avoid this kind of participation in Protestant worship. I have discussed the reasons for such a rule more deeply several times in this column. It is worth keeping in mind that you may not be invited to Communion anyway. This will depend on which Lutheran synod that particular congregation is part of.

Certain Lutheran groups and congregations strictly prohibit people of other faiths, even other Lutherans, from sharing in the eucharistic communion. We have an obligation to respect those wishes when we are their guests. †

Second Sunday of Lent! Msgr. Owen F. Campion

This is more than a collection of biblical books. It is

roughly the first five books of the Bible. They contain the foun-
dations of belief in God and in defining at a very basic level the human relationship with God.

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By Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan

(Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan is a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin.)

The Critic Friday, February 22, 2002 Page 13
Cincinnati Jesuit high school graduate designs Olympic cauldron

SALT LAKE CITY (CBS 5) — By the time the 2002 Olympic torch reached Salt Lake City's Rice-Eccles Stadium for opening ceremonies Feb. 5, more than 11,000 Americans had been part of the relay team that carried it through 46 states.

But perhaps no one was as proud — or as nervous — as 26-year-old Tim Hunter, a 1994 graduate of St. Xavier Jesuit High School in Cincinnati. Hunter wasn’t a torchbearer, but he played a bigger role: He designed the cauldron.

A senior project designer at WET Design in Universal City, Calif., Hunter and the team there had worked in great secrecy for months to produce the $2 million, 13-ton, 20-ton cauldron atop a tower of glass and steel spirals. Illuminated in purple and blue, light at night, the glowing structure pays tribute to the theme of this year’s games: “Light the Fire Within.”

Hunter told The Catholic Telegraph, the Cincinnati archdiocesan newspaper, that his journey to such an assignment began as far back as pre-school, where he enjoyed painting with the other children. “Then my parents bought me my first Lego set,” he reminisced, and “drawing and creating things soon became a significant part of my life.”

After graduating from St. Xavier, he attended the Rhode Island School of Design because of its reputation as one of the top art schools. “During my senior year there (1998), WET Design came for recruiting, and they offered me a position. The job description was just too interesting to pass up,” he said.

WET Design is noted for its creative water sculptures and fountains at parks, offices, hotels and other sites throughout the world. Hunter, who became a senior designer in 1999, has worked on water features all over the world, including The Gateway in Salt Lake City, Water Tower Place in Chicago, Marina Mall in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, and Parque de los Ninos in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

He said his inspiration for the Olympic torch and cauldron came from “the angular forms of the Salt Lake Olympic logo and the ‘Light the Fire Within’ theme of this year’s games.”

A mong the technical challenges for the Salt Lake City project, he said, was getting natural gas and water up the 130-foot tower to the cauldron, and ensuring that rain or snow would not extinguish the flames.

Some Olympic observers have called for a single cauldron, resting in Greece between games and rotated to the various host cities as the games take place. Hunter thinks that such an idea would be a disservice. “Each Olympiad has its own, unique identity as a response to the specific time, culture and location that the games are held,” he said. “Because each one is special, each one is memorable. One of the most significant moments of the games is the lighting of the cauldron during the opening ceremonies.”

He said the design for the Salt Lake City cauldron “is informed by its unique location in sight of the rugged Wasatch Mountain Range and the colors of the deserts and mountains of Utah.”

The post-Olympic fate of the cauldron had not been decided yet. “Currently, we are discussing ways to preserve the cauldron permanently next to where it is positioned as the games take place,” Hunter said. “But then again, there’s always e-Bay. ...”
Author takes his Catholic faith and family seriously

LOS ANGELES (CNS)—Author Nicholas Sparks is thrilled with the positive reception that moviegoers were giving to A Walk to Remember. This was, after all, his story being conveyed on the big screen.

“I loved this film; I’m very proud of it,” Sparks told The Tidings, the Los Angeles archdiocesan newspaper, in a phone interview from his home in New Bern, N.C., where he resides with his wife, Cathy, and their five children.

“This film was something unique and wonderful on a number of levels. It’s not only a different type of teen movie, but it’s also a very well-performed, well-structured and very enjoyable movie,” he added.

