New Church management group
called testament to lay generosity

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Catholic philanthropist Kerry A. Robinson on July 11 called the new National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management a testament to the generosity of lay people.

It is “a magnificent testament to the generosity of highly influential, experienced laity in the fields of management and finances who are deeply committed to the Catholic Church and want to lend their expertise and guidance to the Church in their hour of need,” Robinson said following her appointment as the round table’s first executive director.

To take up the new post, Robinson, 38, is leaving her job as development director of St. Thomas More Chapel at Yale University, where over the past eight years she has raised nearly $70 million to build and endow the university’s new Catholic center.

At its founding meeting on July 11, the board adopted bylaws incorporating the round table as a tax-exempt charitable organization and elected Geoffrey T. Boisi, a philanthropist and retired vice chairman of JPMorgan Chase, as board chairman.

Boisi, 58, was one of the leading figures behind a landmark meeting of Catholic business, academic and institutional leaders with several Catholic bishops in Philadelphia last year on Church management, personnel and financial practices. That meeting led to the launch of the round table and resulted in a nationally distributed set of recommendations.

A girl drops an offering in the collection basket at St. Anthony Church in Milwaukee in an October 2004 file photo. A group of U.S. Catholic bishops and lay Church and business leaders have formed a new nonprofit organization to promote excellence and best practices in managing Church finances and human resources. Formation of the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management was announced in Washington on March 14.

Another nonprofit organization that aims to improve Church management, Catholic Management, announced in Washington on March 14.

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He said the unproven “promising” stem-cell research involves “human beings” and was not born of mother’s consent.

The Senate bill would keep the bishops in Rome for less than five weeks but tried to tackle two major topics: the ministerial priesthood and justice in the world.

Since then, the general assemblies have run just more than four weeks and have focused on one issue: the laity, priestly formation, consecrated life, the role of the bishop, catechesis, the family or penance and reconciliation.

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Two priests in archdiocese receive grants to take sabbaticals

By Brandon A. Evans

Two parishes of the archdiocese recently received Clergy renewal grants from Lilly Endowment Inc. to be used for their pastors to take sabbaticals.

St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis received $45,000 to send Father D. Michael Welch, a sabbatical, and St. Rita Parish in Indianapolis received $26,930 to send to Divine Society of Word Father Stephan Brown on a sabbatical.

The grants are from the Clergy Renewal Program for Indiana Congregations, and are awarded annually to some who apply for them.

This year, 36 Indiana churches of various denominations were awarded grants for their ordained pastors to enjoy a period of spiritual, mental and physical renewal.

Craig Dykstra, the endowment’s vice president for religion, described all those who apply for them.

Likewise, Father Welch said that his sabbatical would not be as extensive with out the grant. As it is, the grant covers not just the costs of the renovation trip, but also the cost of programs for the parish and replacement priest.

“The parish pays nothing,” Father Welch said. “The Lilly grant is just an unbelievable thing.”

Welch is looking into applying for a clergy renewal grant last year after Archbishop Daniel M. Burkelein approved his request for a sabbatical.

Father Welch will be leaving for his sabbatical on Aug. 22 and returning on Dec. 14—in the interim the associate pastor, Father David Lawler, will take care of the sacramental duties, along with other tasks.

“The first week of my sabbatical will be spent pursuing a lifelong dream of spending a week at a tennis camp in Vermont,” Father Welch wrote to members of the parish.

He said the board also hopes to recruit at least one bishop from each region of the country to serve on an advisory committee.

The board, which is to meet quarterly, has scheduled its next meeting in October. Bosi said there were 22 board members for the first meeting, but they still plan to fill several more seats.

Terms will be for four years, renewable once. Some initial terms will be for those that the terms are staggered.

At the next meeting, after having some initial experience interacting, the board plans to elect two vice chairs.

As treasurer, the board elected Thomas J. Healey, a member of Goldman Sachs, a senior fellow at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and a former assistant secretary of the U.S. Treasury.

The reaction I’ve gotten is, ‘We’re going to Washington, D.C., for a month of study at the Washington Theological Union.’

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Fr. Justin Martin

Father Justin Martin sought personal connections in his ministry. The school commission, shared the results of the school feasibility committee and now of the grounds, Father Lampert said.

By Brandon A. Evans

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein has approved plans for SS. Francis and Clare Parish in Greenwood to begin raising funds in the hope of building a grade school. The parish, which contains about 850 families, has seen its membership grow by about 12 to 15 families—since July 2003, the parish has added 225 families.

Of the 35 percent of families who responded, more than half agreed that a school ministry at SS. Francis and Clare Parish was needed, while about one-fourth disagreed. Nearly half of those surveyed also said that they would support something to support a school, and fully two-thirds said that they would participate in a capital campaign to support a school.

The results of the survey were shared with the parish during open meetings in April and May. Plans for such a campaign are now in the works, Richardson said, and will be ready by this fall. The desire for a school has been evident in the parish for a long time. Richardson said that it was Father Lampert who decided that it was time to thorough look at the matter and make a decision.

I’m very excited about the opportunity,” said Anne Marie Leitz, executive director of Catholic education and faith formation for the archdiocese. “It’s been a conversation piece for a long time.” She said that it shows the continued interest that parents have in providing a Catholic education for their children, noting that interest and support for the proposed school are both present in the parish community.

“People are coming to us from other schools as well,” Leitz said. “I think the numbers are there, I think the need is there.”

Currently, many families living within the boundaries of SS. Francis and Clare Parish send their children to Our Lady of the Greenwood School in Greenwood or St. Barnabas School in Indianapolis. But Father Lampert stressed that building a new school is not about taking students away from the other schools.

“We’re not looking to compete with neighboring parishes,” he said. “We’re asking other parishes to support the administration of this school as well.”

Thank you for all that you have done for us and for retreat ministry over the years! Happy Anniversary!

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House

The Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House Advisory Board, staff, volunteers and community wish Fr. Jim Farrell a very blessed 30th Anniversary of Ordination!

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House

3335 E. 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46226

317-545-7681

www.archindy.org/fatima

Father Justin Martin, administrator of Our Lady of the Springs Parish in French Lick and Our Lord Jesus Christ the King Parish in Paoli, died on July 17 at Bloomington Hospital in Bloomington. Parishioners at the French Lick parish found the 28-year-old priest in his rectory after he failed to arrive at the church to celebrate Saturday evening Mass. Father Martin had started a new assignment on June 7 as administrator of the two Bloomington Deanery parishes.

Yet, according to his uncle and mentor in the priesthood, Msgr. Frederick Easton, archdiocesan vicar judicial, he had already touched lives there.

A husband and wife who are members of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King Parish drove to Bloomington on Sunday evening to show their gratitude to him for drawing back to the faith their son after he had been away from the Church for some time.

Msgr. Easton said that making personal connections with people was an important part of Father Martin’s priestly identity that began to emerge during his theological formation in Rome when, as a young seminarian, he met some of the highest leaders of the Church.

In the years leading up to his 2002 ordination, Father Martin took on a number of occasions with then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI. He also became acquainted enough with American Archbishop James Harvey, prelate who knew him well, to be able to carry on a phone conversations and dinners together.

“I know all of the blessings and challenges of his life,” Msgr. Easton said of his nephew. “He felt comfortable in the Church where ever it was.”

Calling was from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on July 21 at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Bloomington, with a prayer vigil at 7 p.m. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at 11 a.m. on July 22 at St. Charles Borromeo Church.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein was the principal celebrant. Benedictine Archabbott Justin DuVall, spiritual leader of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, was the homilist. Burial was at the Priests’ Circle at Our Lady of Peace Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Joseph David Martin was born on Nov. 23, 1976, in Sacramento, Calif. to David and Beth (Easton) Martin. He graduated from Denbigh High School in Newport News, Va.

As a seminarian for the archdiocese, Father Martin studied at and graduated from Saint Meinrad College in St. Meinrad. He completed his priesthood formation at the Pontifical North American College in Rome where he earned a Master of Divinity degree.

