U.S. abuse of Iraqi prisoners provokes moral outrage

WASHINGTON (CNS)—While moral outrage from many quarters greeted the growing evidence that some U.S. soldiers abused and tortured Iraqi prisoners, the ongoing strife in that country brought daily reminders of the dangers that U.S. and other peacekeeping troops face there.

“When our troops are fighting in an area of Iraqi prisoners have brought shame on our nation,” said Bishop John H. Ricard of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Fla., chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on International Policy.

Such acts “are an affront to our most basic ideals and will undermine legitimate efforts to confront the very real threats faced by our nation and the world,” he said in a statement on May 14.

Five days later, Spc. Jeremy C. Sivits was the first American to face a court-martial for abuse of prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq. He was sentenced to a year in prison, reduction in rank and a bad-conduct discharge. He was expected to testify against several other soldiers facing abuse charges.

Pax Christi International, meeting at Seton Hall University in New Jersey on May 19-23, called on the United States “to stop all forms of torture and abuse against detainees wherever they may be and to restore those guarantees that will ensure their physical and psychological integrity.”

More than 150 delegates from 45 countries attended the meeting of the international Catholic peace movement.

In a separate statement, Pax Christi condemned “the U.S.-driven war on terrorism, the concept of preventive war and such acts as torture.”

Search for purpose leads Brian Esarey to the Church and priesthood

Ten years ago, Brian Esarey began an unlikely journey to the priesthood. He was a Methodist from Perry County, who had graduated from a small Catholic college in Kentucky a few years earlier, and he was searching for what to do with his life.

That search led him to ask Franciscan Father Thomas Richstatter, a resident of Tell City who teaches at Saint Meinrad School of Theology, “How does a man become a priest?”

From one perspective, his long search for an answer will come to an end at 10 a.m. on June 5 in SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis when Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein will ordain Esarey, 39, and Deacon Eric Augenstein to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

From another perspective, he will continue to learn for the rest of his life how a man becomes a priest.

But the depth of such a question was not at the forefront of Esarey’s mind when he posed it so many years ago.

In the late 1980s, Esarey had studied history at Brescia College, a school founded by the Ursuline Sisters, in Owensboro, Ky. As he neared graduation he felt conflicted. He wanted to teach and do works of service, but he wasn’t sure how he could do both.

“I had come to the conclusion during this time that there was something major missing in my life,” recalled Esarey.

Annunciation student wins national contest

BRAZIL—“Let heaven rejoice and earth be glad, let all creation sing. Let children proclaim in every land, ‘Hosanna to our King!’”

Students at Annunciation School in Brazil sang these words on May 11 during the opening hymn of a school Mass. The song was appropriate because third-grader Matthew Lund was recognized during the Mass as one of the 2004 “Try Prayer! It Works!” contest winners.

Matthew was selected for his award-winning poster as a way for him to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus. The theme for this year’s contest was “A Light Unto Others” and was inspired by the mysteries of light of the rosary introduced by Pope John Paul II in 2002.

“The contest enables children of all ages to creatively express the Gospel message of love of neighbor as taught by Christ,” said Holy Cross Father John Phalen, president of Holy Cross Family Ministries.

Matthew’s entry was a clear expression of the contest’s theme. At the bottom of his poster, he depicted three ways that he believes people can be a light for others.

Matthew’s award-winning poster was a unique way for him to proclaim the
Esarey’s maternal grandparents, Forrest and Myyllis May, became Catholic in 1986. But what happened to Esarey during the Easter Vigil of 2000 made it even more meaningful for him.

At the time that he was received into the Church in 1999, Esarey’s grandfather was in poor health. Around the time of the Easter Vigil the next year, he was close to death.

During the praying of the intercession of the saints in the celebration of the Vigil at St. Paul Church, Sister Mary Emma was told that Esarey’s grandfather had just passed away. She went to Esarey, who was present in the congregation, and shared the news with him.

“I went to the hospital to see him with my mother and grandmother,” Esarey said. “I knew on that holy night that he was happy and at peace.”

Esarey’s grandmother, who had been battling cancer for many years, said she does not want her illness to prevent her from witnessing her grandson’s ordination to the priesthood.

“I want to live for the ordination of my granddad,” said May. “I just want to be there.”

At the time of his grandfather’s death, Esarey was beginning his studies at Saint Meinrad School of Theology. He knew that his grandfather passed away without seeing the effect upon the way he lives and ministers as a priest.

“I will always use that as a model for my priesthood so that as a priest much of my work will be helping to prepare people to enter into a life of faith,” said Esarey. “Along our spiritual journey, I will be able to help them as a spiritual guide and, through the sacraments, give them the journey for the journey. As a priest, I see myself as helping people to prepare for this great destiny.”

In addition to the fact that his grandfather passed away during the Easter Vigil, that event also holds importance for Esarey because his grandfather served as a father figure during much of his youth.

Esarey’s parents divorced when he was 7, and he and his mother moved in with his grandparents. Esarey only saw his father once during the next 12 years.

“I was very grateful during that time that my grandparents were willing to take in both of us,” Esarey said. “We were both in need of a home, of love and of encouragement.”

Esarey’s coming into the full communion of the Church helped change the nature of his relationship with his father.

“It was only after I had entered the Church and knew the peace and happiness of the faith that the desire to be reconciled with my father came about,” said Esarey. “Our relationship is much better now than it was.”

The effect that the Catholic faith had on Esarey in bringing about a healing in his relationship with his father has helped him in the formation that reconciliation will be in his life and ministry as a priest.

The fruit of this reconciliation in his family will be manifest at his ordination, where his mother and grandmother as well as his father and his current family will be together in the congregation.

Paulette Esarey thinks that it has been her son’s constant dedication to prayer that has brought him to the priesthood.

“I think that [prayer] has brought him very close to the Lord and focuses his mind and his energy and helps him remember what is truly important,” said Paulette. “He wouldn’t be who he is today were it not for that. There’s no way.”

In the days leading up to his ordination, Esarey said he is thankful for the many blessings that God has given him.

“So many good things have come about because of my joining the Church and my calling,” said Esarey. “I’ve found a way to satisfy my … desires [including] bringing together my family of two in my life for so many years.

“I feel truly blessed. I truly feel that God is working in my life. I want his efforts within me to bear fruit in the near future when I begin my life as a parish priest.”

Esarey’s family is “sure they got the right person.”

“One person that is sure is Kudro, who nominated her,” said Janet Roth, youth ministry coordinator at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Terre Haute, in a letter she wrote nominating Kudro for the award.

“She has the rare gift of connecting with the youth and she has the ability to be a good listener,” said Roth. “She has the rare gift of combining a deep and abiding faith with a very ‘down to earth’ personality and sense of humor which draws youth to her, and through her, to Christ.”

Coudret began at St. Rose of Lima Parish eight years ago, though for the two years prior to that she taught religious education classes to high school students at the parish. For four years, she also started working in youth ministry at Holy Trinity Parish.

“I very, very much remember what it was like to be a teen-ager,” Coudret said, “and I cannot imagine what these kids have to go through and endure on a daily basis.”

She sees her job as a way to provide teen-agers with the tools they will need on their faith journey, “kind of like the Home Depot,” she said.

“Teen-agers quickly become young adults, and when they do, they are expected to take active roles in the life of their parish. If I can get them ready for that and gives them a taste of it. The annual spring gathering also honored theparishes that brought the most young people to the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Dallas last year and to the Archdiocesan Youth Rally this year.

St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus brought 35 young people to NCYC and Holy Family Parish in New Albany took 31 youth. Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis and St. Thomas More Parish in Mooresville each had 25 youths attend NCYC.

At the youth rally, Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish brought 53 young people. People, St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis brought 42 youth and St. Thomas More Parish brought 40 teen-agers. ♦
Holy Family Parish in New Albany celebrates 50th anniversary

By Brandon A. Evans

The story of Holy Family Parish in New Albany is tied in a special way to the life of Msgr. Louis Marchino.

Fifty years ago, the needs of a growing Catholic population in New Albany were alleviated by the construction of the parish.

At the helm was Msgr. Marchino, who had served as a chaplain in the Pacific Theater of the Second World War.

The day he celebrated the first Mass for his new parish—May 10, 1954—was just a few weeks shy of his 15th anniversary of ordination.

Fifty years later, Msgr. Marchino is retired but still lives just down the street from the parish. He helps out at the parish he founded—he’s never stopped—and on May 30 he will join the two other pastors of Holy Family Parish for a special Mass.

The 11:30 a.m. Mass will also occur on the exact day of Msgr. Marchino’s 65th anniversary of ordination. He is the second longest ordained priest in the archdiocese.

The parish will also celebrate a special Mass with Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein at 11:30 a.m. on June 6. A light reception will follow the liturgy.

Liturgy planner Laura Buehler, chair of the parish’s 50th anniversary planning committee, said that several events already have taken place and others are yet to come.

There has been a family fun night, a dinner and dance, a parish/school auction and a Founders’ Day celebration for founding families. Over the summer, there will be a pitch-in dinner and a school alumni Mass.

The purpose of the events is “to draw attention to Holy Family and let people know that we’re proud of our parish,” Buehler said.

The year it was founded, the parish had 175 families registered in its books. By the end of 2003, that number had grown to nearly 1,200.

Msgr. Marchino was pastor for more than half of the parish’s history. He retired from his pastorate in 1983.

The two pastors that followed him are grateful for his service.

“I fell into a wonderful situation because of Father Marchino,” said Father Gerald Burkert, pastor of Holy Name Parish in Beech Grove and former pastor of Holy Family Parish. “He was helpful and always supportive.

The same esteem for the monsignor comes from the current pastor, Father Wilfred “Sonny” Day.

“My respect for the foundation that Msgr. Marchino put down in his 30 years as pastor increases with every passing day,” he said.

As for Msgr. Marchino, when he talks about Holy Family Parish, he talks about the people who make it up.

“They are just wonderful around here,” he said. “I’m staying because I love the people.”

It was a group of parish volunteers who gathered every Monday night in those early days of the parish to help with wiring, plaster boarding and all sorts of other needed tasks to get the parish buildings up to code.

They poured themselves into the parish, he said, and the people there still do.

“They work hard, and they’re very friendly,” he said.

Not once, he added, did he ever preach about money or the need for it. He simply told the people what the parish needed to do, and the “money was always there.”

“Holy Family parishioners are most generous with their time, talent and treasures,” Burkert said.

“They have a good, strong faith and a good, strong ethic,” Father Burkert said.

“I think we have so many people that are willing to give their time to improve the parish,” Buehler said.

Additionally, she said, the parish has always had good leadership from its own members, but now as they age a new generation is preparing to be good stewards.

“It seems like people are starting to step up now,” she said.

Buehler said that one thing that has transformed the spiritual and communal aspect of the parish is the incorporation of Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) weekend retreats, which started several years ago.

“From there, we’ve expanded different programs and things,” she said.

Now people stop in the aisles after weekend Mass, she said, to share in fellowship.

“I think it has pulled the parish together,” she said.

“There is a longing for spiritual enrichment in this parish witnessed by the success of our Christ Renews His Parish weekend retreats for our adults,” Father Day said.

“They work hard, and they’re very friendly,” he said.

Archbishop Buechlein to join pilgrimage to World Youth Day 2005 in Cologne, Germany

By Brandon A. Evans

With memories of Toronto in 2002 still in many young people’s minds, Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein recently announced his plans for the upcoming 2005 World Youth Day.

