Fr. Larry Borders

Given his experiences in Iran, with the picture of what horrors men can do in the name of religion, he could have easily rejected any kind of faith in God. He said this was a temptation for him throughout much of his life.

“Sometimes I wanted to be an atheist. That would be an answer to everything,” Father Borders said. “But I couldn’t do it. Logically, I couldn’t accept it.”

And so, instead of turning to disbelief, he rejected any kind of faith in God. He said, in all that they do, people that volunteer and participate represent God, he said, in all that they do.

Years of wandering eventually led Father Larry Borders to the life God was calling him to live.

(Edward’s note: In the weeks leading up to his death on March 27, Father Larry Borders expressed his desire to share the lessons of his life and his dying, and his journey to becoming Catholic and eventually a priest. Father Borders was pastor of St. Maurice Parish in Napoleon and sacra mental minister of Immaculate Conception Parish in Millhousen and St. Denis Parish in Jennings County.)

NAPOLEON—After Larry Borders had traveled throughout Western Europe and Asia and ended up in Iran during the country’s 1979 revolution, he eventually returned to the United States, where he briefly taught English as a second language at Marian College in Indianapolis.

He found the transition back into civil society in the United States difficult to make.

“When I got back home, I was pretty burned out,” Father Borders said.

“People said that I was scattered and couldn’t think straight.”

Given his experiences in Iran, with the picture of what horrors men can do in the name of religion, he could have easily rejected any kind of faith in God. He said this was a temptation for him throughout much of his life.

“Sometimes I wanted to be an atheist. That would be an answer to everything,” Father Borders said. “But I couldn’t do it. Logically, I couldn’t accept it.”

And so, instead of turning to disbelief as a foundation for his life, he turned to the faith in Christ proclaimed by the Church.

“One of things that I needed to stabilize myself was the Church. And so I started going to church. At St. Joan of Arc [Parish] in Indianapolis. One day, as I walked out of the church, I walked up to [the pastor, Father Donald Schmidlin,] and said, ‘I...”
BORDERS

want to find out about joining the Church, about being confirmed in it.""

After several months of meeting on a regular basis with Father Schmidlin, he was confirmed, shortly before Christmas 1979.

Looking back in the days leading up to his death on March 27, Father Borders recalled that his experience in Iran had taught him an important lesson about the real basis of peace between peoples.

“I began to see that a political solution to such violence was not possible,” said Father Borders. “Politics weren’t going to do the work in Iran or anywhere. People needed to come together at a deeper level, that of charity. The Word of God had become flesh out of love.”

Although coming into full communion in the Church had opened him to this love, it would still be several more years before it would be a consciously directing force in his life.

Soon after becoming Catholic, Borders left the United States to teach English in Japan. He would remain there for nearly 15 years.

Unlike the spiritual ferment he had experienced in his earlier travels, Father Borders described his time in Japan as being “a spiritual wasteland.”

“I should have stayed around here and explored the spiritual more. I wished that I had worked around the Church,” said Father Borders. “Maybe the only regret that I have in my life is that I didn’t start in the priesthood earlier, because it was pretty firm then, that I wanted to be religious.

At the time that he was preparing him for reception into the Church, Father Schmidlin also seemed to have noticed the similarities in Father Borders.

“I told him that he should start thinking at some point in his life about becoming a priest,” Father Schmidlin said.

As it happened, that point in Father Borders’ life would not emerge until 15 years later, when he returned again to the United States and enrolled as a lay student at Saint Meinrad School of Theology. He would be accepted as an archdiocesan seminarian the following year.

Despite the loneliness and spiritual emptiness that Bord$ had experienced in Japan, his time there would later have a profound effect on the way at Saint Meinrad, it felt that I was approaching something much deeper than the priesthood."

Borders saw meaning in a connection to his mother’s death. These struggles, combined with the perceived futility of his life in Japan, eventually helped him to recognize a disconnection between what he felt God’s will was for him and what he was choosing to do with his life.

“I began to sense that I had a role to play and I wasn’t playing it. And it bothered me,” Father Borders said. “There was a conflict there. I wanted to reach out to more people, but I wasn’t doing it.”

All of this finally began to change in 1993 when he mysteriously returned to the advice that Father Schmidlin had given him so long ago.

“In 1993, I began to say, ‘What about this priesthood thing?’” said Father Borders. “It was still in my mind very strongly. It was like a revelation.

The beginning of this discernment eventually led him to leave Japan in the spring of 1995. Upon his return, he visited Father Schmidlin and told him of his thoughts about the priesthood.

Father Schmidlin recalled the meeting in his homily at Father Borders’ funeral. "Larry told me he was finally ready to think about priesthood,” said Father Schmidlin. “Immediately, I called Father Paul Etienne, then the vocation director for the archdiocese, and arranged an afternoon appointment for Larry.”

It was during his subsequent priestly formation at Saint Meinrad School of Theology and his life and ministry as a priest since his ordination in 2000 that Father Borders found his priestly ministry.

He came to understand both his ordination and his life as a priest as “the culmination of my life.”

Father Borders described his priesthood formation and his life as a priest as “the culmination of my life.”

“I viewed my formation as a training in that deep love,” he said. “Every step of the way at Saint Meinrad, it felt that I was approaching something much deeper than myself.”

Looking back at his ordination, Father Borders saw meaning in a connection between his ordination and his own suffering and death.

“That was the end of my earthly journey, almost,” he said. “I was thinking in those terms.”

He came to understand both his ordination and his suffering and death in light of what St. Paul wrote in his second letter to Timothy about his own impending death: “I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand” (2 Tim 4:6).†
Franciscan Father Sylvester Heppner served as pastor in Oldenburg

By Mary Ann Wyand

Franciscan Father Sylvester Heppner, a native of Oldenburg who served as pastor of Holy Family Parish in Oldenburg from 1992-2002, died on May 7 of complications from a hip fracture at Mercy Franciscan Hospital in Cincinnati. He was 72.

Visitation was scheduled from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. on May 10 at Holy Family Church in Oldenburg. Franciscan Father Fred Link, provincial minister of the Cincinnati Province of St. John the Baptist, celebrated the Mass of Christian Burial at 7 p.m. on May 10 at the church. Burial followed on May 11 at the Holy Family Parish Cemetery in Oldenburg.

Father Sylvester had a wonderful smile and a great sense of humor, said Theresa Bedel, parish administrator of religious education at Holy Family Parish.