Archbishop Buechlein ordained Father Martin to the priesthood on June 29, 2002 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Father Martin celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving the following day at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Bloomington.

On July 3, 2002, he began his first pastoral assignment as the associate pastor of St. Luke Parish in Indianapolis. He became the associate pastor of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis on July 7, 2004. He had served less than two weeks in his capacity as the administrator of Our Lady of the Springs Parish in French Lick and Our Lord Jesus Christ the King Parish in Paoli.

Surviving his parents, who are members of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington, and his sister, Sheila Kelly, of Newport News, Va.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the St. Augustine House, 2345 W. 86th St., Indianapolis, IN 46260.

By Sean Gallagher

Wrote about the 10th annual Catholic Youth Summer Splash at Zuma Beach in Malibu, Calif., on July 17. The annual event drew more than 700 people from across the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Father Justin Martin sought personal connections in his ministry.
Letters to the Editor

There are many social justice issues that need to be addressed.

I would like to applaud The Criterion for printing the editorial article by Tony Magliano called “Facing America’s faults” (Criterion, July 8, 2005).

I find that while many Catholics are very faithful practitioners of their faith and committed to obeying the Ten Commandments in public places, they sometimes forget that, by their very nature, great things (like the gift of children) require the grace of God to make them happen. In narrating the birth of Jesus, he repeats the introduction with variations and more expansively in the words the angel Gabriel to the mother of our Lord. “For Luke, this word, which inaugurates the history of Jesus and, with it, the history of Christianity, is a comprehensive programmatic designation of what Christianity is by nature. In narrating the birth of Jesus, he repeats the introduction with variations and more expansively in the words the angel addresses to the shepherds: ‘I bring you news of great joy.’

Christ’s gift to us, which is himself, should be the source of great joy. It is a liberation from the burdens of sin and death. It is the way to true happiness, genuine freedom and lastling peace. Why then do we Christians so often feel that we are burdened with the angel Gabriel to the mother of our Lord. “For Luke, this word, which inaugurates the history of Jesus and, with it, the history of Christianity, is a comprehensive programmatic designation of what Christianity is by nature. In narrating the birth of Jesus, he repeats the introduction with variations and more expansively in the words the angel addresses to the shepherds: ‘I bring you news of great joy.’

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Father Bruté ministers to a future saint and a new mission calls

La vida del futuro obispo de Indiana fue estrechamente vinculada por la vida de la Madre Seton.

Mientras vivía en Maryland, el padre Simon Bruté se encargó de los cuidados pastorales y espirituales de la Madre Elizabeth Ann Seton, hasta su muerte el 4 de enero de 1821. El dejó relatos detallados de su amistad con ella a lo largo de su vida. Soñaba con ayudarla a bautizar niños de la colonia de Maryland.

A su muerte, Elizabeth Ann Seton había sido canonizada. El padre Bruté escribió acerca de ella: "Ninguna alma ha sido testigo de tanta fuerza, tanto coraje en la vida, tanto en la muerte. Su fortaleza, su alegría, su sufrimiento, su soledad fueron un ejemplo para todos." 

Father Bruté escribió de ella: "O, such a mother! Such faith and love! Such a spirit of true prayer, of true humility, of true self-denial in all, of true charity to all! ... But, mark well, that even our love for one another, all, all in this world is vanity, except it be for God, of God, in God. ... For eternity! For God and Eternity! All in all ... And indeed to live for this, to live for heaven, is at the same time to lead the happy life upon earth. Is it not so, O Mother? Answer from your little wood. Pray now and then for me."

En las horas finales de Elizabeth, el padre Bruté estaba presente y administró la hostia consagrada en el ciborio de la mesa. 

"Towards midnight, one of the nurses tells me, offering her a drink she refused a moment, 'in hope,' she said, 'that on the morning she might be found this morning that she had kept it. Though I disapproved, I could but rejoice in tears, and sobbing aloud covered her face with her hands.'"

En el último día de toda, él escribió: "Me enteré esta mañana de enero de 1821. Él dejó relatos detallados de su amistad con ella a lo largo de su vida. Soñaba con ayudarla a bautizar niños de la colonia de Maryland." 

Men Religioj: that the special gifts their communities bring to the Church may be more widely appreciated and encouraged.

Archbishop Buechlein's intention for vocations for July

El padre Bruté funge como pastor de una futura santa y recibe el llamado de una nueva misión

Los cálculos, había probablemente menos de 25,000 católicos. A diferencia de Kentucky o Maryland, los católicos no estaban asentados en grupos en ninguna de los condados.

In Indiana, y en gran parte de Illinois (que se convertiría en la diócesis de Vincennes), los asentamientos se encontraban en los cuatro esquinas del territorio. El sendero missionario cubría un par de cientos de millas de un asentamiento al otro. En una de las esquinas predominaban los irlandeses, y en las otras condados en otrora alesas y alemas. Y existía una tribu conformada en su mayoría por Pokagon Potawatomi católicos cerca de South Bend, que esperaba ser trasladada a una reserva occidental.

El territorio missionario se convertiría en el hogar del padre Bruté, que ser el primer obispo de la diócesis de Vincennes.

La próxima semana: Roma llama al padre Simon Bruté para que guíe una nueva diócesis en Indiana. "

Traducido por: Language Training Center, Indianapolis

La intención de vocaciones del Arzobispo Buechlein para julio

Hombres Religiosos: Que los dones especiales que sus comunidades traen a la Iglesia sean más apreciados y alentados por todas partes.
## Events Calendar

**July 21-23**
St. Christopher Parish, 5301 W. 56th St., Indianapolis. 60th annual Midsummer Festival. Thurs., Fri. - 4 1/2 Sat., noon-9 p.m., card games, fish sandwich. Information: 317- 241-6314, ext. 100.

**July 22-23**

**July 23**
Saddlebrook Golf Course, 556 Arabin Run, Indianapolis. Cardinal Ritter Alumni Association golf tournament. 11 a.m., $75 per person, registration 1 p.m., shotgun start, 2 p.m. Information: 317-407-2255 or www.cardinalritteralumni.org.

**July 24**
Cedadsfie House of Prayer, 3760 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Silent prayer day, 9-4 p.m., brown bag lunch, free-will offering. Information: 317-543-0154.

**July 24-23**
St. Martin Parish, 8044 Yorkridge Road, Guiford, Parish picnic. Sat. 5-11:30 p.m. (EDT), prime rib dinner, Sun. 11:30 a.m. (EDT) chicken dinner, Mass, games, food, information: 317-623-3408.

**July 24**

**July 25**
Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. “Spend a Summer in the Summer: The Catholic Faith Pure and Simple,” inquiry class, 7-9 p.m., Mass, 8:30 p.m. Information: 317-236-1521.

**July 25-30**
Our Lady of Edgewood University, Indianapolis. Fun Fest Thur., 5-10 p.m.; Fri., 5-10 p.m.; Sat., 5-10 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-7 p.m., midnight, music, games, food. Information: 317-787-8246.

**July 26**
Our Lady More Parish, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville. Renaissance Festival, 10 a.m., Thursday through Sunday, $60 per person. Information: 317-839-3141.

**July 27-30**
St. Lawrence Parish, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Rummage sale, benefits St. Vincent de Paul Society, Fri. 7 a.m.-11 a.m., Sat., 8 a.m.-12 p.m., bag sale,” 12:15-12:15 p.m. Information: 317-546-4055.

**July 29**
St. Ann Parish, 2862 S. Holt Road, Indianapolis. Fun Fest, Fri. 4-10 p.m., Sat. noon-11 p.m., food, games. Information: 317-244-3795.

**July 29-30**
St. Susanna Parish, 1210 E. 1717, Indianapolis. Saturday: 5 p.m.-11 p.m., Sunday: 4 p.m.-11 p.m., games, food. Information: 317-839-3333.

**July 30**
Festival College, 320 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Ec-Lab, two programs, “Drag-on- us” and “Butterfly Hips” and “Wacky Wetlands,” 10-11 a.m. Information: 317-955-6028.