The event will be held in Cologne, Germany, and the archbishop is extending an invitation to all young adults and students that will be at least high school juniors in August of next year.

The pilgrimage will take place from Aug. 10-22, 2005, and members of the archdiocesan youth movement will be able to join Archbishop Buechlein in Italy and Germany.

The trip will cost $2,050 per young person (staying three or four to a room) and $2,400 per adult (two to a room). The recent announcement from the archdiocese serves to give young people a chance to set aside the time, make plans and raise the necessary money to attend.

“I have a desire to bring together as many young people as possible to partake in this international Catholic experience,” he wrote in a letter to youth dated May 17.

“The trip will take us to the Vatican and historic Rome; beautiful Assisi, the home of St. Francis; a train ride through Italy, France and into Germany; and a boat ride up the Rhine River to our final destination: Cologne, Germany,” the archbishop wrote.

World Youth Day is an event that takes place every few years in a different location in the world as a way for young people to celebrate their faith, grow in catechesis and experience a greater sense of the universal Church.

It is also a chance for the Holy Father to celebrate Mass with the hundreds of thousands of young people that attend. It is a tradition that Pope John Paul II began in 1986.

“Going to Cologne will be a real treat, not only because it is a foreign country,” the archbishop wrote, “but also because it is the Sister City of Indianapolis.”

During the time spent in Cologne, young people from the archdiocese will also be able to meet some of the local dignitaries, he said.

“I hope you will pray about this opportunity and speak with your parents about it,” Archbishop Buechlein wrote to the youth. “I realize it is a costly trip, but God will provide.”

(For more information about the trip, contact either your parish youth minister or Catholic high school, or contact Father Robert Robeson or Father Jonathan Meyer, director and associate director of youth and young adult ministry, at 317-236-1477, or 800-382-9836, ext. 1477.)

I believe sharing is something you never outgrow.

It isn’t supposed to end in kindergarten. Or when we get older. I believe sharing is a way of life. But why stop there? Nothing can keep us from giving. The Catholic Community Foundation has a number of financial tools that can help you help the Church carry on its mission, from simple one-time gifts to endowments. For more ways to remember the Church in your estate, ask for Jim Watthen at 800-382-9836.
Letters to the Editor

Thanks to Beech Grove parish for helping families and children

Thank you, Father Jerry Burkert, and the parishioners of Holy Name Parish in Beech Grove. The Sisters of Providence and Providence Self Sufficiency Ministries, Inc., are humbled and awed with your true and precious gift of $5,000 from your parish stewardship fund! On so many days, the dust of the fray clouds our vision and dampens our hope just a bit as we work hard at helping so many children and families in need; and then Providence sends a message that renews our confidence in our mission. Your gift and wonderful compliment were that providential message on a mighty tough day. Thank you and God bless you.

Again, Father, I remind you that our Providence House for Children ministry would not be the tall oak that it is today without your belief in our vision and your kindness in allowing us to use the former Holy Family Convent in New Albany to begin the program. Since we began Providence House in the fall of 1994, we have cared for 160 abused and neglected children. And, because of the great start you helped to give us, we now own 12 acres of land whereon we have two group homes for abused and neglected children, six fully furnished apartments where families are reunited with their children leaving the foster care system, and a facility where we provide life skills classes, adult literacy and other family support services to the families and children living on campus as well as others living in the immediate area.

In addition to the services provided at the Providence House for Children campus in Georgetown, we have programs of adult literacy and ESL (English as a Second Language) classes, counseling, tutoring, computer classes, information and referral services, and free healthcare and prescription drug services for the uninsured in West Terre Haute, Terre Haute and New Albany in Indiana, Humboldt Park in Chicago and Benton, Fla. As we are nearing the 10th anniversary of Providence Self Sufficiency Ministries Inc., we celebrate the fact that we have served in excess of 36,000 children, families and individuals in need.

Embracing the rolling horizon of our ministry, in September we will be expanding the Providence House campus in Georgetown to include affordable housing and supportive services for senior citizens. One of the remarkable treasures about life is that there is no generation gap between youth and senior citizens. We believe this multi-generational concept will create miracles of friendship and trust, while guarantying a deepened quality of life for the youth, moms and dads and senior citizens living together on the campus, truly enabling them to raise each other up to be more than they can be.

We are privileged with your confidence in our ministry, and your benevolence will assist us in being the hand of Providence to many persons. As we go about our daily ministry, we will hold you in special prayer with deep gratitude. Additionally, a boulder honoring your kindness will be placed at the foot of our Tree of Life donor wall in Providence Place located in Georgetown.

Sister Barbara Ann Zeller, S.P.
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods
El materialismo secular ocasiona la ausencia de transcendencia

(Segundo en una serie)

Esta segunda columna de la serie de artículos sobre las creencias esotéricas que desafían la cultura secular es fundamental para entender la ausencia de Dios en la vida de algunos humanos. Aunque no se menciona a algún individuo en particular, sus pensamientos son compartidos por muchos en nuestra sociedad.

Nuestra cultura es materialista y secular. El que no tiene fe espiritual en la vida más allá de la muerte se ve excluido de la experiencia de la vida eterna. Inevitablemente, se ve reducido a un simple cuerpo material.

El materialismo secular ocasiona la ausencia de transcendencia. Aunque los alcances de esta idea pueden ser distintos, todos los humanos se ven afectados por ella. En nuestra cultura, la ausencia de Dios es un hecho muy visible.

El materialismo secular es un fenómeno común en nuestra sociedad. Aunque puede ser difícil de entender, es importante tener en cuenta que hay personas que creen que la vida es solo un accidente y que no hay un propósito detrás de ella.

Sin embargo, el materialismo secular no es la única forma de pensar en la vida. Existen otras opciones que pueden ofrecer una visión más completa de la existencia.

Si bien es cierto que la ausencia de Dios en nuestra sociedad es un hecho visible, también es cierto que hay personas que siguen siendo fiel a sus creencias. En nuestra cultura, la fe es una forma muy importante de vivir la vida en el mundo y de encontrar sentido en ella.

En resumen, el materialismo secular es una realidad que afecta a muchas personas en nuestra sociedad. Sin embargo, también es importante recordar que hay personas que siguen siendo fieles a sus creencias y que buscan encontrar sentido en la vida a pesar de las circunstancias.
There will be a Memorial Day Mass at noon on May 31 at Claryville Cemetery, 435 E. 23rd Ave., in Indianapolis. Also at noon on May 31, there will be another Mass at Our Lady of Peace Cemetery, 9001 Haverstick Road, in Indianapolis. All are welcome to attend either event.

The archdiocese will host its next Young Adult Mass at 5 p.m. on June 13 at St. Mary Parish, 317 N. New Jersey St., in Indianapolis. A reception will follow. The Mass is offered for Catholics, single or married, in their 20s and 30s. It provides an opportunity to meet young Catholics and deepen each person’s relationship with God. The event takes place on the second Sunday of every month. For more information, e-mail ndsyounadultmass@yahoo.com.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, 1530 Union St., in Indianapolis, is planning a celebration in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Feast Day. A special novena will be held daily at 6:30 p.m. in the church starting on June 9 and concluding on June 17. There will be a special procession into the church at 5:45 p.m. on June 18, followed by a Mass. There will be an organ concert at 4 p.m. on June 19 in the church, with David Schafer performing. Mass will begin at 5 p.m. and an ice cream social will be held immediately after Mass. For more information, call the parish office at 317-638-5551.

The Class of 1954 of the former St. Mary Academy in Indianapolis will hold its 50th class reunion at 6:30 p.m. on June 12 at the Brickyard Crossing Golf Resort, 4400 W. 16th St., in Indianapolis. The cost is $40 per person. For more information, call Carolyn Windschel Miller at 317-241-2460 or Jane Bailey McAdie at 407-321-2869.

The second annual Garden Retreat will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on either July 12, 13 or 14 at the Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., in Beech Grove. The retreat is based on the success of the same retreat held last year. The registration deadline is June 30. “Basketball for Life” Camp will be held from Aug. 2-5 at the Benedict Inn. The camp is a chance for girls entering grades four through eight to learn the fundamentals of basketball as well as basketball life skills. The registration deadline is July 1. For more information, call 317-788-7581 or e-mail benedictin@yahoo.com or log on to www.benedictin.org.

St. Francis Hospitals and Health Centers will host a workshop on sliding scale living with cancer from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 28 at the hospital’s Indianapolis campus, 8111 S. Emerson Ave. The workshop, titled “Living with Cancer,” is free, and cancels out, that is, there are no charges, for patients, their families and caregivers. It will address the latest cancer treatments, treating side effects, pain management, coping skills and other related topics. The main focus of the workshop is to help participants with the healing process by sharing their experiences with others. The workshop is free and lunch will be provided. It is sponsored by the American Cancer Society, Ortho-Biotech and St. Francis Hospitals and Health Centers. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call Janice Leak at 317-782-6704.

Saint Meinrad Archabbbey in St. Meinrad will host an outdoor procession with the Blessed Sacrament on Corpus Christi Sunday, June 13. There will be eucharistic adoration in the Archabbbey Church following a Mass at 9:30 a.m. until the celebration of Vespers at 4 p.m. The procession will begin at 4:30 p.m. and proceed to three outdoor stations on the Saint Meinrad campus, where there will be opportunities for song and praise. The service will conclude with Benediction at the last station. All are invited to attend. For more information, call Mary Jeanne Schumacher at 812-357-6501.

The archdiocese of Indianapolis announced the Class of 1954 of the former St. Mary Academy South Bend will hold its 50th class reunion at 4 p.m. on June 13 at St. Mary Parish, 317 N. New Jersey St., in Indianapolis. A reception will follow. The Mass is offered for Catholics, single or married, in their 20s and 30s. It provides an opportunity to meet young Catholics and deepen each person’s relationship with God. The event takes place on the second Sunday of every month. For more information, e-mail ndsyounadultmass@yahoo.com.

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The archdiocesan Office of Stewardship and Development is offering special workshops throughout the diocese to pastors, parish life coordinators and lay pastoral leaders.

There will be six different “Called to Serve Stewardship Days” next month.

“Stewardship Days are days set aside for pastors/PLCs and lay leadership to gather in faith and celebration of stewardship,” said Dena Perry, director of stewardship, “and, at the same time, to be inspired by recognized speakers who provide outstanding stewardship education presentations.”

The events are a response to a need that has already been voiced by bishops and those who attend will also be encouraged to share their insights and ask questions.

“We do this because parishes have a desire for new stewardship education tools,” Perry said. “Many parishes want to enhance what they are currently doing, and it is our mission to serve them.”

The events are free, and include either a lunch or light dinner, depending on the time of the workshop.

The first workshop will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on June 21 at St. Louis Parish, 13 St. Louis Place, in Batesville.

John Dean, executive consultant at RSI Catholic Services Group, will present a keynote address on “Stewardship and Spirituality.”

Dean is a sought-after speaker and teacher, and has worked with dioceses to help them expand their ministry through more generous stewardship.

Judy Urban, consultant with Shared Ministry Systems, will present “Gift Discernment: A Workshop for Growing Ministry Volunteers.”

Urban has more than 12 years of experience in building Catholic volunteer systems and, as a pastoral associate at a large Catholic parish in the Midwest for six years, she built a system that involved more than 3,000 parishioners in 165 different ministries.

Dean and Urban will also make the same presentations at two other locations.

The first program will be from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on June 22 at the Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis.