"He enjoyed helping people," she said, "and he enjoyed ministering to the youth in the parish. He also was a responsible steward, a careful steward of the parish finances, in the true spirit of St. Francis. Before Father Sylvester had trouble walking because of complications from dia- betes, but he loved driving around the Oldenburg area.

"He didn't know a stranger," she said. "He loved to take long car rides and visit parishioners. He knew where everyone in the parish lived, but often didn't get out of the car. He was very faithful in visiting the sick and the shut-ins, and brings them Communion. After the First Communion Mass, he stopped at the home of every First Communicant for a visit.

In later years, Father Sylvester would sit to celebrate Mass. He said he had diabetes and he no longer could sit. Father Sylvester also loved to sing, she said, and encouraged parishioners to sing at Mass, too.

During Mass, Bedel said, Father Sylvester would tell the people, "I'm going to sing loud, and if you like the way I sing, join me. If you don't like the way I sing then drown me out."

Holy Family parishioners and parish staff members will miss Father Sylvester, Bedel said, as well as "his wonderful sense of humor and his ability to make people smile." When Father Sylvester was reassigned in 2002, Franciscan John Gurnett talked to the parish family.

"He was 72. He's a daily Mass-goer. He walks the talk and he practices what he preaches," said Siler.

Siler's last assignment was as associate pastor at Roger Bacon High School, Father Sylvester spent the remainder of his ministerial career in parish work. He was associate pastor of St. Clement Parish in Cincinnati from 1968-87, associate pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Escanaba, Mich., from 1987-88 and associate pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Emporia, Kan., from 1988-89. He also ministered as associate pastor and pastor of St. Lawrence Parish in Latayette, Ind., from 1989-91.

In 1991, he was named associate pastor of Holy Family Parish in Oldenburg, and was appointed pastor there in 1992. His last assignment was as associate pas- tor of St. Patrick Parish in Galveston, Texas, from 2002-04.

Franciscan friars in Cincinnati said Father Sylvester’s dedication to the parishes he served, his sense of humor and his ability to make an indelible impres- sion on parish communities. Asked to list his hobbies on a personnel form kept by the friars, Father Sylvester once wrote, “Work.”

A Franciscan provincial official from Cincinnati said Father Sylvester was hospi- talized last year in Galveston for problems associated with diabetes. He had recently moved to Cincinnati for further rehabilita- tion, but suffered a compound hip fracture there and was unable to recover from that injury.

Father Sylvester is survived by three brothers, Albert, James and Gerald Bedel, who are members of Holy Family Parish in Oldenburg, and a sister, Betty Ann Heppner, a member of St. Louis Parish in Batesville.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Holy Family Parish, Main St., P.O. Box 98, Oldenburg, IN 47363.

Blending cruicifix? This crucifix at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Marshall, Alaska, has been painted blood as part of the original design. Two parishioners say they have seen blood coming from the nail marks of the hands and feet on April 10 during the Easter Vigil. Bishop Donald J. Kettler of Fairbanks sent a representative to investi- gate and later said the person “couldn’t see any changes” on the crucifix.

Bleeding crucifix!

LATIN LITURGY ASSOCIATION CONVENTION June 25 - 27 In Indianapolis


Solemn Vespers, and nine stimulating talks and liturgy workshops such as:

• Keynote talk by Mr. James Likoudis entitled “The Latin Liturgy: Quo Vadis?”
• “Gregorian Chant: Music for the Few or the Many?” by Dr. Lucy Carroll
• “An Illustrated Introduction to the Liturgical Books” by Rev. Father Dennis Develia, F.S.S.P.
• Examination of the training received by Seminarians in the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, by Rev. Father Dennis Develia, F.S.S.P.
• A Look at how the Traditional Latin Mass has flourished in the United States and Canada

• And Much More!

If you love the Latin Mass and Gregorian Chant, you will not want to miss this event!

Cost: $50 (includes lunches on Saturday and Sunday and transportation) The liturgies will be held at St. John’s Church, Holy Rosary Church and Sacred Heart Church, all in Indianapolis.

Friday's Evening Workshop “Love Gregorian Chant a Chance in Your Parish?” This workshop will be held from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Hampton Inn, 105 S. Madison Street, Indianapolis. This workshop will give you the practical skills and resources to bring back Chant to your parish! The cost to attend the Friday evening Chant Workshop is $10.00.

Information: www.latinliturgy.org or call at the Latin Liturgy Association at 317-447-7704 and a brochure will be mailed or faxed to you promptly.
Letters to the Editor

What happened to the Church that Jesus founded?

I read with feelings of both dismay and sadness the Vatican instruction on abuses in the liturgy. How sad! How sad!” In a world that is involved with an immoral and illegal war in Iraq that is costing more than $300 million a day, a U.S. government-distributed soup in Haiti, genocide in the Sudan, 35,000 children who die each and every day from lack of food, water and basic medical care, the bishops and bishops are concerned about how we offer the kiss of peace, where the leftover wine is poured and certainly never to receive Eucharist by anyone other than the appointed eucharistic minister.

There is something wrong with the Church when thousands of communities worldwide are denied Eucharist simply because there are not enough celibate male clergy to preside over the Eucharist. There is something wrong when bishops are denying Eucharist to politicians who are pro-choice, and yet politicians who support the bombing of innocent men, women and children are welcome at the table.

May God have mercy on the Church called Roman Catholic.

Joe Zelenka, Indianapolis

Church leaders must teach the truth

As Catholics, we are blessed that we have not taught the immense value of suffering. Good things come out of bad situations. Much of our spiritual practices take place in our daily lives, as we strive to offer the kiss of peace at all costs and use it for good. We meditate on the sorrowful mysteries of Christ to draw nearer to him. We detach from things of this world that are truly good for us during penitential seasons to help us “zero-in” on what, or who, is better for us.

It is because of this heritage that I am hopeful about the current debate over “Catholic” politicians receiving Communion. Recently, Cardinal Francis Arinze, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, stated that pro-abortion politicians should be denied communion. Our reference in this country to submit to an authority is rivaled only by Europe, and consequently many among us don’t like people telling us how to behave.

Matthew T. Wright, Indianapolis

The spirituality of stewardship

When the American bishops published their pastoral letter on stewardship in 1992, the title they chose for this historic document was ‘Stewardship: A Disciple’s Response.’ By defining stewardship as a disciple’s response, the bishops challenged us to come to a new understanding of stewardship as a form of spirituality.