**August 1-2**

**August 3-4**
St. Francis and Clare Church, 5901 Three Village Rd., Greenwood, Mass. 8 a.m. exposition, 8:30 p.m. adoration. Sunday: 8 a.m. Sacred Heart Adoration. Information: 317-456-8775.

**August 7-13**
Check It Out . . .

### Time Zones
- EST (Eastern Standard Time): Generally covers areas east of the United States, including the Atlantic and east Central time zones.
- EDT (Eastern Daylight Time): Used in areas that observe daylight saving time.
- MDT (Mountain Daylight Time): Used in the mountain region of the United States.

### Event Descriptions
- **Daily events**
- **Monthly events**
- **Annual events**
- **Regional events**
- **International events**

### Contact Information
- Email: benedictinn@yahoocom
- Phone: 317-788-7581

### Event Calendar submissions
- Include a date, location, name of the event, sponsors, cost, and phone number for more information.
- All information must be received by 5 p.m. on Thursday one week in advance of your Friday publication.
- Submissions will not be taken over Sunday and holidays.

### VIPs
- Raymond and Eloise (Hamish) Schmoe, members of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on Aug. 20. St. Joseph’s open house and small party will be at the couple’s winter cottage, 200 First St., at 5:30 p.m. Information: 317-456-8775.

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To submit an event, mail to: The Criterion, Events Calendar, PO. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

You may hand-deliver the notice to the Schoenstatt O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis. Events may be faxed to 317-236-1595 or e-mailed to oeller@saintmeinrad.edu.

For more information about our Events Calendar policy, log on to www.criteriononline.com, click on the “Events” link, then on the link to our events policy.
Crossroads walkers take steps to save lives across America

By Mary Ann Wyand

“Taking steps to save lives” is the theme of the 11th annual Crossroads Pro-Life Walk across the United States this summer.

Young adults participating in one of three Crossroads walks from California to Washington, D.C., said during their visit to Indianapolis on July 15-17 that they are encouraged about the future because so many Americans are working and praying for an end to abortion.

Other Crossroads walkers are hiking through the northern and southern states on their way to the nation’s capital, where they will gather in mid-August on the steps of the Supreme Court building on Capitol Hill to promote respect for the sanctity and dignity of life.

Some of the Crossroads walkers also will speak during a pro-life program at World Youth Day in Cologne, Germany, in August.

Jeff Newland of Valentine, Neb., a senior at Chadron State College in Chadron, Neb., majoring in art and psychology, said he decided to walk across America this year after meeting a group of Crossroads walkers during their journey two years ago.

Newland said the pro-life walk and opportunity to get to know the other walkers have given him a new appreciation for the power of prayer.

“We pray six or seven rosaries a day when we are walking,” he said. “I love the Memorare, and had never prayed it before I came on the walk.”

Newland said their cross-country walk has been a great opportunity to share pro-life messages with countless people.

“We feel like everybody we meet is walking with us,” he said. “Everybody’s prayers go with us and our prayers are for them. It’s a group effort!”

Newland joined the walkers in Nebraska and has walked for four weeks.

“About a third of us are flying to Lincoln, Neb., that was the first time I had ever prayed in front of an abortion clinic,” he said. “I was amazed at how emotional and experience it was for me. It was really hard to see all the people going inside [the clinic]. We were standing out there praying a rosary, but that was all we could do.”

Angela Beaver, who graduated from the University of Missouri in St. Louis last year, said she is discerning whether to attend graduate school to study theology and psychology.

“I came on the walk,” she said, “for the monthly Helpers of God’s Precious Infants monthly pro-life rosary. They’ve had 50 people praying the rosary there every week.”

Father Robert Robeson, director of the archdiocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, presided at the Helpers of God’s Precious Infants monthly pro-life Mass on July 16 at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Indianapolis then led the rosary with pro-life supporters in front of the Clinic of Women on West 16th Street in Indianapolis.

“It is easy to ignore the many ways in which our culture devalues the awesome gift of human life,” Father Robeson said in his homily. “… Think for a moment about our own tendency to value some lives over others without recognizing the fundamental value of every human life. … The life of a convicted serial murderer is just as valuable as the life of the pope. … “God became human and so our humanity became sacred,” he said. “The value of human life is sacred, and every person’s right to live that life with dignity is absolute.”

Citing the need to work for an end to abortion, poverty, capital punishment and “other offenses against the dignity of human life,” Father Robeson reminded the gathering that, “To be pro-life is to see the dignity of Christ in everyone. To be pro-life is to recognize our own imperfect tendency to value some lives more than others … then to do something to change that.”

“Every human life has the same dignity,” she said. “We all have the same intrinsic value in God’s eyes so we’re not just fighting for the unborn. We’re fighting for life all across the board.”

Miles Foley, a junior at Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio, lives in Sacramento, Calif., and joined the walk in San Francisco.

“I went home for five days in May,” he said. “I talked to the people at St. Rose of Lima Parish and raised money so I could go on the walk.”

“When we were in Sacramento, we talked at two parishes after Mass,” Foley said. “One of the women we met at Holy Family Parish was inspired and started a weekly pro-life rosary. They’ve had 50 people praying the rosary there every week.”

The cross-country walk has been a great experience, he said. “We’ve had many, many other highlights. I’m sure there are spiritual fruits all across the country because of the walk. We just walk and never know if someone in a car that passes by us has a change of heart. We’re out here to change hearts and change minds one at a time. If one life is changed, if one life is touched, then everything we do—giving up the summer, walking every day, the blisters, the soreness, the tiredness, living in an RV [recreational vehicle] with 12 people—is all worth it for that one changed heart.”

Foley said after he completes the national walk next month he will join some of the other Crossroads walkers at World Youth Day.

“About a third of us are flying to Europe on Aug. 8 and are going to do a mini-walk for about 10 days across Germany then we’re going to World Youth Day in support of our Holy Father,” he said. “The rumor is that we’re going to be one of three groups speaking at a pro-life talk there.”

Father Robert Robeson, director of the archdiocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, presided at the Helpers of God’s Precious Infants monthly pro-life Mass on July 16 at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Indianapolis then led the rosary with pro-life supporters in front of the Clinic of Women on West 16th Street in Indianapolis.

“It is easy to ignore the many ways in which our culture devalues the awesome gift of human life,” Father Robeson said in his homily. “… Think for a moment about our own tendency to value some lives over others without recognizing the fundamental value of every human life. … The life of a convicted serial murderer is just as valuable as the life of the pope. … “God became human and so our humanity became sacred,” he said. “The value of human life is sacred, and every person’s right to live that life with dignity is absolute.”

Citing the need to work for an end to abortion, poverty, capital punishment and “other offenses against the dignity of human life,” Father Robeson reminded the gathering that, “To be pro-life is to see the dignity of Christ in everyone. To be pro-life is to recognize our own imperfect tendency to value some lives more than others … then to do something to change that.”
Illinois governor orders creation of stem-cell research institute

ROMEOVILLE, Ill. (CNS)—Despite a moral outcry by pro-life Catholics and organizations in the state over embryonic stem-cell research, Illinois has become the first state in the nation to establish a stem-cell research institute without input from the public.

On July 12, Gov. Rod Blagojevich superseded the General Assembly by initiating an executive order to create the Illinois Regenerative Medicine Institute, which he plans to open before the year is over.

At a press conference in Chicago, he said the $10 million start-up cost for the institute would be funded by taxpayers, but details about ongoing funding, fiscal accountability and research methodology were not disclosed.

The governor said the institute’s scientists would conduct research involving all forms of stem cells, including stem cells from adults, umbilical cord blood and embryos, to develop advanced medical therapies.

The Church opposes embryonic stem-cell research because it destroys the embryo, but it advocates research using stem cells from adults and from umbilical cord blood.

Since the federal government has chosen to stall the medical advancements that will come with stem-cell research, it is up to the states to take action,” said Blagojevich.

Federal funding for such research is limited to existing cell lines. Illinois will be the first state in the Midwest to establish a stem-cell research facility and the fourth state in the nation, after California, Connecticut and New Jersey. However, in California voters approved funding for such research in 2004 and in Connecticut and New Jersey lawmakers authorized the necessary funding.