And it’s also very spiritual—much like Sparks himself. A self-described “cradle Catholic” and a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, where he still holds a track and field record, Sparks continues to support his alma mater as well as several Catholic organizations.

“My wife and I were married in a Catholic church and our kids go to the Catholic school,” said Sparks, who attends Mass weekly at St. Paul Church with his wife; three sons, 10-year-old Miles, 8-year-old Ryan, 2-year-old Landon; and infant twin daughters, 5-month-old Lexie and Savannah.

“Our faith,” he added, “is a very important part of our lives.”

Faith is an important element in A Walk to Remember as well. The film focuses on faith, acceptance and high school sweethearts. Singer-actress Mandy Moore portrays Jamie, a senior in a small North Carolina town, Quiet, conservative and “uncool,” Jamie isn’t afraid of letting people know that her faith is the most important part of her life—even if it means giving up her dreams of love, each from different perspectives. For example, The Notebook addresses everlasting love and Message in a Bottle (inspired by his father after the death of his mother) is about finding love after grief.

Spiritually speaking, there’s at least one love-related topic Sparks won’t touch. “I refuse to write a story about adultery,” he said. “I just don’t find it romantic.”

“When I write a book,” he added, “I want to write something that’s enjoyable for the audience. I hope they finish reading one of my books thinking it was time well-spent, or walk out of the movie theater saying, ‘I’m glad I went’; And if people also happen to draw a wonderful message from my work, then that’s great.”

For those disappointed with the paucity of faith-filled films available to moviegoers, Sparks offers this bit of advice: “Support the movies out there that do portray spiritual characters in a wonderful light.”

Mandy Moore stars in the movie A Walk to Remember. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops classification is A-II—adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG—parental guidance suggested.

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Fatima retreat house, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis, Women's Lenten retreat, "Sabbath Spirituality," Father Keith Hosey and Sister Maureen Morgan, $135 per person. Information: 317-545-7882.

St. Mary of the Woods College, Marian Center, 317-291-7014.

St. Mary of the Oceans, 1340 E. Washington St., Lenten fish fry, children's menu available. Noon-3 p.m. Information: 317-926-6020.


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The Active List, continued from page 16


March 8-10

March 10-14

March 9

March 13-16
Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Saint Michael School of Theology, Workshop on Church history, “The Counter-Reformation and the Shape of the Tridentine Church.” Fri., 7-9 p.m.; Sat. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; $550; fees for seniors. Registration: 317-955-6451.

Recurring

Monthly

First Sundays
St. Philomena Church, 218 Ave., Sellersburg. Prayer group, 7-8:15 a.m. Information: 812-246-4555.
Fatima K. of C., 1404 N. Post Road, Indianapolis. Eucharist, 1 p.m. Information: 317-638-4846. Holy Cross Church, 125 N. Oriental St., Indianapolis. Mass for Catholics in recovery, 5 p.m. Information: 317-637-2620.

First Mondays
A rabbiship O’ Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Greenfield Guild board meeting, 9:30 a.m.

First Tuesdays
Divine Mercy Chapel, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. Commission, 6:45 p.m. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 7:30 p.m.
St. Joseph Church, 2605 St. Joe Road W., Sellersburg. Holy hour for religious vocations, Benediction and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 7 p.m. Masses.

First Fridays
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1752 Scheller Lane, New Albany. A devotion, concluding with confessions at 6 p.m. Benediction at 6:45 p.m.
Holy Guardian Angel Parish, 400 S. 52, Cedar Grove. Eucharistic adoration after 8 p.m. Mass at 5 p.m.

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 5333 E. Washington St., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer service, 7:30 p.m.

First Saturdays
St. Nicholas Church, 6461 E. St. Nicholas Dr., Sunman. Mass, praise and worship, 8 a.m., then SACRED gathering in the school.
St. Thomas M ore Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., M orehouse. Mass and anointing of the sick, 8:35 p.m.
St. Hedwig Church, 1135 S. 5th St., Terre Haute. Eucharistic adoration, after 9 a.m. Mass, Benediction 4:45 p.m., Mass 5:15 p.m.
St. Mary Church, 415 E. Eighth St., New Albany. Eucharistic adoration, reconciliation, after 9 p.m. Mass-midnight.
Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd. E. Dr., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 7:15 a.m. Mass 5:30 p.m. Benediction and service.
St. Peter Church, 1207 E. Road, Brookville. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 8 a.m. Communion service 1 p.m.
Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. A devotion of the Blessed Sacrament after 9:30 a.m. Mass 9 a.m. Saturday. Information: 317-636-4478.