Stewardship is a relatively new term in the Catholic vocabulary. The underlying principles (gratitude, accountability, generosity and giving back with increase) are ancient—dating back to themes in the Old and New Testaments and in the earliest Christian writers. But their application to the choices of modern living is new. Until recently, we Catholics were asked to approach stewardship as an obligation—either to support the work of the Church or as an application to the choices of modern living. Until recently, we Catholics were asked to approach stewardship as an obligation—either to support the work of the Church or as an expression of Christian charity. There are less genuine and no less powerful as a witness to Christian discipleship.

Stewardship is not simply an obligation, a sense of obligation to giving as a way of life. It is an expression of Christian charity. There to support the work of the Church or as an expression of Christian charity. There are less genuine and no less powerful as a witness to Christian discipleship.

By defining stewardship as a disciple’s response, the bishops challenged us to come to a new understanding of stewardship as a form of spirituality. Stewardship is a new light to the call to totally give ourselves to him. We detach from things of this world that are truly good for us during penitential seasons to help us “zero-in” on what, or who, is better for us.

It is because of this heritage that I am hopeful about the current debate over “Catholic” politicians receiving Communion. Recently, Cardinal Francis Arinze, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, stated that pro-abortion politicians should be denied communion. Our reference in this country to submit to an authority is rivaled only by Europe, and consequently many among us don’t like people telling us how to behave.

Matthew T. Wright, Indianapolis

Church facts

FAMILY CONTENTMENT

When asked how content they were with aspects of life, Americans chose family first

Percent of those who said they were “highly satisfied” with...

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From telephone interviews with 1,011 adults nationwide conducted Dec. 11-14, 2003.

Susan Gallo

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From telephone interviews with 1,011 adults nationwide conducted Dec. 11-14, 2003.

Susan Gallo

© 2004 CNS Graphics
Cada cinco años se les excita a los obispos de las diócesis que presenten un informe sobre la situación de las mismas. En el argot de la Iglesia, estas visitas se conocen como visitas ad limina. Se traducen del latín como visitas “al umbral” de las tumbas de los apóstoles San Pedro y San Pablo. Mi ad limina está pautada para la última semana completa de este mes. Se convocan a Roma todos los obispos de las diócesis de Indiana, Illinois y Wisconsin.

Se envía con antelación un extenso reporte por escrito que cubre el desenvolvimiento de cada aspecto de la misión de la arquidiócesis desde la última visita ad limina. Ciertas partes de este informe se distribuyen a las congregaciones vaticanas correspondientes, en ocasiones llamadas dicasterios, de la administración central de nuestra Iglesia. Estas oficinas asisten al Papa en las funciones de su ministerio como sucesor de San Pedro.

Me imagino que debido a la condición física y la avanzada edad del Papa Juan Pablo II, se limitará el tiempo de entrevista con él, en comparación a visitas anteriores. Entiendo que la entrevista pública, sin embargo, no formará parte de la sucesión. Hicimos una breve discusión sobre el estado de la arquidiócesis continúa en pie. Al igual que una visita grupal en la que él realiza una presentación ofreciendo orientación para la Iglesia en los Estados Unidos. Se nos dijo que, dependiendo de su estado de salud en el día pautado, nos leerá el informe; de otro modo, brindará algunos comentarios y nos dará el informe por escrito.

Anteriormente, el actual Papa invitaba a los obispos a celebrar una misa matutina con él y posteriormente los saludaba. Se nos ha informado que en meses recientes esto no ha sido posible. Lo mismo ha sucedido con otra actividad. Antes se convidaba a los obispos por grupos para almorzar con el Santo Padre en su despacho privado. A pesar de que se han restringido las oportunidades más extensas para compartir con el Papa, lo entendemos perfectamente y estaríamos los reuniones que reanudaría la resolución que mantienen. Nunca he podido imaginarle de dónde obtiene la resistencia para dedicarle mucho tiempo a las conversaciones con los obispos de todo el mundo. Su compromiso con el ministerio de Pedro ha sido excepcional y continúa siendo en vista de sus enfermedades y su edad. Una vez más espero con ansias la oportunidad de darle las gracias de parte del clero, los religiosos y los laicos de nuestra arquidiócesis.

Pero ¿qué sucede durante el resto de la semana que dura la visita ad limina? Los obispos realizamos visitas a las respectivas oficinas administrativas del Vaticano, durante las cuales tenemos la oportunidad de discutir asuntos de interés común y presentar inquietudes y sugerencias que podrían ser de utilidad para el Santo Padre y la Iglesia Universal. Visitamos la Congregación para la Doctrina de la Fe, la Congregación para el Culto Divino y la Disciplina de los Sacramentos, las Congregaciones para Obispos, para el Clero, para la Vida Consagrada y para la Educación. Visitamos los Concilios Pontificios para los Laicos, para la Unidad Cristiana y el Ecumenismo, para la Familia, para la Justicia y la Paz y para muchas otras cosas. Así que se trata de una semana ajetreada.

Los obispos también celebrábamos la Misa en las tumbas de San Pablo y San Pedro en sus respectivas basílicas. Asimismo, visitamos otras basílicas importantes en Roma.

Algunos de nosotros tenemos otros asuntos que abordar en el Vaticano. El año pasado el Santo Padre me designó como consultor ante la Congregación para el Clero. Debo presentarme ante él para discutir mis responsabilidades. Asimismo, soy jefe del Comité de Cattequesis para la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos y también del Comité Ad Hoc que analiza la conveniencia de un consejo plenario para nuestro país. Asimismo, soy moderador del Diálogo Ecuménico Internacional entre la Iglesia Cristiana (Discípulos de Cristo) y la Iglesia Católica (Católicos de Rama). La pregonada y la sabiduría de la Santa Sede en algunos de estos asuntos son relativos a mis responsabilidades.

Y espero con ansias entrevistarme con el Padre Gian Pondo, sacerdote de nuestra arquidiócesis, quien está estudiando un doctorado en derecho canónico en la Universidad Lateran. El padre Pondo está altamente calificado para este programa y está completando su segundo año de estudios. El padre ha obtenido un doctorado en derecho civil y pasó a ser miembro del Colegio antes de ingresar al seminario.