Michele Bajakian, director for the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago, said her office is “working with the Catholic Conference of Illinois to see if there are legal grounds” to challenge the order.

In April, the state’s Catholic bishops issued a joint letter to lawmakers objecting to establishment of a research facility that would conduct embryonic stem-cell research.

“We recognize human suffering. The call to be compassionate, however, does not justifying using public funds for embryonic stem-cell research,” they said.

A measure under consideration by the House in April called for instituting a 6 percent tax on cosmetic surgeries to establish the Illinois Regenerative Medicine Institute. It also asked Illinois voters to approve bond issues of $1 billion over 10 years to provide grants through the institute to fund both embryonic and adult stem-cell research. A similar measure was under consideration by the Senate. But neither measure had come up for a floor vote by mid-July.

“People in Illinois have a right to know what their government is doing with public funds,” said Robert Gilligan, executive director of the Illinois Right to Life Foundation.

Calling the Illinois governor’s executive action a “shell game,” Gilligan said Blagojevich circumvented even the office of Illinois Comptroller Dan Hynes, who introduced in the spring session of the General Assembly a proposal for a referendum to gather public input on the matter of stem-cell research.

Blagojevich called the Illinois House of Representatives’ Executive Committee, but lacking enough legislative support, the Hynes plan for a referendum was never formally called up for a vote in the General Assembly.

David Dring, spokesman for House Republican Leader Tom Cross of Plainfield, who co-sponsored the bill, said the budgetary language in the governor’s order is vague. But he said that was not unusual for state budgets, which are frequently haggled out in the last 12 hours before final approval. “It’s an imperfect process,” he added.

Dring said Cross stood behind the governor’s executive order.

The issue is of particular interest to Cross, whose daughter suffers from juvenile diabetes, one of a number of diseases researchers claim could be cured with embryonic stem-cell therapy. Although such research has not produced any results. Treatments with adult stem cells, on the other hand, have had some success.

I nterim officials and the head of the United Nations to urge a constitutional separation of religion from politics. The leaders said they feared discrimination, if the draft Iraq Constitution, due to be completed by Aug. 15, enshrines Shariah, or Islamic law.

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“If there is a move toward the confirmation of the role of the Islamic religion in Iraqi society, then it is only natural to confirm the role of other religions that have been historically established in Iraq,” the Christian leaders said in a letter to Iraqi Interim President Jalal Talabani. Prime Minister Iyad Allawi and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan. The letter was dated June 24 but was sent from Baghdad, Iraq, in mid-July.

“These are only asking for equality, freedom and equal opportunities and [prevention of] racial, religious and denominational discrimination,” they added.

The pressure for a Shariah-based constitution is coming mainly from Iraq’s Shiite Muslims, who make up 62 percent of the country’s population. Christians object to such provisions because they would effectively turn the country into an Islamic state, in which nonbelievers would automatically be denied rights they have previously enjoyed. Under Shi’ah, the freedom to worship by adherents of non-Muslim faiths would be sharply curtailed, and there is no equality between men and women or Muslims and non-Muslims.

Attempts to impose Shariah on religiously mixed societies, such as in Nigeria and Sudan, have led to episodes of violence. During a visit to London, Chaldean Catholic, Auxiliary Bishop Andreas Abouna of Baghdad told Catholic News Service that the Christian leaders wanted the constitution to be secular and based primarily on the “principle of citizenship.”

"First, we are citizens, so we have rights, the same as others," he said earlier.

"We feel in many ways that [the governor] betrayed his office" by superseding the process of the General Assembly, Robert Gilligan, executive director of the Catholic conference, the legislative liaison for the state’s Catholic bishops.

I nterim officials and the head of the United Nations to urge a constitutional separation of religion from politics. The leaders said they feared discrimination, if the draft Iraq Constitution, due to be completed by Aug. 15, enshrines Shariah, or Islamic law.

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Kathleen O’Hearn Northam and Charles Alexander Koch were married on July 2, 2005, at St. Augustine Church in Jeffersonville. Bishop Ronald Gainer of Lexington, Ky., was the principal celebrant. Father Clifford Vogelsang, above at left, pastor of St. Augustine Parish in Jeffersonville, and Father James Sichko, above at right, pastor of St. Mark Parish in Richmond, Ky., concelebrated the nuptial Mass. The bride is the daughter of Stephen and Ann Northam of Jeffersonville. The groom is the son of Gus and Theresa Koch of Parish, Ky.

Photography by Melissa Brewer of Fairdale, Ky.
Wedding Announcements

Beaupre-Roberson
Karen Beaupre and Christopher Roberson will be married on Aug. 13 at St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Donald and Lydia Bogemann. The groom is the son of George Albrecht and Barbara Fallowfield.

Blasdel-Schaefer
Lainey Nicole Blasdel and Joshua B. Schaefer will be married on Dec. 17 at St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Church in Bright. The bride is the daughter of Jody and Karen Blasdel. The groom is the son of Tim and Debbie Schaefer.

Bogemann-Albrecht
Lacey Michelle Bogemann and Matthew George Albrecht will be married on Aug. 27 at St. Roch Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Donald and Lydia Bogemann. The groom is the son of George Albrecht and Barbara Fallowfield.

Boody-Dinn
Heather Nichole Boody and Matthew Patrick Dinn were married on May 21 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Steven Craig and Diane Boody. The groom is the son of Dennis Dinn Sr. and Connie Dinn Popcheff.

Cheesman-Reder
Kasey L. Cheesman and Greg W. Reder will be married on July 2 at St. Lawrence Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of David and Nancy Cheesman. The groom is the son of Jim and Diane Reder.

Curley-Lytle
Sarah Jane Curley and Andrew Landon Lytle will be married on Oct. 15 at Prince of Peace Church in Madison. The bride is the daughter of Edward and Pam Curley. The groom is the son of Andrew and Karen Lytle.

Cylkowski-Hoffman
Jessica Peregrin Cylkowski and Brandon Eugene Hoffman will be married on Oct. 8 at St. Mary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Joseph Cylkowski and Joan Cylkowski. The groom is the son of David and Judy Hoffman.

Davis-North
Monica Marie Davis and Jerald Joseph North II will be married on Oct. 22 at Holy Name of Jesus Church in Beech Grove. The bride is the daughter of Charles and Mary Davis. The groom is the son of Jerald and Josephine North.

Durkott-Adams
Sarah Katherine Durkott and Stephen Joseph Adams were married on April 29 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of John F. and Kathy Durkott. The groom is the son of John W. and Mary Beth Adams III.

Elson-Lee
Tracy Lynne Elson and Damon Sidney Lee will be married on July 30 at Christ the King Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Rick and Linda Elson. The groom is the son of Dennis and Jan Lee.

Finnegan-Wenzel
Natalie Carole Finnegan and Craig Joseph Wenzel will be married on Sept. 10 at Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of John and Janice Finnegan. The groom is the son of Eugene and Patricia Wenzel.

Giesting-King
Lisa Marie Giesting and Robert Douglas King will be married on Oct. 29 at St. Louis Church in Batesville. The bride is the daughter of Lee and Mary Lou Giesting. The groom is the son of Ed and Jane King.

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Wedding Announcements

**Gutzwiller-Barker**
Theresa Marie Gutzwiller and Kurtis Matthew Young will be married on Nov. 19 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Stephen and Beth May. The groom is the son of Edward Rogers and Debbie Urbanski.

**Johnson-Schaffner**
Lisa Marie Johnson and Brandon Cole Schaffner will be married on Aug. 6 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in New Albany. The bride is the daughter of Stewart and Karen Johnson. The groom is the son of Rick Schaffner and the late Bobbi Sue Roberts.

**McClellan-Forestal**
Joni May McClellan and Erik Joseph Forestal will be married on Oct. 22 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church in Greenwood. The bride is the daughter of Carlos and Celina Medina. The groom is the son of Robert and Margaret Shope.

**Landers-Powell**
Reneé Noel Landers and Nathan Clyde Powell will be married on July 23 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Washington, D.C. The bride is the daughter of John Landers and Ellen Landers. The groom is the son of Steve and Sharon Powell.