The second presentation will be from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on June 23 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., in Greenwood.

Dean will also present “Stewardship and Spirituality” from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on June 28 at St. Agnes Parish, 1008 McLarty Road, in Nashville.

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The archdiocese of Evansville has established a “total stewardship diocese.”

For the two remaining workshops, C. Justin Clements, director of the Office of Stewardship and Development for the Diocese of Evansville, will present “Stewardship and Hospitality.”

Clements has organized and guided diocesan capital campaigns totaling more than $80 million and is responsible for implementing an initiative to convert the Diocese of Evansville into a “total stewardship diocese.”

The first workshop with Clements will be from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on June 29 at St. Patrick Parish, 1807 Poplar St., in Terre Haute.

The second program will be from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Augustine Parish, 315 E. Chestnut St., in Terre Haute.

“We hope that people will leave with new ideas and be inspired by a wonderful learning experience,” Perry said.

(For more information about Stewardship Days or to register for one of the workshops, call Cynthia Taber at 800-382-9556, ext. 1591, or e-mail ctaber@archindy.org.)
the weakening or abandonment of multi-
ple mechanisms for international coopera-
tion and rule of law.”

Both the acts of terror and the war on terror are making the world more dan-
gnorous, it said. “The war on terrorism is polarizing our world!”

One of the highest-ranking Americans in the Vatican recalled in a mid-May inter-
view that he publically warned against the implicit endorsement of the use of tor-
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The U.S. cardinal, head of the Vatican office that deals with indulgences and the lifting of censures reserved to the pope, was quoted by Catholic News Service in February 2003 saying, “The government of the United States has compromised its own basic principles by implicitly endors-
ing the use of torture since Sept. 11, 2001.”

In his May interview with a Catholic magazine, Inside the Vatican, he said, “Americans are outraged and deceived because Americans appear to be imposing the same type of life in Iraq as the society that we said we were going to rescue them from.... Just below the surface of American civilization, of American popu-
lar culture, we are becoming barbaric. Is that what American democracy is produc-
ting today?”

Missouri on constitutional amendment to define marriage

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (CNS)—Catholic officials in Missouri will sup-
port a proposed amendment to the Missouri Constitution defining marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

Missourians will vote on the proposed amendment at the either the August primary election or the November general elec-
tion.

“This is not a vote against people who are homosexual,” said Deacon Larry Weber, executive director of the Missouri Catholic Conference, which lobbies the state General Assembly and educates vot-
ers on the Church’s behalf.

“It is a vote in favor of preserving the traditional family unit in this state. Families are and always have been the foundation of our society. We believe that without stable families, our society will collapse,” Deacon Weber said. “As Catholic people of faith, we believe that without stable families, we must preserve the sacred institution of marriage as a means of providing for the common good of all people—present and future—in Missouri.”

State law already defines marriage as existing only between one man and one woman. A constitutional amendment would prevent state courts or lawmakers from striking down that law. Missouri’s Catholic bishops wrote to the state’s General Assembly in December, urging lawmakers to send to the voters a constitutional amendment defining marriage.

“The purpose of this debate is the very underpinning of our society—fami-
lies,” the bishops said. “Undertaking tradi-
tional marriage will lead to the disinte-
gration of stable families.”

They added, “Families represent a support network that members turn to for assistance: parents helping children, chil-
dren helping elderly parents. No govern-
ment program or agency can ever replace strong and loving families. We therefore abandon the institutions of marriage and family at our own peril. Indeed, history pre-
sents numerous examples of the deleteri-
ous effect upon societies when marriage and family structure is eroded.”

The proposed amendment—approved overwhelming by state lawmakers in both houses—“establishes that marriage in this state will consist only of the union between a man and a woman, and no license to marry will be issued except to a man and a woman,” according to the state’s official summary of the bill.

“Marriage between persons of the same sex, and full faith and credit of that mari-
tal status entered into in another state, will not be recognized as marriage in Missouri.”

The Senate voted 26-6 on May 11 to send the proposed amendment to the vot-
ers. The Missouri House of Representa-
tives approved the necessary legislation in a 122-25 vote on May 14.

In their December 2003 letter, Missouri’s bishops observed that, throughout history and in many different cultures, “marriage has been understood as the institution created by God for the lifelong commitment between a man and a woman.”

They noted that the institutions of marriage and family are already in great peril, with high divorce rates having dev-
estating consequences, especially for children.

“The response to this crisis,” the bish-
ops wrote, “is not to redefine marriage, but to strengthen its traditional purpose so that men and women will make and keep lifelong commitments to each other and to their children.”

“If our laws redefine marriage to WALDAMAR MIŁEWSKI, killed in Iraq on May 1.

“Our soldiers know their task is just-
ified, that it conforms with standards of human civilization and culture—yet they have met dark forces of evil and terror-
ism,” he said.

He said the killing of the journalist, shot near Baghdad while trying to inter-
view insurgents, highlighted “a novel, bar-
baric feature of our time—terrorism, kid-
naping, killing of innocent journalists, hostage-taking, and brutal and indiscrimi-
nate attacks on people whose vocation is service to the truth.”

The revelations in Iraq provoked a review of U.S. policy on the treatment of detainees in the war against terror, but a priest who served as a chaplain at Guantanamo Bay said he believed there was no such prisoner abuse there.

Guantanamo Bay, the U.S. military enclav

... just below the surface of American civilization, of American popular culture, we are becoming barbaric. Is that what American democracy is producing today?”

IRAQ

Father Raymond A. Tetreault, a Rhode Island priest who was a senior chaplain in Guantanamo Bay from May to December 2002, said the guards there “didn’t like the detainees, but they didn’t abuse them.”

“I don’t think that what happened at Abu Ghraib could have happened when I was there” in Guantanamo Bay.

Any aftereffects of abuse inflicted on prisoners would have been noticeable while they were being led to and from interrogations, Father Tetreault said. He said other chaplains at the base, including three Muslim chaplains who worked with Muslim detainees, would have reported to him if they noticed suspicious injuries or other signs of abuse, and he received no such reports.

He expressed concern that the abuses in Iraq could affect the American mission and said the soldiers would have to work even harder to maintain discipline, restore confidence and do the work they were sent there to do.

“He’s, just like this happens, but the missions still need to get done,” he said.

Bishop Stawow Glog of Poland’s military diocese highlighted that sense of mission at successive funerals on May 13 and 14 for Poles who died in Iraq.

Polish soldiers in the international coal-
ition in Iraq have a “pure and noble mis-
sion” to liberate that country from “the power of darkness,” he said at the May 13 funeral of Capt. Sławomir Strozak, the fourth Polish soldier to die in the conflict.

“We went as a sign of hope and peace,” the bishop said. “It’s turned out that this mission isn’t easy. Its aims haven’t been well understood and supported by every-
one.”

The next day, Bishop Glog referred to the funeral Mass for Polish war correspondent John Sullivan and Chris McCoy of Aniston, Ala., who were married by Justice of the Peace Joan Drysdale in Provincetown, Mass., on May 17. In Missouri, residents will vote at either the August primary election or the November general elec-
tion in a proposed amendment to the Missouri Constitution defining marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

Missouri Muslim men pray outside the prison of Abu Ghraib west of Baghdad during a strike on May 24 against the mistreatment of Iraqi prisoners by coalition soldiers. At a recent Pax Christi International meeting, delegates representing 45 countries called on the United States “to stop all forms of torture and abuse against detainees.”

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The U.S. cardinal, head of the Vatican

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ting today?”
Providential journey

East Coast jewel waits to be discovered

By Mary Ann Wyand

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—It’s well worth the climb up historic College Hill in Providence to visit one of New England’s finest art museums.

The Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art offers a diverse collection of historic and contemporary artwork from throughout the world that merits hours of inspection and reflection.

Works of art by great masters grace the galleries, and several exhibit areas devoted to religious artifacts are quite impressive.

An integral part of the premiere design school founded by a group of women in 1877, the RISD Museum’s collections include more than 85,000 distinctive examples of fine and decorative arts—from antiquities to those of contemporary origins—in the museum at 224 Benefit St. (See a related story on page 12.)

Visitors will find Greek vases and coins, Roman frescoes and sculptures, and a fascinating medieval art collection that includes religious objects from England, France and Spain.

European paintings, sculptures and decorative arts represent the Renaissance to the present, while Asian and Egyptian decorative arts represent the Renaissance to the present, while Asian and Egyptian cultures are prominently featured in other beautifully arranged galleries.

Works by Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Claude Monet, Paul Gauguin, other beautifully arranged galleries.

One of the great objects in the medieval gallery is a limestone sculpture of the upper body and head of St. Peter, holding a key, which is his attribute—the key to the kingdom of heaven or the keys to the Church," she said. "That sculpture was created in 1852 which was originally part of a lower portion of an altarpiece, but stands alone as a painting of religious significance. Religious artwork was created to teach and edify a community that shared religious beliefs, she said, citing the small Italian panel paintings as images that illustrate individual scenes from the lives of Christ and the saints.

The panel showing the stigmatization of St. Francis depicts a more naturalistic setting than the one of Mary Magdelene and a more accurate portrayal of the human figure, O’Brien said. Like many panel paintings in American collections, it was probably removed from an Italian church in the late 19th or early 20th century.

"There was a great devotion to St. Francis throughout the Renaissance," O’Brien said, "because he was a saint who represented great human values and the fact that an individual could have a personal relationship with Christ." One of the museum’s most admired sculptures is Charles-Henri-Joseph Cordier’s "African Venus." O’Brien said, which was created in 1852 as a symbol of the dignity of all races. Its unveiling took place shortly after France had abolished the practice of slavery in its colonies. The proud bronze bust of a beautiful African woman is featured on a popular postcard sold in the museum gift shop, and serves as a reminder that art continues to be both a source of reflection and a force for change in the human condition.

It’s also a tribute to the courageous group of women who founded the art school and museum in Providence—with proceeds from the sale of their handicrafts at the Philadelphia World’s Fair in 1876—to educate and inspire people with art.

(For information about the Rhode Island School of Design Museum in Providence, log on to www.risdmuseum.org.)
Parish Festivals

May 28
Holy Trinity Parish, 2618 W. St. Clair St., Indianapolis. Parish “500” Festival, 5:30-9 p.m., chicken dinner, food, rides, games. Information: 317-887-2861, ext. 15.

June 11-12
Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. 21st annual Italian Street Festival, Fri.-Sat, 5-11 p.m., Italian foods. Information: 317-636-4479.

June 11-13
St. Gabriel Parish, 600 W. 34th St., Indianapolis. International Festival, Fri. 5-midnight, Sat. 5-9 p.m.-midnight, Sun. 5-10 p.m., food, games, rides. Information: 317-291-7014.

June 13
St. Louis School, 17 St. Louis Place, Batesville. Rummage sale, Fri. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Information: 317-934-6691.

June 17-19

June 18-19
St. Mary Parish, 415 E. Eighth St., New Albany. Parish festival, food, booths, Fri. 5-10 p.m., family night, Sat. 7 p.m.-1 a.m., street dance, $7.50 cover charge. Information: 812-944-0417.

June 20
St. Nicholas Parish, 6461 E. St. Nicholas Dr. Sunnys. Parish picnic, chicken dinner, turtle soup, games, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. EST. Information: 317-623-2964.

June 24-26
St. Jude Parish, 5353 McFarland Road, Indianapolis. Parish festival, Thurs.-Fri. 5 p.m.-midnight, Sat. 3 p.m.-midnight, food, rides, games, crafts. Information: 317-786-4371.