Una de las consecuencias de esta visita ad limina es el hecho de que por primera vez desde mi nombramiento como arzobispo me perdí las 500 mil dólares de la Santa Sede. Me imagino que la visita al Santo Padre sobreesa este privilegio. Cada visita al Santo Padre y la Santa Sede es una experiencia espiritual muy parecida a un retiro. Otorga por todos nosotros un gran alivio y agradecimiento ante las tumbas de San Pedro y San Pablo.

La intención de vocaciones del Arzobispo Buechlein para mayo
Seminaristas: ¡Que ellos sean fieles a la oración y estudien, y continúen en su desierto de servir a Dios y la Iglesia como sacerdotes!
St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis will sponsor a “One-of-a-Kind Auction” and Dinner from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on June 5 at the Knights of Columbus Building, 2100 E. 71st St., in Indianapolis. The fundraiser for the parish will feature an auction of some of the late Father Patrick Kelly’s Indianapolis Colts, Cathedral High School and golf memorabilia. The cost for the dinner is $10 per person and $5 per child 10 years and younger. For more information, call 317-546-1571.

There will be a 10-hour workshop about the “Discipline with Purpose” Program from June 14-15 at St. Joseph Parish, 125 E. Broadway, in Shelbyville. The cost is $225 per person, and includes workshop and materials, or $195 per person for two or more people from the same institution. The cost is $35 per person for graduates of the program who wish to refresh their skills. Registration is also being taken for a workshop to be held on Aug. 2-3 at St. Thomas School in Elkhart, Ind. For more information, call 800-691-1660 or log on to www.selfdisciplinedwp.com.

St. Francis Hospital and Health Centers will host a free workshop about complementary medicine therapies for those experiencing cancer from noon to 2 p.m. on May 21 at the hospital’s South Campus, 811 S. Emerson Ave., in Indianapolis. Lunch will be provided. Dr. James Nicolai, medical director of the Franciscan Center for Integrative Health, will discuss how cancer patients can feel calmer before surgery and have less pain afterward, strengthen their immune systems, reduce the side effects of chemotherapy, recover faster and reduce stress. Participants will also learn about nutrition and herbal supplements, meditation, deep relaxation, guided imagery, massage therapy and other mind-body techniques to improve the healing process. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. For more information, call Janice Leak at 317-782-6704.

Members of the St. Vincent Guild and St. Vincent Hospital staff will model the colors, fabrics and styles for the new spring wardrobes at the guild’s annual Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show on May 18 at the Holiday Inn Select North, 3850 DePauw Blvd., in Indianapolis. The social hour begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by the luncheon at noon and the fashion show at 1 p.m. The clothes will be provided by Steinmart, which will offer a discount to luncheon guests. Tickets are $25 per person and reservations are required. Proceeds benefit St. Vincent Children’s Hospital, St. Vincent Oncology Center and St. Vincent Carmel Hospital Maternity Services. For more information or to make a reservation, call Mary Frankoviak at 317-334-0885.

St. Joseph Parish, 125 E. Broadway, in Shelbyville, is having its annual St. Joseph’s Festival from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. on May 14, from noon to 11 p.m. on May 15 and from noon to 10 p.m. on May 16. Events include a turkey dinner, craft bazaar, rides and authentic Mexican food. For more information, call 317-392-0639.

Pilgrimages to the Monte Cassino Shrine to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary are scheduled for the Sundays in May at Saint Meinrad in St. Meinrad. Each pilgrimage begins at 2 p.m. CDT with an opening hymn and a short sermon followed by a rosary procession. The one-hour service ends with the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and a hymn. The public is invited. On May 16, Benedictine Archabbot Lambert Reilly will present “Mary’s ‘Yes’ is an Eternal One.” On May 23, Benedictine Father Harry Hagan will present “Mary, Mother of the Word.” On May 30, Benedictine Father Meinrad Brune will present “Mary, Living the Works of Mercy.” The Monte Cassino Shrine is located one mile east of the Archabbey on State Highway 62. For more information on the Monte Cassino pilgrimages, call Mary Jeanne Reilly at 812-357-6501 during business hours.
as coaches and players. “We are called to be people who always try to consider what Jesus would do,” Msgr. Schaedel said. “You are the kind of people who make the CYO emblem something of which we are very proud. Let’s never forget what it means—respect for each other and activities centered around God and the Church. We make a real attempt to do what Jesus would do in every situation in life, even when we compete in sports.” Parish priests and pastoral leaders have a great respect and friendship for the Catholic Youth Organization and its proud history since 1939, he said. “It’s probably the organization in the archdiocese that relies most heavily on the service of hundreds and hundreds of volunteers—some of whom we honor here tonight.” For other longtime CYO volunteers from Indianapolis who were honored with St. John Bosco Medals and Hall of Fame recognition were Holy Cross parishioner Denise Tobin, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) parishioner Pam Brake, St. Jude parishioner Cindy Maude, St. Mark the Evangelist parishioner Andy Swiezy and St. Simon the Apostle parishioner Mike McCaslin. Tobin said her volunteer service as a girls’ volleyball coach at Holy Cross Parish on the near-eastside of Indianapolis is “all about the kids” and that she loves coaching so much that “you couldn’t drag me away from it.” She enjoys teaching the girls how to play “team ball” and learn sportsmanship. Before each game, Tobin leads the girls in a prayer that has become a special tradition over the years. “We always pray, ‘Dear Holy Cross, let us be gracious winners or gracious losers,’” she said. “It’s not about winning or losing. It’s all about playing and doing the best you can and supporting each other.” Msgr. Schaedel also recognized 23 CYO volunteers with the Msgr. Albert Busald Award for their outstanding volunteer service and dedication to the betterment of young people. One Busald Award recipient, St. Jude parishioner Garry Busald of Indianapolis, said the award is named for his father’s great uncle, a diocesan priest remembered for his commitment to volunteerism and outstanding service within their parish or for those in need in the larger community. Spirit of Youth Award recipients from Indianapolis who were honored for their caring spirit and dedication to their parish and community were Good Shepherd parishioners Tim Delaney and Blaise Luna, Little Flower parishioners Jacob Dugan, Rachel Eaton, Barry Greene and Stephanie Gruhovsky, Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ parishioner Maryssa Brasilie and Our Lady of Lourdes parishioner Molly McCullan. Other Indianapolis teens-agers who received Spirit of Youth Awards were St. Joan of Arc parishioner Mary Rachel Robinson, St. Lawrence parishioners Jessica Swatich and Michelle Harlen, St. Luke parishioners Amy Scheidler and Abby Schrage, St. Mark parishioner Anna Whitaker, St. Michael the Archangel parishioner Liz Miskowiec, St. Monica parishioners Marisa Sherer and Scott Fisher, and St. Roch parishioner Brandy Lanahan. St. Thomas More parishioner Devine Love of Mooresville also was honored with a Spirit of Youth Award.