**Lecher-Egg**
Amelia Claire Lecher and James David Egg will be married on Sept. 10 at St. Mary Church in Greensburg. The bride is the daughter of Ron and Donna Lecher. The groom is the son of David and Pam Egg.

**Mendenhall-Cavanaugh**
Valerie Mendenhall and Garod Cavanaugh will be married on Sept. 17 at St. Mark Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Paul Mendenhall and Debbie Herrman. The groom is the son of Gary Cavanaugh and Mary Lynn Cavanaugh.

**May-Rogers**
Michele Elizabeth May and Edward Joseph Rogers will be married on Nov. 19 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dean and Phyllis Illingworth. The groom is the son of Brett and Ruby Safewright.

**Heisig-Graves**
Anna K. Heisig and Richard E. Graves were married on May 28 at Good Shepherd Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Wayne and Mary Heisig. The groom is the son of Kevin and Vicki Young.

**Illingworth-Keslar**
Mark Allen Keslar will be married on July 23 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dean and Phyllis Illingworth. The groom is the son of Brett and Ruby Safewright.

**Hansberry-Young**
Lauren Michelle Hansberry and Travis Lee Young will be married on Dec. 16 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of John and Beverly Hansberry. The groom is the son of Kevin and Vicki Young.

**Kaminsky-Powell**
Robert and Margaret Shope. The groom is the son of Brett May. The bride is the daughter of Stephen and Beth May. The groom is the son of Edward Rogers and Debbie Urbanski.

**Molinar-Manzelli**
Sherry Lynn Molinar and Peter Christopher Manzelli will be married on Oct. 22 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Diana Molinar and the late Bill Molinar. The groom is the son of Will and Rita Manzelli.

**Murphy-Lopez**
Christina Janis Murphy and Ryan Matthew Lopez will be married on Aug. 6 at St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Don and Janice Murphy. The groom is the son of Rick and Cindy Lopez.

**Naughton-Brown**
Emily Marie Naughton and Edward Henry Brown will be married on Oct. 29 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Bloomington. The bride is the daughter of Joe and June Naughton. The groom is the son of Henry and Carol Brown.

**Ockomon-Clements**
Jan Marie Ockomon and W. Alan Clements will be married on Oct. 22 at St. Pius X Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of John and Barbara Ockomon. The groom is the son of Bob and Agnes Clements.

**O’Connor-Meyer**
Robert and Margaret Shope. The groom is the son of Brett May. The bride is the daughter of Stephen and Beth May. The groom is the son of Edward Rogers and Debbie Urbanski.

**More ANNOUNCEMENTS, page 12**
Wedding Announcements

Osmanski-Goedeker
Nicole Diane Osmanski and Jeffrey Paul Goedeker will be married on July 30 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church in Greenwood. The bride is the daughter of Mike and Kim Osmanski. The groom is the son of Paul and Darlene Goedeker.

Pieczko-Stumpf
Mary Elizabeth Pieczko and Jeffrey David Stumpf will be married on Oct. 8 at St. Monica Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of George and Marian Pieczko. The groom is the son of Tom Stumpf and Judy Stumpf.

Robinson-Graf
Andrea Nicole Robinson and Timothy John Graf were married on June 17 at St. Joseph Church in Sellersburg. The bride is the daughter of Dennis and Connie Robinson. The groom is the son of Elmer and Jane Graf.

Tobit Weekend helps engaged couples grow in love
Tobit Weekends are retreats designed to help engaged couples make their Christian marriage a success. Mentor couples and a priest conduct the marriage preparation course at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5333 E. 56th St., in Indianapolis throughout the year.

The Tobit brochure describes the retreat as “a sacred space where you complement each other, ... discuss your strengths and weaknesses, and practice techniques of communication.” The brochure explains that the weekend is “an investment in your relationship that takes you away from the tensions and demands of daily life … . Time in this environment gives you a unique opportunity to grow in your knowledge and love of one another.”

Tobit Weekends for the remainder of the year are scheduled on July 22-24, Sept. 16-18, Oct. 21-23 and Nov. 11-13. No weekend is scheduled in August or December.


No weekend is scheduled in March, August or December next year. No weekend is scheduled in August or December.

The fee of $270 per couple includes accommodations, meals and programs.

Your knowledge and love of one another.

Schous-Murray
Elizabeth Schous and Evan C. Murray will be married on Sept. 3 at St. Stephen Church in New Boston, Mich. The bride is the daughter of Pieter and Peggy Schous. The groom is the son of John and Sharon Murray.

Wahl-Engelen
Megan Jeanette Wahl and Robert William Engelen will be married on Aug. 27 at St. Mary Church in Lanesville. The bride is the daughter of Steve and Theresa Wahl. The groom is the son of Bill and Kathy Engelen.

Sears-D’Onofrio
Kristina Elaine Sears and Gregory Michael D’Onofrio will be married on Sept. 24 at St. Michael Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dale and Anita Sears. The groom is the son of Nancy Seaman and the late Robert Seaman.

Selm-Buesing
Dana Rose Selm and William Robert Buesing will be married on Oct. 8 at St. Michael Church in Brookville. The bride is the daughter of John and Ann Selm. The groom is the son of Roger and Sandra Buesing.

Wright-Zinser
Myla Ann Wright and Michael Paul Zinser will be married on Dec. 17 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of David and Phyllis Powell. The groom is the son of Paul and Rita Zinser.

The Criterion’s Spring Marriage Supplement will be published on Feb. 3, 2006.
Research on marriage confirms value of chastity

By Daniel Sarell

Director of the archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries

For all of the pastoral teaching that informs our ministries to families, analyzing the latest social data is equally helpful, telling us what is happening in our society and how the Church can respond in a timely way.

At Rutgers University in Camden, N.J., the secular National Marriage Project publishes an annual report called “The State of Our Unions.” This report is especially helpful for identifying areas where we as Church might focus our energies for evangelization and in developing ministries that promote chastity.

The 2004 report found that teenagers who get married are up to three times more likely to divorce than those who marry later in life, and women who have children before marriage are less likely to find a spouse.

According to the study, people of similar values, backgrounds and life goals “are more likely to divorce” than those who marry with the passion and “passion is all” that brought them together. Those who marry “sensibly, and with prudence” are more likely to stay married. That might mean “values, backgrounds and life goals” are more important than passion.

Research on marriage confirms value of chastity. As more children of divorce become adults, we should not minimize the effects that their divorce experience will have on their own marriages, and we must find ways in our parishes to compassionately include younger children of divorce without stigmatizing them.

Despite popular theories that the divorce rate among those who live together before marriage will decline as cohabitation becomes more common and accepted, the data remains consistent, confirming the conclusion that cohabitation leads directly to unsatisfying and conflicted marriages and “eventual divorce.”

Challenging young people to resist cohabitation might make us seem “out of touch.” But when we are not courageously prophetic through gentleness and compassion, our conversations about romance can seem obvious, but how many times have we heard the phrase “opposites attract” in conversations about romance?

The study also indicated that introductions made by “family, friends or acquaintances” are more likely to lead to marriage. These introductions account for 60 percent of marriages and suggest that chance meetings, dating services and nightclubs are not the best ways to meet one’s mate.

Singles who are ready for marriage may do well to lay off the Internet chat, get involved in parish activities and have an open mind when Mom invites her single accountant to Sunday dinner.

The report’s findings on divorce are also very telling. Children of divorce are “slightly less likely to marry and much more likely to divorce.”

I am reminded of a recent discussion with a married man whose parents were divorced. “Divorce” for him is like a moon toward which he is always tempted to escape when times are tough. Awareness of that temptation strengthens him to seek reconciliation with his wife, rather than giving up easily.

As more children of divorce become married adults, we should not minimize the effects that their divorce experience will have on their own marriages, and we must find ways in our parishes to compassionately include younger children of divorce without stigmatizing them.