June 25-26
Christ the King Parish, 1827 E. Kessler Blvd., Indianapolis. Summer Social, Fri.-Sat. 5-11 p.m., music, food, entertainment. Fri.-Sat. morning, rummage sale. Information: 317-255-3666.

July 4
St. Mary Parish, 317 N. New Street, Indianapolis. Picnic, 3-9-30 p.m., food, watch city’s Fourth of July fireworks, bring a chair. Information: 317-637-3983.

July 8-10
Holy Spirit Parish, 2437 E. 100th St., Indianapolis. Parish festival, 6-11 p.m., rides, food, music, entertainment. Information: 317-353-9404.

July 9-10
St. Benedict Parish, 111 S. 9th St., Terre Haute. Community Fan Fest. Fri. noon-midnight, Sat. 4-9 p.m.-midnight, music, games, food, Information: 317-228-8542.

July 9-11
St. Lawrence Parish, 542 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg. Parish festival, Fri. 4-9 p.m., Saturday 6-9 p.m., German dinner. Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m., chicken dinner. Information: 812-537-3992.

July 11
Harrison County Fairgrounds, 341 Capitol Ave., Corydon. St. Joseph Parish, parish picnic, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., chicken dinner, quilts, Information: 812-738-2742.

July 15-17

July 18
St. John the Baptist Parish, 2574 State Road 1, Dover. Summer Festival, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. (EDT), fried chicken dinner, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. (EDT), games, country store. Information: 812-576-4302.

July 19
St. Mary Parish, 7500 Navilletion Road, Navilletion/Floyds Knobs. Parish picnic, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., family-style chicken dinner. Information: 812-924-5419.

July 22-24
St. Christopher Parish, 5301 W. 16th St., Indianapolis. Midsummer Festival, Thurs., Fri. 5-10 p.m., Sat. noon-10 p.m., carnival, fish sandwiches. Information: 317-241-6314, ext. 100.

July 23-24
St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 316 N. Sherwood Ave., Clarksville. Parish picnic, Fri. 5 p.m.-midnight, Sat. 2 p.m.-midnight, chicken dinner. Information: 812-282-2290.

July 24-25
St. Martin Parish, 8044 Yorkridge Road, Yorkville. Parish picnic, Sat. 4:30-11:30 p.m.-8 p.m. (EDT) chicken dinner, 58 adults, 4 children. Information: 812-623-3408.

July 25
St. Augustine Parish, 1820 Lafayette St., Leopold. Parish picnic, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., chicken dinner, games, quilts. Information: 812-843-5143.

July 30-31
St. Ann Parish, 2862 S. Holt Road, Indianapolis. Family Fun Fest, Fri. 4:30-11 p.m., Sat. noon-11 p.m., food, games. Information: 317-244-3750.

August 1
St. Boniface Parish, 15519 N. State Road 545, Fishers. Parish picnic, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., food, quilts. Information: 317-357-5533.

August 2
St. John the Baptist Parish, 331 S. Buckeye St., Osgood. Parish festival, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (EST), chicken dinner, $7 adults, $3.50 children. Information: 812-689-4244.

August 7
St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, 525 S. Merrill St., Fortville. Parish festival, 11 a.m.-10 p.m., food, games, entertainment, chicken and noodles dinner. Information: 317-485-5102.

August 8

August 15
St. Pius Parish, Ripley County. Parish picnic, 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. (EST), chicken dinner, games, food, entertainment, quilts. Information: 812-946-4215.

August 16
St. Mary-of-the-Rock Parish, 17440 St. Mary’s Road, Batesville. 81st annual outdoor Mass at the Marian shrine, candlelight procession, Benediction, 7 p.m. Information: 812-934-4165.

August 19
St. Mary Parish, 775 N. 11th St., Mitchell. Hog roast, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 812-849-3570.

August 22
St. Mary of the Rock Parish, 17440 St. Mary’s Road, Batesville. Auction, 10 a.m. Information: 812-934-4165.

August 27-28
Prince of Peace Parish, 201 W. State St., Madison. Community Festival, Fri. 5-10 p.m., Sat. noon-11 p.m., food, carnival rides, games. Information: 317-273-8385.
September 3-6
Sacred Heart Parish, 558 Neheker St., Clinton. Little Italy Festival, Water Street in downtown Clinton, Fri. 7-11 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon. 11 a.m.-closing, Italian food, entertainment. Information: 765-832-8468.

September 5
St. John the Evangelist Parish, 9995 E. Base Road, Enochsburg, Parish festival, fried chicken and roast beef dinners, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Information: 812-934-2800.

September 6
St. Peter Parish, 1207 East Road, Brookville. Labor Day festival, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., booths, games, quilts, 10:15 a.m.-2:45 p.m., chicken dinner in dining or room county meals. Information: 812-623-3670.

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 4773 E. Morris Church St., Morris. Labor Day picnic, 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m. (EST), chicken and roast beef dinners, turtle soup, refreshments, lunch, stand, games, entertainment, quilts. Information: 812-934-6218.

September 11-12
St. Michael Parish, 250 High St., Brookville. Fall Fest, Sat. 4-9 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., pork chop and chicken dinners, Information: 765-647-5462.

September 12
St. Augustine Parish, 315 E. Chestnut St., Jeffersonville. Harvest Chicken Dinner, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 37 adults, 54 children 10 and under, under 4, free, bake sale, quilts. Information: 812-282-2677.

St. Mark Parish, 212 Washington St., North Vernon. Parish festival, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., “all you can eat” fried chicken dinner, games, crafts store, quilts. Information: 812-346-3604.


September 17-18
Sacred Heart Parish, 1530 Union St., Tell City. Picnic, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., dinners, famous Italian food. Information: 812-836-2481.


September 18

September 18-19
Owen County Apple Butter Festival, Town Square, Spencer. St. Jude Parish booth #21, Sat.-Sun. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., crafts, confections, baked goods. Information: 812-829-3082.

September 19
St. Meinrad Parish, Community Center, 13150 E. County Road 1950 N., St. Meinrad. Fall Festival, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., food, quilts. Information: 812-357-5533.

St. Louis Parish, 15 St. Louis Place, Batesville. Parish festival, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (EST), chicken dinner, mustard, booth. Information: 812-934-3204.

September 22
Persecution Sunday, 7th St. and Main St., Mitchell. St. Mary Parish, food tent, Italian dinner, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Information: 812-649-3570.

September 26
St. Michael Parish, 11400 Farmers Lane, Bradford. Picnic and festival, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m., chicken dinner, silent auction. Information: 317-964-6664.

Fayette County 4-H Fairgrounds, Expo Hall, Connersville. Gabriel Parish, Fall Festival, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., fried chicken dinner, games, country store. Information: 317-825-8578.

St. Mark Parish, 5377 Acorn Road, Tell City. Parish festival, 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m., shooting match, country store, food, games, rides. Information: 812-836-2481.

October 3
Holy Family Parish, 3027 Pearl St., Oldenburg. Parish festival, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., food, information. 812-934-3013.

October 10
St. Mary-of-the-Rock Parish, 17440 St. Mary’s Road, Batesville. Turkey Festival, booths, games, food, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Information: 812-934-4165.

Share a ride for local fun
By Cynthia Dewes

The itch to get out and around strikes us about this time every year. We’re tired of winter, wearing too many clothes, staying inside. So, most years, we’d probably be planning rides on nice days or taking longer trips and vacations by car. Well, forget that. The price of gasoline is exorbitant, according to U.S. standards, and shows no sign of lowering anytime soon. What to do?

For most of us, taking the entire family on vacation by airplane or even on a cruise ship may be more than we can afford, so carpooling to destinations closer to home may be the answer. Maybe we can persuade Uncle Ted’s family or some of our friends with kids to share the costs of driving to homegrown attractions.

Fun is no matter how far away. And there are many places to visit and things to do in central and southern Indiana within driving distance of everyone in our archdiocese. We just need to know where to look.

Where’s here? Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana comes in handy. Located in an appropriately historic building at 430 W. Michigan St. in Indianapolis, it offers information for people planning their own tours as well as guided tours they sponsor for a fee.

Call the Historic Landmarks Foundation office at 317-639-4545 for more information about local tours.

Some of the historic sights to see in Orange County are the West Baden Springs Hotel, the French Lick Resort Hotel, the childhood home of Larry Bird, and Mount Aire, the home of former U.S. Senator Thomas Taggart.

In Columbus there are numerous buildings of architectural merit to visit, and down the road are Brown County attractions such as the state park, craft shops and art galleries.

Many interesting sites are available to the public all the time, including churches.

In Indianapolis, there are Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Christ Church Cathedral, Roberts Park United Methodist Church and Phillips Temple, to name a few.

Some places in Indianapolis are less well known, but equally intriguing and educational. One is the Indiana Medical History Museum in the historic Old Pathology Building on the former campus of Central State Hospital. Another is the interior of the World War Memorial, including the Shrine Room on the top floor, at Meridian and Michigan streets.

At 1230 N. Delaware St. is the home of Benjamin Harrison, the 23rd president of the United States. The Harrison Home offers many inexpensive opportunities for families, including a free naturalization ceremony for new citizens at 10 a.m. on July 2, and sponsors concerts on the lawn on Friday evenings. Enjoy concerts there on June 25, July 23, Aug. 20 and Sept. 24.

The Indiana Historical Society at 450 W. Ohio St. presents free discussion series on “Politics in Action” and “Genealogy,” and free movies at noon on Thursdays.

The Indiana State Museum on West Washington Street offers children’s summer camps on themes ranging from Indians, architecture, and nature and science.

At West 38th Street and North Michigan Road, the Indianapolis Museum of Art shows inexpensive family films with picnics on summer evenings.

There are plenty of places to go and things to see right here in central and southern Indiana. With a little effort, we can have a great summer despite the cost of gasoline. Happily, we can be “on the road again.”

(Cynthia Dewes is a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greenscgree and is a reg-}
Trip to Providence should include time on Rhode Island beaches

By Mary Ann Wyand

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—Perhaps you watched the popular NBC drama "Providence" on television a few years ago. Now visit Rhode Island’s capital city and discover its East Coast charm. From the scenic and quite steep College Hill—home to Brown University, the Rhode Island School of Design and a neighborhood of historic colonial houses built by sea captains and shipbuilders—to the landscaped Waterplace Park and Riverwalk—where WaterFire celebrations light up the downtown at night—the port city of Providence is a memorable vacation destination.

Sculptor Barnaby Evans created the award-winning WaterFire Providence installation of 100 braziers in the Providence River, which add a magical ambiance to the Riverwalk when lit.

The State Capitol, topped by the Independent Man statue, dominates the downtown skyline and provides a pretty view for outdoor dining at a cheesecake restaurant in the Providence Place Mall. Scores of outstanding restaurants in the city serve seafood fresh from the Atlantic Ocean. Federal Hill, known as “Little Italy,” is the place to go for exceptional Italian entrees.

The Financial District and Downcity Arts and Entertainment District also lend their own styles of charm to the city established by Baptist minister Roger Williams, who bought the land from two Narragansett Indian chiefs in 1636 with the goal of promoting religious tolerance. The first Baptist Church in America, founded by Williams, is a white clapboard structure on College Hill. There are a number of historic churches in Providence, including SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

E. Lynn Ascoli, assistant editor of The Providence Visitor, Rhode Island’s Catholic weekly newspaper since 1875, said there are 153 Catholic parishes in Rhode Island—even though it is the smallest state in the U.S.—so tourists won’t have trouble finding a church to attend Mass.