In this photo taken in 1934, University of Notre Dame halfback Mike Layden carries the football during a practice. He earned All-American honors and helped the Irish upset the Ohio State Buckeyes in 1935 in a game that sportswriters called the best football game in the first 50 years of the 20th century.

Religion

Selecting individual stocks in today’s volatile market can be extremely difficult. As a Raymond James Financial Advisor, I have the resources to help you make informed choices—proven tools such as our affiliate, Raymond James and Associates’ Analysts’ Best Picks list. Released annually by our affiliate’s highly respected Equity Research Department, it has consistently shown impressive strength while most indices have suffered.

Access to such high-caliber research and expertise is just one of the many benefits I can offer you. For further information on the Analysts’ Best Picks and how they may fit into your financial plan, please contact me today for a no-obligation portfolio review. I will listen to your needs and, together, we can assess your financial goals and develop a plan appropriate for you.

DEAN ANTONOPOULOS

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SOLID TRACK RECORD

Best Picks List & S&P 500

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<th>Year</th>
<th>5-yr. Avg.</th>
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<td>141.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>57.6%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>51.8%</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
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This proprietary study with stock performance averaged as if equal dollar allocation was made in each stock at the beginning of the period and held to the end of the following year.

We averaged 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 (YTD through 12/12/03)

Annual Best Pick and S&P performance for 2003 based on prices through the close of CYO. Best performance does not guarantee future results. Individual results will vary. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Raymond James Financial, Inc., an affiliate of Raymond James & Associates, Inc. (the “Corporation”), has consistently shown impressive strength while most indices have suffered. Please ask your advisor for a complete description of our fees and costs and the assumptions on which the past performance results were based. There is no assurance that the list will achieve the results expected and investors may incur profits or losses. The S&P is an unmanaged index of 500 widely held stocks that generally considered representative of the U.S. Stock Market. Raymond James Financial, Inc., an affiliate of Raymond James & Associates, Inc. (the “Corporation”), has consistently shown impressive strength while most indices have suffered. There is no assurance that the list will achieve the results expected and investors may incur profits or losses. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Raymond James Financial, Inc., an affiliate of Raymond James & Associates, Inc. (the “Corporation”), has consistently shown impressive strength while most indices have suffered. There is no assurance that the list will achieve the results expected and investors may incur profits or losses. Raymond James Financial, Inc., an affiliate of Raymond James & Associates, Inc. (the “Corporation”), has consistently shown impressive strength while most indices have suffered. There is no guarantee that the list will achieve the results expected and investors may incur profits or losses. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Raymond James Financial, Inc., an affiliate of Raymond James & Associates, Inc. (the “Corporation”), has consistently shown impressive strength while most indices have suffered. There is no assurance that the list will achieve the results expected and investors may incur profits or losses. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Raymond James Financial, Inc., an affiliate of Raymond James & Associates, Inc. (the “Corporation”), has consistently shown impressive strength while most indices have suffered.

DEAN ANTONOPOULOS

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You first.
Photographs in which U.S. soldiers appear to be torturing and humiliating Iraqi prisoners were released following the discovery of photos demanding the release of jailed relatives from detention and interrogation. The report seen prisoners mistreated during initial interrogation. The report "sets back our work on reconciliation with Muslims."

"We are trying to get past the stereotypes and ill will from our past," Borelli said in a telephone interview with Catholic News Service.

"The abuse reveals in the minds of U.S. citizens a dehumanizing view of Arabs and Muslims," said Borelli. Prior to joining Georgetown in February, Borelli was involved in Catholic-Muslim dialogue as an associate director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. John Voll, director of Georgetown University's Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, said the long-term impact on interreligious dialogue would depend on how Christian leaders react to the abuse.

"Strong, highly visible statements by Pope John Paul II and Catholic and Protestant leaders in the United States" could soften the harmful impact, he told CNS.

The fact that women soldiers were in the photos humiliating Iraqis feeds into the hands of fundamentalist Muslims critical of the freedoms women have in Western society, he said.

"One of their points is that the way the United States treats women leads to cultural degradation," said Voll.

"The abuse is embedded in the bigger crisis of what will the United States do with Iraq," he said.

"If the U.S. gets out in a timely way, leaving behind a relatively stable, democratic and free country, this will seem as a glitch," he said. "Otherwise, these images become the symbol of the U.S. occupation of Iraq."

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious called for prosecution of those responsible for the abuses and said it reaches out "to our Muslim sisters and brothers. We grieve with you. We share your outrage."

In a May 7 statement, the conference, which represents 73,000 Catholic women religious in the United States, called for a thorough investigation of the abuses with the results made public.

Any military or civilian personnel "found to have engaged in or encouraged acts of torture or inhumane treatment" must be prosecuted, it said. The statement also called for a congressional investigation of the treatment of all detainees under U.S. custody.

The May 10 comments by the Vatican newspaper marked the third time in a week that it condemned the abuse.

Under the front-page headline, "Horror and shame," May 8, the newspaper said the war in Iraq, already marked by destruction and pain, "now assumes even more tragic connotations with the discovery of inhuman acts of torture inflicted on Iraqi detainees."

The abuse "represents the radical denial of human dignity and of fundamental human values," it said.

The newspaper said the U.S. population also had been dismayed at the revelations and was watching the scandal unfold with "feelings of horror and shame."

In remarks on May 6, the newspaper said the abuse of prisoners represented an "unequivocal and inadmissible contrast with the principles of a great democracy."
The Eucharist is foretaste of joy promised by Christ

By Fr. Lawrence E. Mick

Several years ago, I helped lead a retreat and was responsible for the main liturgy, which fell on the Feast of All Saints. Our worship space was a simple, largely unadorned chapel. As I prepared for the Mass, I discovered a collection of icons of different saints stored in the sacristy, so I arranged them around the sides and back of the chapel, surrounding the places for the assembly. This reminded us that we are linked to all the saints in heaven when we celebrate the Eucharist.