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Jesus in the Gospels: Opening to the Gentiles

Matthew and Mark tell us about Jesus’ trip outside of Palestine—to Tyre and Sidon, in what is now the country of Lebanon. We can imagine Jesus had good reasons for this trip: Jesus had reservations with the scribes and Pharisees; he needed some private time with his Apostles; he thought it wise to put some distance between himself and Herod Antipas who, Luke’s Gospel says, maybe he had second thoughts about his mission to the Gentiles. He refused to be derided by Jesus because of her love and her faith in Jesus. So she got help. Jesus healed her daughter from a distance.

Afterward, perhaps Jesus thought about what he had just tried to do, maybe he had second thoughts about his mission being only to the lost Jews. Perhaps he realized that he had just told another told him of Simeon’s prophecy when Jesus was presented in the Temple 40 days after his birth, calling him “a light for revelation to the Gentiles” (Lk 1:32).

Or perhaps he recalled Isaiah’s prophecy about the Messiah: “I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth” (Isa 49:6).

Whatever Jesus reflected about, he decided to go back to the Decapolis (10 Gentile cities). Check a map and you’ll find that the Decapolis was such a rough journey. He went from the coast of the Mediterranean Sea east across to Phoenix to the colonia Heraclea to the east side of the Sea of Galilee. It was a long trip.

When he reached the Decapolis, he discovered that the demoniac he had cured then he sent his first mission to the other cities and the four corners of it. Large crowds came to see him, bringing with them “the lame, the blind, the deformed, and the soul-ill, and many others.” Jesus cured them “and they glorified the God of Israel” because their mightiest gods couldn’t perform wonders like this.

It was here, too, that Jesus performed his second miracle of feeding the multitudes with only a few fish and loaves of bread, as I discussed in a previous column. Jesus had extended his mission to the Gentiles. 

Jesus’ mission was and still is so enjoyable. In today’s Light Bible study.

Let’s not rush to judgment

Shirley Vogler Meister

Observing nature from serene sitting spaces

It took most of one spring and summer to prepare an outdoor sitting space I call Cypress Corner. After removing and transplanting plants and shrubs there, I covered the tiny triangular area with stamped concrete. A wooden scents wafts over the area, especially in summer.

This aroma occurs when the temperature climbs above 70°F.

However, because summer heat reflected from the house and adjacent blacktopped driveway is so intense, we can become uncomfortable except in the early morning or evening.

Prior to that project, I used a carport as my sitting space, but vehicles took over that area. Strongers persons than I then moved my heavy wooden swing to the back yard. I purchased the swing on the last day of the Indiana State Fair one year, using birthday money from my sister-in-law, brother-in-law, Beverley and John Thurman. With help, slowly but surely, I hope to surround the back yard with shady plants. If I can do so, through God’s grace, my neighbors, Frank and Charlene Gleaves (whose property is always neat and color and delight) might have a more serene and orderly view of my yard.

In the spring, for a time, love, I enjoy my quiet outdoor spaces, especially when praying, meditating and reading. These are enjoyable times of being familiar to my goal to read the entire Bible in one year. My inspiration related to my desire for a world in peace. I was inspired to join the “Today’s Light Bible study.”

One time after I was hospitalized in my Belleville, Ill., hometown, Beverley became my caregiver until I could return to Indiana. Experiencing nature from the hospital, I found that the swings was and still is so enjoyable. In fact, not long ago, Paul and I relaxed there, surrounded by flora and fauna, birds and critters. Besides more than two dozen types of birds, their city property backwoods has been used by deer, a bobcat, a fox, groundhogs, squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits, raccoons, possums, and domestic animals.

How much I’ve learned about nature—and God’s nature and mercy since that time.

You get the drift, I’m sure: We’re not always in control of what happens to us. The only real control we have is our responses to our rude awakening.

Naturally, I’m writing this because I recently experienced another one of these times in my life. I had agreed almost a year ago to be a keynote speaker at The North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics. I was to speak in early July on my personal “journey to back grocery to joy,” in line with the theme of this year’s gathering at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind.

In conversations with Irene Varley, a conference organizer, I agreed I should share the story of my divorce almost 20 years ago, leaving me a single mother of six. In these decades, I had learned much, especially that one can’t consider with built-in guarantees that all will be well at all times. From expecting to live happily ever after we can be catastrophized when a new life situation we are completely unprepared for. Surprisingly, we also can find ourselves called to serve others we never knew we possessed—and that is the beginning of a new and challenging way.

What I learned over these many decades is that if we can believe we have a personal mission given to us by our God, we can move, even though sometimes with difficulty, from our darkness to joy. We don’t even have to tell this to anybody because I never got to tell this to anybody.

I arrived at the Northwest Airlines terminal at Logan International Airport in early morning, ticket in hand, and found myself joining hundreds of people who had been waylaid because of a rainstorm that hadn’t taken off, grounded because of rainstorm conditions. Some planes now were taking off, but not the one I was booked for. The Northwest agents became somewhat testy with people desperately seeking answers. I was a woman doctor was agonizing for a patient who needed her; a young man was missing his best friend’s wedding; I had to tell Varley to say I wasn’t going to make it to Notre Dame.

In the evening, I got a seat on Connecticut Limo for my 6-mile trip home. A lovely woman named Claudia sat next to me, and in the next hour and a half we shared stories of our work, our Catholic faith, her husband’s job as a construction worker. I realized, of course, my sadness at not being able to keep my commitment as a conference speaker.

When we arrived at the Connecticut Limo parking lot, I needed a taxi to take me to my home in the town of my surprise, Claudia, after speaking to her husband, came back and said, “We’d like to give you home and accepted with much gratitude.

At my home, as I left the car, Claudia said something that touched my heart. She wanted you to consider that, though this was a day that was very hard and sad for you, you learned much.

I was supposed to be focusing on cele- brating the journey from darkness to joy, and I did—not at Notre Dame, but on my own driveway—because of two caring people.

(Shirley Vogler Meister, a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.)

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

Web’s last plans go awry

Our “best-laid plans” all too often fail due to unexpected developments arising from circumstances we can’t control. When this happens, we can scream or shout that we have a tantrum—or we can make a list of the things that have not been the end of the world. You get the drift, I’m sure: We’re not always in control of what happens to us. The only real control we have is our responses to our rude awakening.

(Shirley Vogler Meister is a columnist for Catholic News Service.)

Catholic News Service.)

†

The Human Side/Fr. Eugene Hemrick

Let’s not rush to judgment

(Shirley Vogler Meister, a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.)

†

The Bottom Line/Antoinette Bosco

(Shirley Vogler Meister is a columnist for Catholic News Service.)

†

Antoinette Bosco is a columnist for Catholic News Service.)
As might be assumed from the name, Kings has to do with the kings of Israel. Actually, only three kings reigned over what was the united kingdom of Israel. They were Saul, David and Solomon.

After Solomon’s death, dynastic squabbles resulted in the division of the kingdom.

Great mystique surrounded David and Solomon.

David was the king who confirmed his own—and the nation’s covenant—with God.

Solomon was regarded as the wisest of men. This regard for Solomon added credibility to his action described in this weekend’s reading. He realized, despite his own intelligence and access to power, God was supreme.

Solomon asked God not for power or wealth, but for the wisdom to be able to govern well. Governing well, of course, meant bringing the people into accord with God. Possessing this wisdom, for this end, was Solomon’s treasure.

St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans is the source of the second reading.

Beginning this reading is a verse that has long been a favorite source of consolation for Christians: “We know that God makes all things work together for good to those who love him.”

Jesus insisted before Pilate that the Redeemer’s kingdom was not of this world. As followers of Jesus, as part of the Mystical Body of Christ, we are in the same situation.

Realizing that our kingdom is not of this world requires wisdom. Insisting that we belong to another kingdom and live with their concerns—in order to be with God. However, if we are wise enough to seek God and God alone, we are extraor-
dinarily wise and we will be rewarded eternally.

Reflection

The mystery of the Word calls us directly to face the facts that, as Christians, our kingdom is not of this world.

A key phrase in understanding the message of these phrases is in the refer-
eence to the eagerness of the pearl merchant who sees a truly precious pearl. He literally sells all that he owns to acquire this pearl.