It’s well worth the climb up College Hill to walk along Benefit Street, the address for more than 200 restored buildings that residents call “the Mile of History.”

The Rhode Island School of Design Museum on Benefit Street offers an amazing variety of historic and contemporary art in its beautiful galleries that will entice visitors to spend hours there. (See a related story on page 9.)

One of America’s oldest subscription libraries is across the street from the museum. The Providence Athenaeum, a Greek Revival building, dates back to 1830. Continue climbing College Hill and you’ll see the ornate iron Van Wickle Gates leading to the Brown campus.

Providence boasts a new children’s museum at 100 South St., and the Roger Williams Park Zoo features 150 animal species.

Rhode Island’s nickname is “the Ocean State,” and the state’s 400 miles of shoreline offers a variety of nice beaches for summer fun. The Narragansett Bay Beach, south of Providence, and Scarborough Beach, north of Point Judith, are two of the nicest state recreation sites.

Visitors won’t want to leave Rhode Island without paying the toll to drive over the spectacular Newport Bridge across Narragansett Bay, where hundreds of sailboats skive over the waves on warm summer days. The toll is charged on each side of the bridge.

Newport restaurants offer fresh lobster boque and clam chowder, a great meal choice before buying tickets for the bus tour of ornate Bellevue Avenue and Ocean Drive estates. “The Breakers,” “The Marble House” and “Belcourt Castle” are among the most popular mansions. Tourists can walk off some of the calories by hiking down the famous Forty Steps to the ocean and three miles along the breathtakingly beautiful Cliff Walk.

Salve Regina University, a Catholic liberal arts college established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1934, as well as historic Fort Adams State Park and scenic Brenton Point State Park are other wonderful sites to explore in Newport. Bring a kite to catch the ocean breezes.

(For more information about Rhode Island tourism opportunities, log on to www.visitRhodeIsland.com.)
Indianapolis Zoo opens new seahorse exhibit

By Mary Ann Wyand

Seahorses? In Indianapolis? Yes, and sea dragons, too. The fascinating marine animals, which are native to temperate and tropical oceans, are making a "big splash" this spring in the Waters Biome at the Indianapolis Zoo, located in White River State Park west of downtown Indianapolis.

Nearly 300 seahorses, sea dragons and pipefish live in 10 new exhibit areas containing about 10,000 gallons of water. The exhibit features the nation's largest collection of seahorses. It is funded by the Indianapolis Power and Light Company.

Visitors can observe the Longsnout Seahorse, Lined Seahorse, Kynana Seahorse, Gulf Pipefish, Potbellied Seahorse, Leafy Sea Dragon High-crown Seahorse, and Dwarf Seahorse as they eat and swim in five towering cylindrical tanks.

Bruce Elkins, curator of waters, said staff members are excited about the addition of these whimsical fish to the zoo's collection of 365 animal species.

"Everybody is familiar with seahorses," Elkins said, "but nobody really knows very much about them. Most people don't realize that they are fish. People think they are kin to some type of invertebrate like sea stars."

Seahorses have unusual mating habits, he said. The female seahorse produces eggs and the male carries the eggs during the developmental stage. Once the babies are born, they must fend for themselves.

The zoo's new seahorse exhibit is the first major special exhibition in the Waters Biome, he said, and is designed so people can get close-up looks at the beautiful fish, which range in color from light yellow hues to shades of blue depending on their need to adapt to the environment.

"There have been some remarkable advances in husbandry of seahorses in recent years," Elkins said, "and [zoos are] getting so much better at displaying them in aquariums."

The new exhibit allows visitors to watch the seahorses move about in their habitat and observe their upright body shape, prehensile tail, independent eyes and siphon nose.

Elkins said a seahorse has a head like a horse, a tail like a monkey and a mouth like an aardvark, which makes it seem like a mythical animal.

"Generally, they are bottom-dwelling fish," he said, "but they usually stay in less than 100 feet of water due to the vegetation. They are ambush predators that hang onto plants with their prehensile tail. Their straw-like nose enables them to grab small crustaceans."

The zoo's new seahorses eat frozen shrimp and frozen crustaceans, he said, and the sea dragons dine on live shrimp flown in from Florida.

Recently, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species designated seahorses as a protected species. Their world population has been decimated by fishermen who catch them for sale as tourist trinkets or ingredients in Oriental folk medicines.

"Many people have a cartoon image of seahorses," Elkins said. "This new exhibit gives us the opportunity to educate the public about just how unique these animals are."

(For visitor information, contact the Indianapolis Zoo at 317-630-2001 or log on to www.indianapoliszoo.com.)
Water Walks

By Mary Ann Wyand

Prayer walks. Fitness walks. Sightseeing walks. Whatever your reason for putting one foot in front of the other, try walking along water routes for a change of pace.

In downtown Indianapolis, walkers can explore the landscaped Canal Walk, which passes through White River State Park and winds past the Indiana State Museum, the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, the Indiana State Office Building, the Indiana Historical Society Museum and the U.S.S. Indianapolis Memorial.

Also downtown in Indiana’s capital city, walkers can hike the Monon Rail Trail, created by the Indianapolis Department of Parks and Greenways, from 10th Street north to 96th Street. The popular 10.5-mile route, which follows the old Monon Railroad tracks, connects to the 5-mile Monon Greenway of Carmel, Ind., and ends at 146th Street.

Try walking the rail trail north then back home again for a good aerobic workout. You can catch your breath on the footbridge over White River just north of Broad Ripple while you watch wild geese fly in low over the water.

The Central Canal Towpath, built for barges before the turn of the century, offers a scenic route past the Indianapolis Museum of Art and Butler University’s Holcomb Garden then continues on through Broad Ripple Village, where it connects with the Monon Rail Trail.

Those urban water walks offer plenty of scenic views, and may inspire you to try hiking along creeks in Indiana State Parks or along the banks of state reservoirs.

Becky Weber, marketing coordinator for the Indiana State Parks, recommends several wooded water walks within easy driving distance of cities in central and southern Indiana.

“Try camping and hiking at Charlestown State Park then driving over to the Falls of the Ohio at Clarksville,” Weber said. “Charlestown is the only state park that offers full hookup camping with access to water, electric and sewer.”

“Charlestown is one of seven properties that have been identified as hidden gems within the Indiana Department of Natural Resources system,” she said. “We have double discount camping there on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. You can camp for $15 or $16 a night there.”

There are 72 species of birds along Fourteen Mile Creek in Charlestown State Park, she said, which makes hiking the trails there even more fun. “Charlestown is a wonderful place to camp if you want to visit the Falls of the Ohio,” Weber said. “In addition to the fabulous fossils along the Ohio River bed, the ‘Dinosaurs and More’ exhibit from 2002 will be there again this summer. It includes models of a Tyrannosaurus rex, a carnivorous bird and a cave bear.”

(For visitor information about Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs, log on to www.in.gov/dnr and www.fallsoftheohio.org.)

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Above, a man gazes at the White River north of Broad Ripple in Indianapolis from a Monon Rail Trail bridge.

Right, ducks rest along the Canal Walk near a dock for gondolas in downtown Indianapolis.

This scenic trail borders Mississinewa Lake in northeastern Indiana. The lake covers parts of Wabash, Miami and Grant counties.

Three women are reflected in the water of a pond in Holcomb Gardens at Butler University in Indianapolis.

Two girls play along the Canal Walk near the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis.

Photo by Mary Ann Wyand

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If none of these things existed, it would still be worth jet lag to visit Ireland. The people alone are worth the trip.

There are 5 million Irish citizens on the world’s 26th-largest island, and my husband, Johns, and I didn’t meet an unfriendly face when we toured Ireland with an archipelago pilgrimage group in October. For all their reputation for melancholy, we found the Irish full of smiles, laughter and stories.

We left the tour for one day and took a bus from Galway to Tuam. Armed only with old photos, a 25-year-old address and some names, we set out to find relatives.

At the cathedral office, Deirdre Duggan helped us find John’s grandmother’s birth and baptismal records. By a circuitous trail, we tracked down his second cousins, Joe and Mary Kelly, and spent a happy afternoon with them, tracing the family tree. Mary served “tea,” which we didn’t immediately grasp was a meal. Joe showed us the ruins of the thatched-roof cottage where John’s grand- mother grew up. We parted teary-eyed.

The countryside is as lovely as the people. Ireland is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean as well as the Irish and Celtic Seas, so one is never more than 70 miles from the coast. Palm trees flourish, but you’ll never mistake rainy Ireland for a tropical island. Temperatures range from 40 to 60 degrees, and the winter wind can be piercing, but flowers bloom well into November because of the jet stream.

Ireland for a tropical isle. Temperatures range from 40 to 60 degrees, and the winter wind can be piercing, but flowers bloom well into November because of the jet stream.

The Blarney stone. East of Killarney is the Burren in County Clare, likened to a moonscape, but these 200 square miles of stony slabs formed by glaciers and erosion are anything but barren. They are famous. From the top of O’Brien’s Tower, you can survey the spectacle of the Atlantic Ocean crashing futilely against these massive cliffs, which are 700 feet high and five miles long.

Muckross House in County Kerry is a beautiful man- sion. From Killarney, we rode in a “jaunting car” (horse- drawn cart) through the Irish National Forest to tour Muckross House. Now a museum, the 19th-century man- sion with formal gardens was a wedding gift from doting English parents to their daughter.

Dingle Peninsula, also in County Kerry, is a finger of land that is rich in archaeological sites and panoramic views of ocean and mountains.

We stood inside Ireland’s first Christian church, tiny Gallarus Oratory, built in 400 A.D. in the shape of an overturned boat. We leached at John Henry Moriarty’s Pub, and photographed fishing boats and puppies playing tag.

St. Finnbar’s Oratory in County Cork was my visual memory of Ireland. The 19th-century chapel of St. Finnbar is nestled in a mountain valley beside a glassy lake where swans and geese swim. Close by is a roofless stone enclosure, the sixth-century hermitage of Finnbar and his monk.

Blarney, also located in County Cork, is home to all things Blarney—the town, the castle, the stone and the Blarney Woolen Mills Outlet. The emporium offers the best Irish goods, including Waterford crystal, Belding china, Aran sweaters, Connemara marble and lace. Close by is Blarney Castle, where John and fellow pil- grims ascended 84 circular steps to lean backward and kiss the fabled stone, alleged to bestow eloquence.

The Rock of Cashel in Tipperary has earned both historical and religious significance. On this high place in 450 A.D., St. Patrick baptized King Aengus. During the sacrament, the saint unwittingly pierced Aengus’s foot with his pointed crozier. Asked why he did not cry out, King Aengus said he thought it was part of the baptismal rite. A chapel and cathedral were built in the ninth- to 12th-centuries. The picture-pretty town of Cashel lies at the foot of the Rock.

Dublin is the capital of the Republic. On the streets of this cosmopolitan city, we heard almost every language and watched the Dublin Marathon.

We saw illuminated manuscripts at Trinity College, stopped on O’Connell Street and walked in St. Stephen’s Green. The city is home to the National Gallery, the National Museum, the Guinness Brewery, a zoo, historic buildings, monuments and more.

Northern Ireland is visited less than the Republic because of its history of violence. Most of the island won independence from British rule in 1921, but the six northern counties were loyal to England. The north is more secure than ever, but it is best to travel there with a savvy guide.