This is one part of what Pope John Paul II meant in his 2003 encyclical on the Eucharist when he wrote about an “eschatological tension kindled by the Eucharist.”

On the one hand, he said, “celebrating the Eucharist expresses and reinforces our communion with the church in heaven” (“Ecclesia de Eucharistia,” #19).

The pope reiterated this point by speaking of an “eschatological thrust which marks the celebration of the Eucharist” because the Eucharist is “a foretaste of the joy promised by Christ” (#18).

The word “eschatological” has to do with the coming kingdom of God. We are eschatological when we view our world in light of this kingdom, something the liturgy constantly challenges us to do.

Seeing the liturgy, in the presence of God, we are all equal—equally unworthy yet equally graced by God’s love. During worship, we try to relate to one another on these terms, to experience together a foretaste of the kingdom.

That kingdom is not yet fully realized but already has come in Jesus. Thus, we can “taste” the kingdom in the liturgy, even though our world still operates on principles and patterns that are contrary to God’s kingdom.

This week when we focus on this eschatological dimension of the liturgy is that we may begin to see the liturgy as a time to escape from the world into an idealized refuge from sin and suffering. We can pretend that all is right with the world and that our world is free of the realities of life and the conditions in which so much of our world lives.

This leads us to a second part of what the pope had in mind when he spoke of an “eschatological tension.” The “tension” he had in mind flows from the disparity between the kingdom we celebrate in the liturgy and the reality of the world in which we live.

While we experience a foretaste of life in God’s kingdom, we still are called to work to reshape our world according to that kingdom’s values. By pulling us toward the future that God has in mind for us, the liturgy impels us to strive for that kind of future in all areas of our lives right now.

The pope made the point clearly: “A significant consequence of the eschatological tension inherent in the Eucharist is also the fact that it spurs us on our journey through history and plants a seed of living hope in our daily commitment to the work before us. Certainly the Christian vision leads to the expectation of ‘new heavens’ and ‘a new earth’ (Rev 21:1), but this increases, rather than lessens, our sense of responsibility for the world today.”

Pope John Paul said he wanted forcefully to reaffirm this at the start of the new millennium so that Christians would “feel more obliged than ever not to neglect their duties as citizens in this world.”

Another way to think of how the liturgy links the present with the future—as well as with the past—is suggested later in the pope’s encyclical. He speaks of communion as the goal of the Church’s mission, the communion of the human family with Christ and, in him, with the Father and the Holy Spirit (#22). The Eucharist fosters and expresses that communion.

• We celebrate the Eucharist in communion with all the saints who have gone before us.
• We celebrate in communion with all our brothers and sisters who gather to worship with us.
• We are strengthened and impelled by this celebration to carry on the mission of the Church, working toward communion of all people with God and with one another in the church’s life by fostering communion that we move our world a bit closer to the kingdom of God.

Thus, the Eucharist is our central sacrament. It shapes us as the Church, as a people united in communion in Christ and committed to fostering reconciliation and communion among all people.

We try to live out that communion, that way of living in the kingdom of God, whenever we gather for worship. In that way, we are learning how to live in communion with God and with one another all the time.

We are given a foretaste of the hereafter so that we will work to bring it about in the here and now.

(Father Lawrence Mick is a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Ohio.)†
Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

The Cross USA: Beacon of faith and hope

Three years ago, we first noticed the breathtaking 20-story steel cross gleaming in the horizon at Effingham, Ill. The 180-foot-tall and 113-foot-wide cross, now having been there since that day, we have come to associate the San Joaquin plaza with the cross. It is formidable, consisting of 180 tons of steel with 33 tons of steel for the cross. The cross is a Catholic church in Effingham, III. The cross idea came from a dedicated Catholic businessman-entrepreneur from the Effingham area, John Herman McDowell. McDowell believes that no matter what a child’s needs are, that student must benefit from and learn to contribute to his environment. He helps to ensure that this happens.

Language is another tool for promotion. Ann Rambo is the associate director of international education and a part-time Spanish translator at DePauw University in Greencastle. While growing up in New Mexico as a Spanish-speaking non-Hispanic, she saw many injustices done to others because of language differences.

Now, in addition to teaching “a language people sometimes have been penalized for using,” Rambo said she often is called upon to help non-English-speaking Hispanics in hospitals, courts and jails. Elizabeth Seton, Rose Cornucopia, and Sister Blandina Segele were all part of the pioneering work of the American West. A TV series could be made about their real-life exploits. It was one of the pioneers of the American West. A TV series could be made about her real-life exploits.

Sister Blandina Segele. She was one of the pioneers of the American West. A TV series could be made about her real-life exploits. Born in Italy in 1850, she came to the United States when she was a child and became a nun. Her real-life exploits.

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Christine Prince is a member of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis.

Help me respond to the needs of others.
Help me spread your Word, and extend your love,
To everyone I meet.
Grant me strength, oh Lord, So that I may live as you want me to, Being responsive to your call.
Transform me.
Brighten my world with your light, And spark in me a new desire To know you, to love you, to serve you and to praise you.
Let me live by Jesus’ example, Extending peace to all I meet, Love to all around me, Forgiveness to those who hurt me.
Let me share my faith so others may know you.
And find hope and light and joy in their dark worlds.
Amen.

By Christine Prince

My Journey to God

Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith or experiences of prayer for possible publication in the “My Journey to God” column. Submissions or reflections are appreciated. Please include name, address, parish and telephone number with submissions.

Send material for consideration to “My Journey to God,” The Criterion, PO Box 17, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or e-mail to criterion@archindy.org.

Readers will love others as God loves us.†

The Church brings us to God. It speaks to us of the risen Lord, and invites us to share in the hope of Easter. It calls to us to see the Church as it is—the community of Christ’s disciples, a community which, led by the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, is the body of Christ, the body of love, the body of faith.

For readers who may not be familiar with this Indian woman, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, the Indian girl who lived in what is now the United States and died in Canada. In recent years, Pope John Paul II has recognized the saintliness of Bocks of people of all nationalities. But blessed Kateri keeps getting passed over.

Is there a reason for this? Did the Vatican uncover some defect in her life or in the worthiness of American Indians? (illuminated)"
Students in Corydon carry cross at fundraising walk

By Brandon A. Evans

The annual fundraising walk at St. Joseph School in Corydon fell on Holy Thursday this year so school officials decided to give it an added significance.