Being truly wise, in the sense that wisdom means an understanding of life and particularly of God’s place in our lives, is a surefire of unbelievable value.

It also teaches us that we must invest every part of ourselves in our quest for God and that we must “sell everything,” so to speak. We must devote everything to dis-
cipleship. Otherwise, our discipleship will not succeed.

The reading reminds us further that the world—and even the kingdom of God on earth—are peopled by saints as well as sinners. God, and only God, will bal-
ance the picture. Disciples must seek God on their own regardless of their peers.

Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith or experiences of prayer for possible publication in the “My Journey to God” column.

Several reflections also are appre-
ciated. Please include name, address, parish and telephone number with sub-
missions.

Send material for consideration to “My Journey to God,” The Criterion, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or e-mail to criterion@archindy.org.

My Journey to God

Family Ties

Let those equipped teach higher skills; my child and I will roam the hills.

While plucking pebbles in a stream, we’ll sit beneath a tree and dream.

Perhaps check out some wildlife tracks, then search the ground for artifacts.

And just as bare branches hang, there will be talk of many things

(Dorothy M. Colgan is a member of St. Meinrad Parish in St. Meinrad.)

Daily Readings

Monday, July 25

James, Apostle
2 Corinthians 4:7-15
Psalm 126:1-6
Matthew 20:20-28

Tuesday, July 26

Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Exodus 33:7-11, 34:9-28
Psalm 103:6-11
Matthew 13:36-46

Wednesday, July 27

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99:5-7
Matthew 13:44-46

Thursday, July 28

Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38
Psalm 84:3-8; 96:11
Matthew 13:47-53

Friday, July 29

Martha
Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37
Psalm 81:3-6, 10-11
John 11:19-27
or Luke 10:38-42

Saturday, July 30

Peter Chrysologus, bishop and Martian
Leviticus 25:1, 8-17
Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 7-8
Matthew 14:1-12

Sunday, July 31

Eightheenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 53:1-3
Psalm 145:9-10, 15-18
Ephesians 6:10-18, 35-37
Matthew 14:13-21

Question Corner/ Fr. John Dietzen

Priest must delay baptism if parents don’t practice faith

Not long ago, you mentioned in your column that a priest should delay the baptism of a child he knew would not be raised Catholic.

I know of cases, however, when chil-

dren of divorced and remarried Catholics are baptized.

A

By Church law, parents should have their children baptized within the first three weeks after birth (Canon #867).

The law assumes, however, that the parents are practicing Catholics, pre-
baptized by their teaching and example to raise their children as good Catholic men and women.

The same law therefore requires that before or after birth the parents approach their parish priest to request the sacra-
ment and to be properly prepared for it.

The Church, in fact, insists that a priest cannot lawfully baptize a child unless he has a solidly founded hope that the baby will be raised properly as a member of the Catholic faith.

This hope is lacking, he should delay the bap-
tism and explain to the parents why this is being done (Canon #868).

More than once as much as possible, during the baptism ceremony, Catholic parents proclaim that they accept and believe the faith in which the child is baptized, and that they plan to give the example and teaching necessary for that faith.

Under normal circumstances, this promise cannot be made by supposedly Catholic parents unless they are faithful to Catholic practice and are not bringing the child for baptism solely out of a sense of family tradition or a vague feeling that “it’s the right thing to do.”

In other words, the Church is con-
cerned that parents not be placed in the position of making a profession of faith that they do not honestly accept.

Thus, the pastor is directed to work with par-
ents who are not yet ready sincerely to profess their faith and assume their bap-
tismal duties then decide on a time to administer the sacrament.

These regulations may still surprise some who remember that children of

baptized Catholic parents were almost always automatically baptized Catholics.

But, being realistic, we are in a situation different from when the Church routinely baptized these children, regardless of circumstances.

Americans are aware of the history of the Church during the past few hundred years knows that by unconditional routine bap-
tism of Catholics and others, whole populations of people were left at a seri-
ously inadequate level of Catholic faith.

Our separation from non-practicing Catholic parents followed another.

Seldom were they expected to deal hon-
estly with their own faith, and open themselves and their children to the opportunity to grow toward anything like a full Catholic Christian life.

Several years ago, a respected canon law ma-

jor made a point at a meeting of the Can
canon Law Society of America. Speaking of the right to baptism and the other sacra-
ments of initiation, he said: “Surely human beings have a right to enter that commu-
nity and participate in it. But they have no right to enter it to destroy it.”

The community itself has the right of self-preservation and growth. It has the right to be what God intends it to be. And this right of the community conditions the right of individuals to enter it.”

Sometimes divorced and remarried Catholic parents cannot for some reason have their marriage validated now in the Catholic Church.

They practice their faith as much as possible, however, and wish to raise their children Catholic. In such cases, it is proper, and not uncommon, for the children to be baptized.

Q

do not want to be kept alive by any means of a feeding tube if I am ever in a persistent vegetative state. Do I have that right morally? What is the teaching of the Church on feeding tubes? (New York)

Many dioceses have prepared publi-
cations that cover these subjects, including the booklet “In Life and Death We Belong to the Lord,” and “Considering Advance Directives,” published by the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

It treats living wills, powers of attorney, weighing benefits and burdens of medical treatments, and related subjects. A copy may be obtained by writing to that office at 328 W. Kellogg Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55102 or calling 651-291-4515.

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, July 24, 2005

• Kings 3:5, 7-12
• Romans 8:28-30
• Matthew 13:44-52

The First Book of Kings provides the first reading for this weekend’s Liturgy of the Word.

First and Second Kings originally comprised one book. An editor, however, even-
tually divided the book into two parts. Thus, today, all ver-
sions of the Bible present Kings as two vol-
umes.

As might be assumed from the name, Kings has to do with the kings of Israel. Actually, only three kings reigned over what was the united kingdom of Israel. They were Saul, David and Solomon.

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eence to the eagerness of the pearl merchant who see...
Archbishop Eterovic said the pope did not just shorten the synod, but asked for "modifications to the synod assembly’s procedures to focus the work and promote its collegial and synodal aspects even more."

The first change, he said, is a direct result of the reduced synod length. At the 2005 synod, each bishop will have only six minutes to address the assembly rather than eight minutes, which was the practice in the past.

The second change is the addition of one hour of open discussion at the end of each of the days on which formal speeches are made.

“This will permit the members to ask for and obtain more information from the synod fathers who have spoken in the hall,” he said, as well as fostering “an open exchange of opinions and experiences.”

The final change is that each bishop will be “strongly urged” to focus his six-minute speech on only one of the four main parts of the synod’s working document: the eucharist in today’s world, in the faith of the Church, in the life of the Church or in the mission of the Church.

Archbishop Eterovic said he hoped all the bishops wanting to speak about a topic from the first chapter of the document would sign up to speak first, but said it was not likely that the synod would be that organized.

The focus on one theme, he said, “should make the speeches more articulate and, in that way, make the discussion about individual themes more fruitful.”

At the end of the last general Synod of Bishops, held in 2001, participants formally asked Pope John Paul II to consider calling an “extraordinary assembly” of bishops to discuss how the process could be improved.

The ordinary synods bring together close to 250 bishops, plus experts and guests, almost all of whom can make formal speeches during the first half of the synod’s period.

In addition to the potential aural overload of so many speeches, many bishops complained that the first-come, first-up selection of speakers meant that the content bounced from one topic to another and back again with no chance for follow-up, comment or development.

Pope Benedict’s changes should help resolve that problem.

During the 2001 synod, several bishops also advocated modeling the synod process more closely on the synods of Eastern Catholic Churches. Unlike their Western counterpart, which has a purely advisory role, Eastern synods make concrete decisions for their Churches.

However, strengthening the decision-making power of the synod was not one of the changes Archbishop Eterovic announced.

In his 1988 book, *Church, Ecumenism and Politics*, then-Cardinal Ratzinger included an essay on the synod’s structure and task, outlining why he believed the synod should not be a decision-making body.

The College of Bishops makes decisions only when it acts as a whole, for instance, during an ecumenical council, he wrote.