First Sundays
St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1723 “I” St., Bedford. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, after 8:30 a.m. Mass 9 p.m.; reconciliation, 4-6 p.m.
St. Joseph Church, 113 S. 5th St., Terre Haute. Eucharistic adoration, after 9 a.m. Mass, Benediction 4:45 p.m., Mass 5:15 p.m.
St. Mary Church, 415 E. Eighth St., New Albany. Eucharistic adoration, reconciliation, after 9 p.m. Mass-midnight.
St. Thomas M ore Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., M orehouse. Mass and anointing of the sick, 8:35 p.m.
Little Flower Chapel, 4720 E. 13th St., Indianapolis. A pate of Fatima holy hour, 2 p.m.
Our Lady of the Greenwood Church, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Devotions and sacrament of reconciliation, after 8 a.m. Mass.
Holy Angels Church, 740 W. 28th St., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 11 a.m. noon.
St. Mary Church, 415 E. Eighth St., New Albany. Eucharistic adoration and confessions after 9 a.m. Mass.
Second Mondays
Church at Mt. St. Francis Holy hour for vocations to priesthood and religious life, 7 p.m.
Second Tuesdays
St. Pius X Parish, 7200 Sarto Dr., Indianapolis. Separated and divorced Catholics support group, 7-9 p.m. Information: 317-578-6254.
Second Thursdays
St. Luke Church, 7575 Holliday Dr. E., Indianapolis. Holy hour for priests and religious vocations, 7 p.m.
St. Pius X Church, Room 1, 7200 Sarto Dr., Indianapolis. The Caregivers Support Group, 11 a.m. or 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-255-4534.

Third Sundays
Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd. E. Dr., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 2 p.m.-7 a.m. (Monday); rosary, 8 p.m. Open until midnight.
Third Mondays
St. Matthew Parish, 4100 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Young Widowed Group (by archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, 8:30 a.m.; walk to Clinic for Women (abortion clinic), 2951 E. 38th St., rosary; return to church for Benediction, 1

BLANKMAN, Alfred H., 81, of one. Great-great-grandfather of Steve Biever. Brother of Bene- 

Father of Marilyn Mogan, Amanda, Alex and Eric Baron. St. Barnabas, Indianapolis, 40, 

BARON, Jeffrey A., Husband of Leoma Arnold. Father of Nancy Hodde, Gary 

archdiocese are listed elsewhere in this week of publication; be sure to 

Please submit in writing to our archdiocese or have other 

archdiocese Sister Rosita Gentille was born on Aug. 31, 

final vows on Jan. 23, 1958. She followed at the former St. James 

lowed in the sisters' cemetery. Burial followed in the sisters' cemetery. 

Union Hospital in Terre Haute.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 16 at St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Burial fol- 

Schoettmer. Brother of Lorena 

Smith Jr. Sister of Elizabeth 

59, Christ the King, Indianapolis, 

and alloccide priests and religious are listed elsewhere in this week of publication; be sure to 

Let the spirit touch you.

Here, among the sheltering trees and flowering gardens, 

We believe in the communion of saints, and no place reflects that commitment of faith better than our six Catholic Cemeteries. 

Page 18 The Criterion Thursday, February 22, 2002

rest in peace

Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Mon. the week of publication, be sure to 

state of death, Doctors of archdiocesan priests and religious are listed elsewhere in this week of publication; be sure to

their names are not of the state you have other connections to it.

ARDOL, Wm., 76, St. Paul, Tell City, Jan. 26. Husband of Leoma A. 

father of Marth H. 

and brothers are included here.

whether you have any other connections to it.

Many of them have roots in the state of Indiana and all types of 

and other types of 

Wash. 