Every big city has excellent hotels. There are also “bed and breakfasts,” converted castles and youth hostels. In western Ireland, you can even rent a thatched-roof cottage.

We rode the buses in Galway and Dublin, but you can get around by train, taxi or ferry. You can rent a bicycle, but not a mooped. If you can bring yourself to drive on the “wrong” side of the road, you can rent a car.

Irish cuisine is excellent. Breakfast is a feast. Eggs are served with mushrooms, fresh tomatoes and sausages. Pancakes are a cross between Aunt Jemima’s and French crepes. For other meals, the seafood and Irish beef are top-notch. After sightseeing, a pint of stout or an Irish coffee hits the spot.

Transport video and guidebooks are helpful in planning a trip to the Emerald Isle. The Berlitz Ireland Pocket Guide is full of tips, and www.tourismireland.com is the coun- try’s official Web site. Books like Thomas Cahill’s How the Irish Saved Civilization and Cecil Woodham-Smith’s Ireland’s official Web site. Books like Thomas Cahill’s How the Irish Saved Civilization and Cecil Woodham-Smith’s The Great Hunger deepen the experience.

We recently received a letter from Joe and Mary Kelly. They invited us back, saying, “The kettle is always boiling for the ‘tea.’ “ We do want to go back—and take along some American cousins for a “reunion” with the rest of the Irish cousins we’ve never met.

(Patricia Happel Cornell is a freelance contributor to The Criterion)
Once the fortified stronghold of kings, the Rock of Cashel overshadows its namesake town. Here, St. Patrick baptized the high king, Aengus, in 450. Given to the Catholic Church in 1101, it became the home of a cathedral and monastery. Its well-preserved buildings are now a museum.

The Benedictine Abbey at Kylemore is a famous tourist destination.

Tucked into a mountain valley, St. Finbarr’s Oratory was built in the 1800s to honor the sixth-century saint and his monks, buried nearby in the outdoor hermitage where they dedicated their austere lives to God.

The woods that surround St. Finbarr’s Oratory and hermitage in remote County Cork may well be the most peaceful spot in Ireland.

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LONDON—Ever since the movie *Titanic* appeared, the romantic appeal of transatlantic travel on a great liner has grown in popularity. And so, since the Queen Elizabeth II—better known as QE II—was making her farewell voyages across the Atlantic Ocean last fall, we decided to join some friends on one of her final tours.

First, we flew to London for a week. We were on a conducted tour, and one day we were taken to Stratford-upon-Avon, where we visited the home of Shakespeare's father. We also toured the 16th-century cottage of Anne Hathaway's family, where the guide showed us the loose plank-topped table in the main room, called the "board," that was used on the rough side for a worktable during the day. When company came to dine, the plank was turned to the nicely finished side, thus originating the phrase "turning the tables." This is England, home of our mother tongue after all, so the guide regaled us with other semantic delights. He said usually there was only one chair at the table, a large armchair at the end used by the head of the household while the others sat on benches at the sides. Thus, the term "chairman of the board." He also showed us square wooden "trenchers" (a.k.a. plates) the word that brings us "trenchermen," meaning good eaters, and "square meal" for the food filling one's plate.

Expecting the September weather to be rainy in foggy old London town, we packed a collapsible umbrella and plastic rain-gear. This was a sacrifice, considering our one-suitcase-each rule, but it turned out we didn't need them. The entire week was sunny and lovely. We went many places on our own, including the Tower of London. This large enclave of buildings on the Thames River includes the room where the crown jewels are on display and the Tower Keep, the original palace of William the Conqueror. Yeoman warders, better known as Beefeaters, run the Tower and live on its grounds with their families in ancient houses surrounding the green where Anne Boleyn, among others, was executed. To become a Beefeater, a man must be 40 years old and at least a 22-year army veteran with a good record.

One of our favorite places to visit was St. Martin-in-the-Fields, a church famous for its classical music presentations and recordings. Raymond Leppard, conductor emeritus of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, has long been associated with concerts there. Another favorite place was Churchill’s War Rooms beneath a government building. There we saw living quarters, radio and maps rooms, and a display of wartime correspondence that put us back in the 1940s. There was a sweet letter from Queen Elizabeth II, thanking Churchill for his kindness upon the death of her father. Another letter from King George VI politely noted that if Churchill went ashore with the troops on D-Day then he, as the king, would also be forced to go. Churchill did not go.

It's not possible in one week to visit all the marvels that London offers, however, ancient sites are not her only attractions. The Millennium Wheel, which we could see from our hotel window, is a gigantic...
Ferris wheel that was erected to celebrate the turn of the 21st century and now circles approximately for 20 hours a day. The wheel contains pods holding 25 passengers each, and travels so slowly that people might jump on and off as they wish when they arrive at ground level.

As the end of our week in London, we prepared for the much-anticipated sea leg of our journey, taking the Orient Express lounge train to Southampton to meet the QE II. We felt like characters from the Agatha Christie mystery as we ate our way el gale through the English countryside.

The QE II did not disappoint, and is still an impressive ship despite her inevitable replacement by the new Queen Mary II now traversing the Atlantic.

Our cabin and bath were small, but attractive and very clean, and there were the usual luxurious touches, such as fine soaps, chocolates on the pillow and a pleasant candle at our bed and collar.

This ship was built when the class system was in force on cruise lines. We found that, not being first-class passengers, we could not access every floor of the ship except on the central stairwell and certain elevators. We ate in a specific dining room. When some of our friends tried to crash the first-class dining room at lunch one day, they were politely turned away.

As on most cruises, we were required to wear formal dress to dinner on some evenings. The men could wear suits and ties. Since my last exposure to formal dress was the senior prom, I had to go shopping before we left. Luckily, I found an inexpensive but attractive chubby lady gown in which I felt like Cinderella. There’s something to be said for dressing up.

“The evening was one of our favorite pastimes. We admired the painting of the ship’s namesake and her husband, Prince Phillip, near one of the stairwells, and checked out the lounge areas whose windows looked out to sea. We passed cocktail lounges and small counters where we could get ice cream or coffee.

We visited the outdoor swimming pool on a lower deck and ate lunch in the pool cafe nearby. On the top deck, we went outside and joined the other walkers briskly circling the ship and braving the cold sea winds for their daily exercise.

At night, the intense darkness, sometimes illuminated by stars or waves catching their light, gave us a feeling of isolation. Suddenly, we were Magellan or some other explorer first on the scene.

We arrived in New York harbor just before dawn. As we passed the Statue of Liberty, we heard “America the Beautiful” and “Fanfare for the Common Man” played on the ship’s public address system.

We watched the lights of the city diminish as day broke and the great ship slipped into her berth at last. We were truly sorry to leave this grand old lady, the QE II, having experienced on her decks more than one “night to remember.”

(For more information about “Floating palaces,” as described on page 176 of this excellent book, read Transatlantic: Samuel Cunard, Isambard Brunel and the Great Atlantic Steamships by Stephen Fox.

Cynthia Dowes is a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greensand and is a regular columnist for The Criterion.)

The White Tower, built by William the Conqueror, stands in the center of the Tower of London castle complex.
Dinosaurs ‘welcome’ visitors to Children’s Museum Dinosphere

By Mary Ann Wyand

Dinosaurs appear to be “on the run” at the corner of 30th and Illinois streets in Indianapolis, but that’s cause for celebration rather than alarm.

The Children’s Museum’s new multi-sensory Dinosaur exhibit opens on June 11 in the former CineDome, and promises to be a popular educational experience for visitors of all ages.

The skeleton of a teen-aged Tyrannosaurus rex, nicknamed Bucky by museum staff members, is the centerpiece of “Dinosauria: Now You’re In Their World.”

Sharon Hendrickson, director of design and exhibit production for The Children’s Museum, said the Dinosphere is a multi-level, immersive experience that surrounds visitors with some of the sights, sounds and smells that dinosaurs encountered some 65 million years ago.

“As you walk down the [entrance] ramp, the light becomes dimmer and dimmer,” Hendrickson said. “So by the time you reach the dome and turn the corner, there is a sense of walking into another dimension, a feeling of being in that environment.”

The realistic environment may prompt visitors to look over their shoulders to see if any dinosaurs are lurking nearby.

Children love dinosaurs, Hendrickson said, and the museum’s new $25 million Dinosphere will entertain and educate them in fun and creative ways.

“One you are in the space, the dome helps us re-create an entire day,” Hendrickson said, including an afternoon thunderstorm and sunset as a pteradon flies overhead.

“The surround-sound system enhances the dinosaur sounds,” she said, “and with the lighting effects in the dome, at any point, something could catch their eye or their ear that causes them to turn away from what they are doing. But it’s not intrusive.”

The Dinosphere’s hefty price tag includes the purchase of skeletons and specimens, design and construction of exhibits, and operational costs for the permanent installation.

“Most of the specimens are real,” Hendrickson said, which makes them even more fascinating.

“Children learn the names of dinosaurs from a very young age,” Hendrickson said. “They are fascinated by the skeletons of dinosaurs known to science, to a rare dinosaur embryo fossil ever found in the world. Baby Louie’s picture once graced the cover of National Geographic.”

Other specimens range from Kelsey, one of the most complete Triceratops skeletons known to science, to a rare Leptoceratops, a small dinosaur with a razor-sharp and parrot-like beak, which is a cousin of the Triceratops.

Dr. Robert Bakker, a world-renowned paleontologist from Boulder Colo., has described The Children’s Museum’s new Dinosphere as “among the top dozen real-bone dinosaur exhibits in the world.”

That makes the Dinosphere worth braving the three alamosaurs outside.

(For visitor information, contact The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis at 317-224-3322 or log on to childrens museum.org.)

A construction worker appears to ride an alamosaur “escaping” from The Children’s Museum’s new Dinosphere exhibit at 30th and Illinois streets in Indianapolis. The Dinosphere opens on June 11. Indianapolis is home to the largest children’s museum in the United States.

The realistic environment may prompt visitors to look over their shoulders to see if any dinosaurs are lurking nearby.

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Divine will guides us in our daily life decisions

By William Thompson-Uberuaga

St. Ignatius Loyola, the 16th-century founder of the Jesuits, thought that God sometimes rather forcefully reveals the divine will to us. In his Spiritual Exercises, Ignatius pondered at extraordinary depth what is involved in discerning the divine will. In his conversion experience, St. Paul experienced God’s forceful revelation of the divine will.

Mary Magdalene, when she received the command to communicate the good news of the Resurrection, had a similar experience. At other times, our minds enjoy a clarity about God’s will that removes our doubts. The Ten Commandments offer us a list of imperatives, most of which we generally have no ambiguities about. Or, when faced with a choice between good and evil, we know that good can be our only choice. And we can pretty well trust both the “book of nature” (our traditional natural law) and the “book of revelation” provide us with sufficiently clear guidelines for discerning between good and clear cases of evil.

But Ignatius went on to consider some of the other times when, well, the divine will just does not seem so clear, at least in its particularities. Sure, the overall direction remains clear: Follow the commandments, especially the great commandment to love. But what this means more precisely in a concrete case may not be so clear. It may not be immediately clear to us that a specific vocation or state of life is God’s precise will for us.

And there are other important decisions that we face about our friendships or about some of the more contentious ethical choices we sometimes face in daily life. The Spiritual Exercises, among other important documents from St. Ignatius, provide us with important guides for making difficult ethical choices.