During the April 8 event called “Walk with Jesus,” students walked 10 laps around the school track to raise money for the school operating budget. This year, some of the students carried a heavy cross around the track in imitation of Jesus.

One student from each class was chosen to take a lap with the cross on his or her shoulder. One of the teachers and the principal also each carried the cross around the track.

What happened was awesome, said Sandra Joseph, the principal. When it was her turn, Joseph quickly discovered how heavy the cross was—it left an impression in her shoulder.

She said it gave her a better appreciation for what Jesus endured. When the seventh-grader, the first student to carry it, took up the cross, she was surprised at its weight. Other students offered to help her carry it.

During some of the turns, several other students helped their classmate struggle with the cross as it was carried around the quarter-mile track.

By the time it got down to the kindergarteners, there were about six children trying as much as they could to figure out how to keep it moving, said Julie Ehnle, a volunteer at the school. They faltered just as Jesus did.

“The other kids, they didn’t let the one child take it on their own,” Ehnle said. “It was just impressive.”

The event immersed the students in the Passion of Jesus, she said, and did more for them than “just reading and hearing what Jesus went through.”

The thought going through her mind was “look what he [Jesus] did for us.”

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At the end, about 20 students came up to the principal, asking to have a chance to carry the cross.

Later that day, the children took part in the traditional devotion of the Stations of the Cross, and many went with their families to the liturgies of the Triduum—all enriched with deeper meaning for them, Joseph said.

“I just can’t say enough about how the spirituality just came out in the students,” Joseph said.

Beyond the spiritual experience of the day, the students have now just about reached their $7,000 goal—money that will be spent directly on their Catholic education.†

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  ◦ To know I get both

Right to profits doesn’t surpass common good, Vatican official says

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Drug companies’ right to make a profit and protect patents can conflict with people’s right to needed medicines and care, said a Vatican official at a symposium attended by generic pharmaceutical companies.

In a speech on May 7, Bishop Jose Redrado Marchite, secretary of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers, told symposium participants, “We know that producing medicines is a complicated and costly process and expensive research and development ‘are indispensable for fighting old and new pathologies.’

Patenting such medicines is part of protecting a drug company’s investment in research and development, he said.

However, “the right to protect intellectual property—even though it is fair and helps stimulate progress—can in some instances conflict with other fundamental rights such as the right to good health,” he said.

Bishop Redrado said the production, distribution and use of pharmaceuticals is unavailable to most of the world’s population.

“If 80 percent of pharmaceuticals produced are utilized by about 15 percent of the people on this planet, this not only represents a problem of just distribution, but also of overconsumption of certain products,” he said.

The May 7 symposium held at the Vatican was organized by Cursvivium, an international nongovernmental organization established in November 2003.

The confederation is made up of generic pharmaceutical companies, Catholic health care workers and pharmacists as well as scholars and Vatican officials.

Cursvivium works with generic drug companies to help get affordable medicines to those most in need through the Catholic Church’s established network of health care facilities around the world.
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Scecina closes celebration of school’s 50th anniversary with Mass

By Brandon A. Evans

The students, faculty and alumni of Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis ended a yearlong celebration of the East Deanery interparochial school’s 50th anniversary with a special Mass on May 6.

The Mass, held in the school gymnasium, was celebrated by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and concelebrated by several priests. Some of the family members of Father Thomas Scecina also were in attendance.

Father Scecina was a military chaplain during World War II who was, along with many others, taken as a prisoner of war by the Japanese. He died administering the last sacraments to fellow prisoners of war as the ship they were being transported on sank after being torpedoed.

“Father Scecina is an example for us of the power of one,” Archbishop Buechlein told the students during his homily.

Not only was he a courageous chaplain, the archbishop said, but he made the ultimate sacrifice by giving his life.

“Our common Christian mission,” he said, “to make a difference in our world, still depends on the generosity and courage and faith and the sacrifice” of people.

The archbishop also illustrated his point about the difference that one person can make with a story that he often tells students—the story of the monk, Telemachus, who in ancient Roman times took a stand against the gladiatorial games.

Jumping into the middle of the games, Telemachus was murdered in front of the tens of thousands of fans gathered that day. His witness was so clear and his murder so horrific that no games were ever held again.

“If one courageous and generous person can make a difference against all odds, how much more, my young friends, can we carry on the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ,” the archbishop said.

For 50 years, he said, Scecina has given its students not only an education in academics, but also moral and spiritual formation.

Addressing the students, the archbishop said that they “are privileged to be part of the mission of this great Father Scecina Memorial High School.”

Principal Rick Ruhl also took the opportunity to formally introduce the new president of Scecina, Kevin Caspersen.
Ruhl said that Caspersen is someone who believes that "Catholic schools exist to teach as Jesus taught."

Caspersen, who will begin his post at the school this summer, and his wife, Stacy, have three children.

Members of Father Thomas Scecina’s family pose for a photo following a Mass on May 6 at the Indianapolis Catholic high school that is named after him. Father Scecina was a military chaplain during World War II who was, along with many others, taken as a prisoner of war by the Japanese. He died administering sacraments to fellow prisoners of war as the ship they were being transported on sank.

Junior Pat McNulty reads a petition during a Mass at Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School on May 6. The East Deanery interparochial high school recently ended a yearlong celebration of the school’s 50th anniversary.
The Active List

The Criterion welcomes announcements of archdiocesan church and parish open-to-the-public activities for “The Active List.” Please be brief—listing date, location, event, sponsor, cost and time. Include a phone number for verification. No announcements will be taken by telephone. Notices must be in our office by 5 p.m. Thursday 1 week in advance of (Friday) publication: The Criterion, The Active List, 1400 N. Meridian St. (mail delivery), P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206 (mail); 317-236-1593 (fax). mkening@archindy.org (e-mail).

May 14

St. Rita Parish, 1735 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave., Indianapolis. Youth and Young Adult Women’s Night, 7 p.m. Information: 317-257-7435.

May 15

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. Weekend retreat, “Finding God in the Kitchen,” Benedictine Brother Gabriel Hodges, presenter. Information: www.saintmeinrad.org or mzoeller@saintmeinrad.edu.

May 16

Mount Saint Francis Retreat Center, Floyd County. Women’s Retreat. Information: 812-923-8817 or e-mail mtstfran@cris.com.

Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. Lumen Dei, 11 p.m. Information: (317) 545-7681.

May 17

St. Gabriel Parish, old 5505 Bardstown Road, Louisville, Ky. Catholic Singles Adults Club, party, 8 p.m. Information: 502-824-3449.

May 18

St. Matthew Parish, 4100 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Catholics Returning Home program, session 5, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-272-7835.

May 21

St. Paul Parish, 9788 N. Delaware Rd., Guiford. Ladies Sodality, hot breakfast bar buff fet, 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (EDT), free-will donation.

May 22

The Active List, Friday, May 14, 2004 Page 16

We will work toward growing in greater awareness of love and community and invite that awareness into our everyday lives.

June 11–13 Nationally known author Paula D’Arcy “The First Fire”

Upcoming Events

June 9 Reflection Day on Prayer Fr. James M. Farrell

June 10–25 Retreat for Women Religious Fr. Keith Hosey and Sr. Maureen “Mo”angen

June 11–13 Nationally known author Paula D’Arcy “The First Fire”

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The Active List, continued from page 16

Third Thursdays
Holy Name Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. Holy hour and rosary, 6 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

St. Jude Church, 5535 McFarland Road, Indianapolis. Rosary, 6:15 p.m. Information: 317-783-1445.

Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Catholic Widowed Organization, 7-9:30 p.m. Information: 317-784-1102.

Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 Ave. N., Indianapolis. Mass, 2 p.m.

Third Thursdays
Our Lady of Peace Mausoleum Chapel, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. Mass, 2 p.m.

St. Elizabeth’s Pregnancy and Adoption Services, 2500 Churchman Ave., Indianapolis. Daughters of Isabella, Madonna Circle meeting, noon, dinner and beverages served. Information: 317-849-5840.

St. Joseph Church, 1735 S. Mickley Ave., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Mass, 5:45 p.m. Information: 317-244-9002.

St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooreville. Prayers for vocations, rosary, eucharistic adoration, Benediction, 6 p.m. Information: 317-831-4142.

Third Fridays
Marian College, St. Francis Hall Chapel, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana, Mass and healing service, 7 p.m.

Third Saturdays
St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. Helpers of God’s Precious Infants monthly pro-life ministry, Mass for Life by archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, 8:30 a.m., drive to Clinic for Women (abortion clinic), 3507 W. 16th St., Indianapolis, for rosary, return to church for Benediction.

Fourth Wednesdays
St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooreville. Mass and anointing of the sick, 6 p.m. Information: 317-831-4142.

First Sundays
St. Paul Church, 218 Scheller Ave., Sellersburg. Prayer group, 7-8:15 p.m. Information: 812-246-4555.

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. Mass.

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John Barton, former Indianapolis mayor, died on May 4 at age 97

Barton was a Democrat who served as mayor from 1961 to 1989.
Southern bishops call for alternatives to imprisonment

MARTIN, Ky. (CNS)—The fourth in a series of criminal justice statements from the Catholic bishops of Southern Kentucky calls for alternatives to imprisonment and restorative justice.

The 2003-2004 statement, titled “Heal ...’ Restorative Justice,” Alternatives to Imprisonment strike the quality of a high-piece in the hands of parishes without them.

The schedule is to release the last two statements around the world have received a Vatican-prepared theological outline that calls for the universal church to govern celebration of the Eucharist—including who should attend, what should be said and how it should be celebrated. The 75-page outline was released publicly by the Vatican.

The outline emphasizes the sacramental and liturgical foundation of Catholic worship. It is available.

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Heart of Mary School play-ground on May 7 with classmates. Kindergarten teacher Patty Koors coordinated the school event in support of nine women from the parish who competed in the 28th annual Indianapolis Life 500 Festival Mini-Marathon on May 8 to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. “Patrick was diagnosed on May 12, 2003,” Maxwell said. “It was the day after Mother’s Day. Immaculate Heart parishioners have been supportive of our family from the very begin- ning.” Last fall, she said, “Patrick became pretty sickly, and by winter his body just gave up. He’s on a very high-risk pro-tocol, and the chemotherapy was too much for him. He had a very rare and severe reaction to a couple of the chemotherapies.” Patrick’s reaction to the cancer treatments caused liver failure on Dec. 9, she said, and by Dec. 18 a liver biopsy indicated that liver transplantation was his best hope of survival. “There was a week right before Christmas where we just didn’t have much hope for his recovery,” she said, “but people from the parish said encouraging things that [her husband] Tom and I [and their 7-year-old daugh- ter, Katherine] needed to hear at the time.” “They said, ‘This is the season of miracles,’ and we got our miracle,” Maxwell said. “It truly was a miracle. His doctors, everyone, called it a miracle. By Dec. 23, he started looking better. On Christmas, he sat up in bed while [Immaculate Heart of Mary pastor] Father Jeff [Godecker] celebrated the Christmas Mass for us in the hospital room then he opened his presents. Father Jeff was wonderful. He was at the hospital almost every day with us.” What started out as “the worst time of our lives,” she said, “turned out to be the best Christmas ever.” Five months ago, Patrick had no hair and no eye-lashes, she said. “Now he looks like a kindergartener again.” All nine mothers who call themselves “Patrick’s Pals” got together for a fundrais- ing party with Patrick before the Mini-Marathon. “Patrick is one of the hon- orees for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s ‘Team in Training,’” Immaculate Heart of Mary parishioner Heidi Nightingale said. “They have committed to running the race and raising $12,000 in his name. Several have never run a [mini] marathon.” The women raised the funds from a letter campaign to parish families, a fish fry at the parish during Lent, coffee and donut sales after Masses, and a benefit dinner on April 15 that was donated to the parish’s Pals team by Dick’s Bodacious Bar BQ in Broad Ripple. Immaculate Heart of Mary faculty members and students also helped Patrick’s Pals with the fundraising campaign by organizing a beauti- ful baby photo contest, a jelly-bean counting contest and a jean’s day at school in Patrick’s honor. “Immaculate Heart of Mary parishioners and the [school] children have really been a great support system for the Maxwell family,” Nightingale said. “The sup- port from the parish has been overwhelming.” Patrick especially liked seeing his picture on “sports cards” and posters made for the fundraiser. He told his kindergarten teacher, Patty Koors, that “I must be famous.”

(Next week: Kindergartners learn about living with cancer.)