For FREE PICK-UP CALL

911, Immaculate Conception, Greendale, Dec. 16. Mother of Donald and 

Robert Schoettmer. Brother of Lorena 

Schoettmer. Brother of Lorena 

Schoettmer. Brother of Lorena 

Schoettmer. Brother of Lorena 

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Schoettmer. Brother of Lorena 

Schoettmer. Brother of Lorena
Vatican says pope to visit Azerbaijan on way to Bulgaria.

** Classified Directory **

- **Child Care**
  - **PROF. LOVING**, Christian Child Care. My home: 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. North of Southport Rd. & 317-236-1572.
  - **KELLY’S GUTTER SERVICE**
    - Cleaning • Light Hauling
    - 317-783-8333
  - **Gutter**
    - **KELLY’S GUTTER SERVICE**
      - Gutter Cleaning • Light Hauling
      - Free Estimation • Minor Repairs 849-3460
  - **Gutter Installation, Service & Repairs.**
  - **SEAMASON, INC.**
    - Complete Electrical - Insulation, Service & Repairs. Licensed-Bonded-Insured Senior Citizens Discount. 317-351-6370
  - **Bottled Water Supplier**
    - Home Delivery
  - **Hammons Electrical, Inc.**
    - Complete Electrical - Insulation, Service & Repairs. Licensed-Bonded-Insured Senior Citizens Discount. 317-357-9895

- **Real Estate**
  - **Ad:**
    - Your ad here next week! 317-236-1572
  - **Weilhammer Plumbing**
    - Since 1901
  - **Indianapolis, IN 46206
    - 317-507-5883
  - **For Sale**
    - Oceanfront condo, fully furn. 2 BR/2 BA, 2 pools & tennis. Visit Disney, Econ, NASA & enjoy the beach, pool! Phone 317-362-4345
    - 317-353-9444

- **Positions Available**
  - **Mentor Teacher PROJECT EXCEED**
    - Marion County
    - The Teacher Advancement Program is looking for qualified Master teachers.
    - **Qualifications:**
      - M.S. in Education
      - Minimum seven years experience
      - Ability to demonstrate instructional leadership
    - If interested in being part of a new, innovative teaching experience, send resume to: Paulette A. Conner Office of Catholic Education 1400 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

- **Principal**
  - St. Mark School
    - St. Mark the Evangelist School invites qualified candidates to apply immediately for the position of principal. Our school of approximately 300 students is rich in tradition and continuous improvement to a solid curriculum for Kindergarten through eighth grade. If you would like to join our experienced faculty and devoted parish, please reply by March 8, 2002.

** Classified Coupon **

2 Lines * 2 Weeks for $10.00 ($3.00 for each additional line or fraction thereof) if you classify all of this coupon and send it with payment. This special applies to advertising which runs no longer than 8 weeks and not to commercial rates by calling (317) 362-1570, or fax: (317) 336-1450. In the above box with ONE WORD PER SPACE, including the phone number you want in your ad.

** Classified Ad **

St. Roch Elementary School Principal
St. Roch Elementary School on the Southside of Indianapolis is seeking qualified applicants for the position of elementary school principal. St. Roch has an enrollment of 282, which includes kindergarten through eighth grade. Successful candidates should be practicing Catholics and dedicated to creating a learning environment for quality Catholic education. If you are qualified and want to be a part of St. Roch’s rich family-oriented atmosphere, please send a resume to: Annette “Mickey” Lentz Archdiocese of Indianapolis Office of Catholic Education 1400 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367 or phone 317-236-1438

** Classified Ad **

** Classified Ad **

St. Roch School Principal
St. Roch School is seeking an experienced and qualified principal to lead their school through the following key points:

- Minimum seven years experience
- Ability to demonstrate instructional leadership
- Minimum teaching experience, and a degree in administration
- Must be an active practicing Catholic
- Minimum seven years of classroom teaching experience
- A valid teaching certificate, class one teaching experience, and a degree in administration

If interested, send resume to: Paulette A. Conner Office of Catholic Education 1400 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367.
St. Vincent Hospitals is a healthcare ministry dedicated to spiritually centered, holistic care that sustains and improves the health of individuals and communities. As an organization rooted in humanity, we commit ourselves to serving all persons, especially the poor and vulnerable, and advocate compassion in our actions and our words.

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