First, they are exercises, something we “do.” We can overlook this, but it is important. Learning to make good decisions is often a matter of practice and habit. Fine musicians may never have seen a particular score, but by mastering other scores have prepared them for this new one.

So, too, years of practicing the faith, of living the Gospel stories (meditations upon which form the backbone of Ignatius’ book) become the rich launching pad that moves us in the right ethical direction.

Ignatius then goes on to recommend something of a dialogue between the Gospel stories and our own felt experience, and affective reactions to the choices confronting us now. What is the feel and tone of this interaction? Which choices bring about a congenial resonance between what Scripture reveals and what our own experience tells us? The Gospel stories are also stories of the Church community responding to Jesus. It seems clear that Ignatius was suggesting that we should heed the voices of experience within the Church community, past and present, and perhaps even seek out some notable individuals for their guidance.

How do we resonate with their suggestions? All of these voices, when in consonance, would seem to make up a rich harmony. Ignatius, then, seems to be recommending that we pursue the harmonious choice.

In a way, what the saint seems to be doing is developing a very old tradition in the Church, namely, going to the “book of revelation” and to the “book of nature” for guidance about making right decisions and, accordingly, discerning God’s will.

Ignatius heeded the insights of Scripture and saw in it paradigms of how to make choices. This was and remains a beautiful manner of personalizing divine revelation.

The saint thought of the other book, that of nature, not so much in terms of the physical world around us, although that was not missing and it deserves more attention by us today. But he was thinking of us and other humans. We are human nature in action.

Ignatius possessed a vivid sense of human nature—in its actions and its rich dimensions, especially our relationships, our feelings and our choices, in addition to our minds.

The saint’s genius and charisma was to suggest that we heed the potential resonance between all of these as the road to follow. We seem to instinctively return to St. Ignatius Loyola’s guidance when we think about discerning God’s will. This reminds us that we strive to “santire cum ecclesia” (think with the Church), we should keep in mind the special insights of the saints, such as Ignatius, whose experience has been tried and tested, and who can be counted upon to keep us moving in the right direction.

I can’t help but think that Ignatius, of Basque ancestry himself, knew the old Basque adage that “people know much if they know how to live.”

His Spiritual Exercises are, in a way, suggesting that if we live well, in the ethical sense, we will know, or at least we will have the basis upon which we can know, what the divine will is for us.

(Dr. William Thompson-Uberuaga is professor of theology at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa.)

FaithAlive!

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Sometimes God’s will is obvious

This Week’s Question

Describe an occasion when you felt that God’s will for you was clear.

“I was the middle of five children. Our mother died when I was 14, and I essentially ran the household when I was 18. It was often a struggle, but I knew that I was involved in a good thing.” (Pauline Stillwagon, New Cumberland, W.Va.)

Lend Us Your Voice

Archbishop Lamy survives an Indian attack

As our country was expanding westward during the 19th century, the Catholic Church went east of the Mississippi River to bring the faith to the American Indians. Religious orders of the Church went, too. The Sisters of the Sacred Heart and other religious orders of women sent many of their sisters to staff schools and hospitals, particularly in the United States west of the Appalachian Mountains, and the Trappist Abbey of Our Lady of Monte Cassino in Bardstown, Ky., including the Proto-Cathedral of St. Joseph, the first cathedral in the United States, which is not far from the Six Flags amusement park in St. Louis.†

As a family who has been lived here in the United States for several generations, we have gotten into a semi-routine, annual vacation to visit our family in friendly neighborhoods. Knowing that the caravan couldn't hold out another day, and suffering from a lack of food, water, and ammunition, he ordered a desperate ruse. He ordered a few of the men to take some food and a keg of whisky and go out onto the plain, and managed to return safely before the Indians discovered the provisions, and the whisky. The Indians had resumed the battle the next morning. Lamy gave the order to circle the wagons. A large party of Indians attacked, and the battle, just like in the old western movies, went on until sunset. The Indians with Lamy had receded the battle the next morning. Then, besides the Indian attack, word spread that President Lincoln had just been assassinated. It is true that the fact of the assassination had not yet reached the camp. One of the nuns died and a man came down with the disease. Another of the nuns comforted the dying man while arrows continued to fly. Again, the Indians made repeated attacks, but were repelled until dark. Again, the Indians withdrew for the night.

One bad-weather day when fetching our neighbors' newspapers to our doorstep than vice versa. The unwritten rule of our neighborhood is that we bring our neighbors' papers to their door, too. The neat, white, carefully tended front yards that we pass on our way to work in the morning are a wonderful reminder that we were being patriotic when he threw the first brick into the building. Patriotism. President George W. Bush and the politicians who engage in the war that preceded the Iraq war, and the war on terrorism—constantly talks about patriotism in pursuing freedom to be different. We are successful because we're the most civilized or the most moral people, but precisely because we're all different. On purpose. The idea is a regular columnist for The Criterion.

As our country was expanding westward during the 19th century, the Catholic Church went east of the Mississippi River to bring the faith to the American Indians. Religious orders of the Church went, too. The Sisters of the Sacred Heart and other religious orders of women sent many of their sisters to staff schools and hospitals, particularly in the United States west of the Appalachian Mountains, and the Trappist Abbey of Our Lady of Monte Cassino in Bardstown, Ky., including the Proto-Cathedral of St. Joseph, the first cathedral in the United States, which is not far from the Six Flags amusement park in St. Louis.†

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Reincarnation contradicts traditional Christian beliefs

Q Reincarnation has become a sensitive subject with a few Christian congregations in our area. New Age groups (so they call themselves) claim reincarnation is approved by Christian teachings, and some Christians seem to agree. I'm not satisfied with my answers. I am not even sure what they mean by “reincarnation.” Is there any sense in which we Catholics could fit reincarnation into our faith? (Pennsylvania)

A The brief answer is no. The concept of reincarnation contradicts Christian beliefs in several serious areas.

The word “reincarnation” means “coming again in the flesh.” As you suggest, theories promoted by some groups calling themselves Christians do sound something like reincarnation, but often their explanations are so fuzzy that it’s difficult to know precisely what they mean.

According to the teachings of several religions or philosophies, particularly in ancient Asian cultures, all living beings exist in a cycle of deaths and rebirths. This is true of everything, from gods to human beings and animals. When one life is finished, the being returns in another form, higher or lower, depending on how well they lived the previous existence.

The process applies in a particular way to human beings. By the law of the Hindu cosmos, “one’s earthly life does not cease at death. Individuals return in another form, usually unaware of their previous existence, though their new life is radically affected by past failings.”

This continuous flow is believed to lead to some mystical way to the absorption of all beings into “absolute reality.” This, finally will be the only reality there is. All else will be fantasy, an illusion.

Q These few sentences cannot do justice to an ancient, massive and intricate worldview of a large part of our human family as it has searched for answers to life’s great questions. Where did we come from? Why are we here? Where are we going? What else is out there? Whence comes evil? How does what we do here affect what comes after?

These are the cosmic mysteries that people have probed for tens of thousands of years. And as bizarre as it sounds to us, millions have found a hint of satisfying answers in the intriguing notion of reincarnation.

This should not, in fact, be surprising. Some of their insights about our human condition can have value for us all.

As Pope John Paul II repeats in his book, Crossing the Threshold of Hope, speaking specifically of non-Christian religions, the Holy Spirit works effectively in cultures and religions outside the visible structure of the Church.

The Spirit, the pope explains, uses for good purpose these “seeds of the word,” which constitute a kind of root of salvation present in all religions (pages 80-81).

Just as clearly, however, the doctrine of reincarnation directly contradicts basic Catholic teachings such as the immortality of the soul; the final resurrection of body and soul; the finality of death as the end of our earthly time of testing and trial; and our personal, conscious responsibility, in cooperation with the Holy Spirit, for our own destiny after death.

These are just a few reasons why belief in reincarnation, in any traditional sense of that word, is incompatible with Catholic and Christian faith.
The Active List

The Criterion, 5:00-11:00 p.m.
317-636-1307.

First Tuesdays
St. John’s Parish, 1401 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7:30-11:00 a.m. Information: 317-575-4354.

First Wednesdays
St. Michael’s Church, 300 S. 29th St., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Information: 317-638-5551.

First Saturdays
St. John’s Parish, 1401 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Information: 317-859-4673.

First Thursdays
Holy Angels Church, 740 W. 20th St., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Sacred Sacrament, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Information: 317-783-1445.

First Sundays
St. Peter Church, 1207 East 28th St., Indianapolis. Eucharist adoration, 8:00-9:00 a.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

First Sundays
Our Lady of the Greenwood Church at 1530 E. 82nd St., Indianapolis. Devotions to the Sacred Heart, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Information: 317-495-1111.

First Saturdays
Our Lady of the Greenwood Church at 1530 E. 82nd St., Indianapolis. Devotions to the Sacred Heart, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Information: 317-495-1111.

First Saturdays
Holy Angels Church, 740 W. 20th St., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 11 a.m.-noon.

First Saturdays
St. Therese of the Infancy Jesus Little Flower Church at 1637 E. 133th St., Indianapolis. Apostolate of Fatima holy hour, 2-2:30 p.m.

First Sunday
St. Anthony Church, 379 N. Warman Ave., Indianapolis. Reconciliation, 7-11 a.m.; Mass, 8-12 noon, followed by study and prayer.

First Friday
St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville, Mass, 8:35 a.m. Information: 317-283-4142.

First Friday
St. Nicholas Church, 6446 E. 106th St., Indianapolis. Mass, praise and worship, 8:30 a.m., then Eucharist prayer and study, in the church.

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First Fridays
St. Vincent De Paul Church, 1723 “T” Street, Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Information: 317-638-5551.

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St. Joan of Arc students enjoy new library and reading room

By Brandon A. Evans

St. Joan of Arc School in Indianapolis, like the other six center-city Catholic schools, has added a million books to its library—in a manner of speaking.

Sarah Batt, director of Project RELATES, the archdiocese’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant, is responsible for seeing to it that each of the seven schools gets a major upgrade to its library.

With money from the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant and Project EXCITE, the archdiocese is helping schools team up with the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (I-MCPL). Students from the schools can borrow any books from the public library. Books are even delivered twice a week to the school.

This library renewal program began at All Saints School in Indianapolis under the leadership of its former principal, Mary Pat Sharpe.

Sharpe, who is now the principal of St. Joan of Arc School, is pleased that other center-city schools will experience the benefits she saw at All Saints School. “It means that all of the books in the library are bar-coded and represented on the public access catalog on the Web,” Batt said. “So anybody in the city can look up and see what books each school library has on the shelf.”

Each of the students at All Saints School had a library card when she left last year, Sharpe said, and about half of the older students had their 14-digit library card number memo- rized because they used it so often to request books online from I-MCPL.

Besides improving St. Joan of Arc’s library with this relationship, new books that will stay at the school are also on the way. The 21st Century grant “has $120,000 in it to buy books for the seven center-city schools,” Batt said, “so there’s a big bunch of books that are coming here.”

It’s all very exciting, Sharpe said. Up to this point, the library at St. Joan of Arc School had been lacking.

The “library” was, not long ago, a series of bookshelves crammed full of old books. “You could tell just by looking that nobody was using those books,” Batt said.

Kelly Mosley, part-time librarian at the school, said that when they cleaned out the library many of the books were outdated.

“Some of the books had 48 states [in the text],” she said.

What was left and still relevant makes up the collection in the new St. Joan of Arc Library, which was modeled from an old classroom that had recently been used for storage. There are relatively few books, for now, spread about on the numerous bookshelves. Besides what the grant will provide, members of St. Joan of Arc Parish have donated books. Immaculate Heart of Mary School faculty members in Indianapolis also gave books to St. Joan of Arc School.

“We’ve had a couple donations from a couple teachers at some of the other schools,” Sharpe said. A parishioner and the husband of a teacher built the bookshelves.

There is good fruit from all this effort. The children are using their library and enjoying it, Mosley said. They are doing more research, and some even have parents that get books through the shared system. “They’re really starting to use it a lot,” she said. “It’s neat.

Whereas the students had thought of the library as a place to hang out before, now they think of it as a place to read and study.

On the far wall of the library, there are two doors on opposite ends of the room that open into a narrow, no longer used coat-room. This space has now become a gem for the library.

Mosley, her sister and other volunteers paint the room to look like a wooded park with animals, light poles and a blue sky. A soft, green carpet resembles grass.

Also in the room is a park bench, which Mosley sits on while she reads to the students. Each class of students, up through the third grade, comes once a week for read-aloud time.

Beyond that, the school has also adopted the DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) program, Sharpe said. Each morning, for about 15 minutes, activities at the school stop and the students either read privately or are read to by others.

The library also provides a reprieve for teachers. In the past, teachers have paid for books for their students to read out of their own pockets. Now, they can send students to the library for pleasure reading or research materials.

The 21st Century grant also allows for a part-time library assistant to keep the library open during after-school hours.

All this work is because, as Sharpe said, reading is the bottom line. “I think that obviously the more students read, the better they’re going to perform on tests [and] the better they will achieve in all subjects,” she said. “To be able to finally have a place in the building where [the students] have an opportunity to always be reading, or always being able to find books to read, is big. That’s very big.”

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Kelly Mosley, the librarian at St. Joan of Arc School in Indianapolis, reads to a class of third-grade students on April 15 in the reading room of the new school library. Mosley and several other volunteers painted the walls to make the room look like a park.
Religion

Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Thursday before the week of publication; be sure to indicate your name and diocese. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests serving our archdiocese and those in the Diocese of Greensburg are included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or the name of their diocese is those are separative or obelisk/ephemeral.


CHIREVSKY, Mary Anna, 74, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Terre Haute, April 23. Aunt of seven. Sister of Joseph Hinkle.


HILGENHOLD, Rachelle (Swihart), 81, St. Paul, Tell City, April 29. Father of Randi Volpe.


KRUSE, Dorothy J., 93, St. Paul, Terre Haute, City, April 28. Mother of Phyllis Ferguson, Dee Kiel and Mary Jo Voges. Grandmother of 12. Great-grandmother of eight.

MAKOWSKY, John, 70, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, May 12. Father of Amy Vays, Bart and Mykowky. Great-grandfather of six.


MARENS, Bernard F., 85, Christ the King, Indianapolis, April 21. Brother of Jane and Marjorie. Grandfather of one.


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World War II memorial

Above, a quote from President Harry S Truman appears on a granite wall at the new World War II Memorial in Washington. A series of 24 panels depicts the war years at war and home and overseas. The memorial will be dedicated on May 29 near the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial on the National Mall. It pays tribute to the 16 million who served in the U.S. armed forces and more than 400,000 who died in the war.

W.G. (Pete) LAUDER

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Pope calls on rich nations to help Africa become continent of peace

Pope John Paul II called on the world’s richest nations to help Africa become a continent of justice and peace and urged them to sustain its development, said the pope in a written message sent on the occasion of an international gathering in the Vatican on development in Africa.

The pope emphasized that Africans need protection and development that allows them to become the true “protagonists of their own future, the actors and subjects of their des- tines.”

“May the international community be able to contribute, with determination and generosity, toward the promotion of justice and peace in Africa,” he wrote. He also invited Catholics across the world “to support their brothers of Africa, so that they could have a more human and fraternal life.”

The message was presented to part- icipants attending a one-day meeting sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. Invited to the convention, held on May 21, brought together Church and govern- ment officials from Africa and diplomats to the Holy See, as well as experts on sustainable development and nongovernmental organizations.

They reflected on how to best boost Africa’s social and economic development in an era of globalization.

The continent continues to bear the weight of grinding poverty, pandemic diseases and armed conflict, the worst evil against the continent is indifference and distrust by the world community, said the council’s president, Cardinal Renato Martino.

“The sense of resignation and almost general anomie … surrounds the continent like a curtain of selfindifference and indifference,” he said in his opening address.

“The true battle to fight is that of con-

supporting at all levels … an environment of renewed trust and generosity and intelligent enterprise,” said the cardinal.

One group working to re-establish trust among the Africans themselves is Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops’ agency for international relief and development.

President, Kenneth Hackett, told participants at the Vatican meeting that the Church offers a unique approach to peace that is different from any other approach.

“For the United Nations, peace-building is defined another way. But for the Catholic Church, our efforts are firmly built on Gospel teaching and Catholic social teaching,” he told Catholic News Service.

The Church’s approach emphasizes and “respects the dignity of the human person and then builds bridges toward a just and stable peace,” through conflict resolution and education programs in schools and parishes, he said.

The Church in Africa also has a new task ahead of itself, said Hackett, in helping determine how the continent’s vast oil, mineral and other natural resources will be used for and for whose benefit.

The continent’s growth over the last 10 years $200 billion worth of revenues will flow into Africa from oil. Who’s going to manage that money? How can you be assured it’s going to the people?” he said. “It is working to help the Church find in pluralistic debate, making sure it has a voice” in what happens to those revenues, he said.

But much of the money Africans need to pull itself out of a cycle of poverty must come from the outside in the form of investments from richer countries, said Jeffrey Sachs, a U.S. economist and special advisor to the U.N. secretary-general.

“Africa needs just $30 billion to $40 bil- lion a year in investments from the interna- tional community … that equals just over one-tenth of 1 percent of the annual income of rich countries, whose earnings reach about $150 trillion a year,” he told CNS.

The true battle to fight is that of con-

“AFRICA NEEDS JUST $30 BILLION TO $40 BILLION A YEAR IN INVESTMENTS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY…”

VOICES OF LOCAL MINORITIES

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Matthew's mother, Jessie Lund, said that after his teacher gave him the contest theme Matthew went to work creating his poster.

“I was just thinking of lighting up people’s day by helping them,” said Matthew. “[Jesus] was there with us, helping us with it.”

Since the poster portrays scenes from Matthew’s life, it serves as an expression of acts of service that he has done, and also of his Christian identity that has been formed in him by his family. “We’re a family that believes in praying together, and we go to church faithfully. We believe that praying is going to help your day,” said Lund. [Matthew] emphasized to me that he really enjoys praying in church, and praying with his friends and family.”

Lund also noted the important role that Annunciation School has played in forming her son’s life of faith and its expression in his award-winning poster.

“I think that it’s a tribute to Annunciation for even participating in [the contest],” said Lund, “and giving a chance to all of the children to do some creative thinking and bring their [religion] into their daily thinking.”

Barbara Black, principal of Annunciation School, said the praise that Matthew received from his classmates upon the announcement that he had won the contest was reflective of the foundation of faith that flows through the school’s community.

“There is a spiritual bond [among them], even though not all of the children are Catholic. They still have that connection and respect for each other,” said Black. “It’s great to see them working together and recognizing each other without being upset or jealous.”

Holy Cross Father Steve Gibson came to Brazil from Notre Dame, Ind., to present Matthew with a certificate and $100. In his homily during the Mass at which Matthew was honored, Father Gibson said that prayer was a way for us to become holy and to come to know God’s will for us.

He also reflected upon the nature of the places where that prayer happens for the students of Annunciation School.

“Your school is holy ground,” Father Gibson said. “People who love you, who teach you [are here]. That is what makes it holy ground.

“When you go home tonight and sit at the table with your family—with your brothers and sisters and moms and dads—that is holy ground. Wherever people who love one another come together is holy ground,” he said.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS)—Embryonic stem-cell research and therapeutic cloning are always unethical because they “create life precisely to destroy it,” a priest told members of the medical, legal and scientific community at the Catholic Medical Association’s conference in St. Paul.

About 160 people, including doctors, nurses, hospital administrators, lawyers, clergy and students, attended the conference on May 8 to discuss how they might collaborate on life issues common to their disciplines. Participants heard talks on bioethics, cloning, embryo research, intrauterine medicine and reproductive technologies.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, who has a doctorate in neuroscience and is an associate pastor at St. Patrick Parish in Falmouth, Mass., told participants there is a lot of excitement about the potential for stem-cell therapy to cure diseases, but he cautioned against unethically using stem cells of stem cells that destroy life, such as embryonic or traditional cell research and therapeutic cloning.

“The curing of disease is certainly a very good end, one that the Roman Catholic Church actively and vigorously supports,” he said, “but even very good ends cannot always justify the use of intrinsically disordered or evil means.”

He said that regulations are necessary to protect embryos from exploitation, but that scientific progress has the potential to get out of control.

“It basically becomes a steamroller where you say science must go forward. We have to be among the continent in our society that says we need an informed and intelligent discussion of the science because we know that science can be dangerous,” the priest added.

Father Pacholczyk said it is a misconception that embryonic stem cells, which have the potential to become any of the more than 200 types of cells in the body, are more valuable to scientists than stem cells obtained from adults or electrical cords.

Though adult stem cells are more restricted, or limited in what they are able to do, they are more reliable than embryonic stem cells, which readily form cancerous growths or are rejected by a person’s immune system.

He said adult stem cells, obtained from fat cells, nasal lining, bone marrow, tissues and organs, umbilical cords, placenta and amniotic fluid, have the potential to cure most diseases.

The priest noted that those who have not closely followed this debate might think that embryonic stem cells are already giving excruciating cures, which he said is “absolutely false.”

He said the number of people who have been cured of any disease using stem cells from embryos is “exactly zero” while “literally thousands, if not tens of thousands, or more people have been cured using adult and umbilical cord stem-cell therapies.”

Father Pacholczyk cited examples of people who have been cured of heart disease, leukemia, sickle cell anaemia and diseases of the central nervous system from adult stem-cell treatments. In one study, people with spinal cord injuries were able to move their limbs slightly after undergoing adult stem-cell treatments and physical therapy.

He noted that the debate over the use of embryonic stem cells is just beginning to heat up, pointing out that Californians will vote this year on whether to allocate $200 million of state funds every year for the next 10 years to support and promote embryonic stem-cell research and therapeutic cloning.

What people need to remember, he added, is that every human being was once an embryo. He said that idea is the “basic foundation and springboard” for a common discussion of bioethics.

Dr. Fred Noberga, a retired internist from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, said he had been looking for years for other doctors to join him in helping to treat people with spinal cord injuries. He said he would have no future in medicine if he could not use embryonic stem cells.

He predicted that if the research using embryonic stem cells is not supported, it will never get off the ground, and that would be a tragedy because “the potential to cure most diseases is just heating up.”

Father Pacholczyk is a member of the Catholic Physicians for Life and is president of the Catholic Medical Association’s conference in St. Paul.

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Ampules containing a medium for storing stem cells are shown by supervising cell biologist Lesley Young at the UK Stem Bank in London on May 10. The world’s first embryonic stem-cell bank opened, breaking ground in one of the most controversial areas of medical research.