Although most synod members are elected to represent their national bishops’ conferences, an individual bishop cannot delegate his decision-making authority to a representative, the essay said.

“A fundamental task of the synod is without a doubt an exchange of information,” strengthening the bonds of communion between bishops and, therefore, helping them better exercise their authority in their dioceses while recognizing their obligation to be concerned about the universal Church, he said.

In addition, he said, making the synod a decision-making body would further centralize the Church, something most advocates of greater collegiality would oppose. †
U.S.

Documents on life, virtue of Mother Henriette Delille sent to Rome

NEW ORLEANS (CNS)—A box containing nearly 6,000 pages of testimony and other documents on the life and virtue of Mother Henriette Delille was sent to the Vatican Congregation for Saints’ Causes. A June 30 ceremony at the motherhouse of the Sisters of the Holy Family in New Orleans marked the closing of the New Orleans archdiocesan investigation into the life, virtue and reputation of sanctity of the free woman of color who founded schools, hospitals and missions throughout the region, from Denver to El Paso, Texas, and from Phoenix to Las Cruces, N.M. To become a basilica, a church must be known for leadership in faith, life, antiquity, artwork and importance in the history of the Catholic faith.

Cathedral in Santa Fe Archdiocese is named a minor basilica

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI is naming the St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in New Mexico a basilica, Archbishop Michael Sheehan of Santa Fe said. The name title makes St. Francis the first church in New Mexico to be named a basilica by the pope, and reasons for the honor include the fact that litigation has delayed an annual cathedral ceremony every year on the birthday of the statue of Our Lady of Peace, which was brought to Santa Fe in 1625. The cathedral parish was founded in 1610. “This is a very significant title,” said the archbishop. “It is granted to prominent and significant churches throughout the world as a sign of papal honor. The title of minor basilica is given to a handful of churches and usually refers to the four in Rome, including St. Peter’s. The Vatican said the cathedral in Santa Fe is “the cradle of Catholicism” in the southwestern United States, crucial to the establishment of daughter dioceses throughout the region, from Denver to El Paso, Texas, and from Phoenix to Las Cruces, N.M. To be a basilica, a church must be known for leadership in faith, life, antiquity, artwork and importance in the history of the Catholic faith.

Nun on front lines battling AIDS in Kenya speaks to Indiana parish

LAPORTE, Ind. (CNS)—Sahina, a 60-year-old Kenyan woman who traditionally would be cared for by her children or grandchildren, is currently caring for her grandchildren, as HIV/AIDS has claimed the children’s parents. Sahina’s priest is not unique in her native land, where more than 5,000 people are infected with the virus every year, according to the statue of Our Lady of Peace, which was brought to Santa Fe in 1625. The cathedral parish was founded in 1610. “This is a very significant title,” said the archbishop. “It is granted to prominent and significant churches throughout the world as a sign of papal honor. The title of minor basilica is given to a handful of churches and usually refers to the four in Rome, including St. Peter’s. The Vatican said the cathedral in Santa Fe is “the cradle of Catholicism” in the southwestern United States, crucial to the establishment of daughter dioceses throughout the region, from Denver to El Paso, Texas, and from Phoenix to Las Cruces, N.M. To be a basilica, a church must be known for leadership in faith, life, antiquity, artwork and importance in the history of the Catholic faith.

Catholic Extension celebrates 100 years with exhibition

WASHINGTON (CNS)—In honor of its 100th anniversary, the Catholic Church Extension Society, which supports mission work in the United States, brought a multimedia exhibit to the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center in Washington on July 15. The exhibit, which was on display from July 15 through Aug. 31, featured photographs and documents that charted the growth and development of the society, which was founded in 1905 by a young priest from what was then the Diocese of Detroit, Father Francis Kelly.

Center for victims of clergy abuse holds open house in Massachusetts

HOLYOKE, Mass. (CNS)—Believed to be the first of its kind in the United States, the Victim Resource Center in Holyoke is helping victims of clergy sexual abuse in the Springfield area. At least one of the arch- tects of the center, himself a victim of abuse, said knowing that others are being assisted has helped him tremendously. “I think it’s possible for me to have a sense of my saving grace,” said Martin Bono, one of the 46 who settled abuse cases with the Diocese of Springfield in July 2004 for a total of more than $3 million. “This money that I got from the settlement absolutely meant nothing to me,” Bono told those gathered at an open house at the center on June 28. The facility opened last December and is located in the Mount Tom Mental Health Center. The center provides therapy for its clients and also offers a range of community services such as job placement, continuing education, housing and budgeting. Staff members also refer people to other agencies for services they do not offer.

Nominations being accepted for national health care award

LOS ANGELES (CNS)—Nominations are now being accepted for the Catholic Extension Comfort Award, presented to a nurse or other nonphysician health care professional who has been outstanding in “service, sacri- fice and innovation,” according to an announcement from the award’s sponsor, Cherokee Uniforms in Los Angeles. Last year’s winner was Lynda Chever, a licensed practical nurse caring for elderly Catholics and runs at Mohan Health Care Center in Columbus, Ohio. Candidates may be nominated in two of the following categories, but may only win in one: registered nurse, licensed practical nurse/licensed vocational nurse, student nurse and nonphysician health care professional. Nominations must be submitted via the web site, www.cherokeeniform.com, by July 31. Along with a name, the nomination should include a 100-word description of the person’s health care service.

WORLD

Pokey says body, soul can benefit from vacation, especially outdoors

LES COMBES, Italy (CNS)—Both body and soul can benefit from a relaxing, getaway vacation, especially one spent in the outdoors. Pope Benedict XVI said from an Alpine mountain retreat in northern Italy: “Vacation time with family and loved ones offers the opportunity to spend “more time dedicated to prayer, reading and medita- tion on the deep meaning of life,” he said on July 17 before an audience of 2,000 to 3,000 people. In the title of minor basilica is reserved for a handful of churches and usually refers to the four in Rome, including St. Peter’s. The Vatican said the cathedral in Santa Fe is “the cradle of Catholicism” in the southwestern United States, crucial to the establishment of daughter dioceses throughout the region, from Denver to El Paso, Texas, and from Phoenix to Las Cruces, N.M. To be a basilica, a church must be known for leadership in faith, life, antiquity, artwork and importance in the history of the Catholic faith.

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Baniak and Patricia Daly. David Daly. Brother of Mary X, Indianapolis, July 9. Son of DALY, John David, July 4. Sister of Esther Bennett CHRISTIANSEN, Emily M., of Marion Haas and Wilbert Arthur and Virgil Bleill. Brother BLEILL, Norbert J., Jacqueline Back, Geraldine (Schaefer), those are separate obituaries or have other connections to it; are natives of the archdiocese are included here, unless they religious sisters and brothers are listed elsewhere in Obituaries of archdiocesan be sure to state date of death. Please submit in writing to our board for a complete index of obituaries in the Criterion.

The Mass of Christian Burial for Brother Lawrence Miller was Thursday, July 14, 2005, at the Church of the Gesu, 4344 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. He was 92 and had been a member of the Jesuit Order since 1934. Brother Lawrence was born on Jan. 31, 1913, in St. Wendel, Ind. He completed grade school at St. Boniface School in Evansville, Ind., then dropped out of high school after one year to help earn money for his family. From 1928-29, he studied at Loyola University in Chicago, and in 1933, he entered the candidate program of the Brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Watertown, Wis., to finish high school and begin training for the brotherhood. He received the habit of the brotherhood at the beginning of his novice year in 1936 in Rolling Prairie, Ind., then professed his first vows on Feb. 19, 1937. He made his perpetual vows on Aug. 16, 1940, at Notre Dame. Brother Lawrence served on the faculty at Cathedral High School when it was a high school at 1400 N. Meridian St. in Indianapolis then returned to Notre Dame to complete his bachelor’s degree in 1941.

Brother Lawrence earned a master’s degree in social work at the University of Chicago then served as the director of two boys’ homes staffed by the Holy Cross brothers in Milwaukee, Wis. He also served his order as superior of the community there. He was superior of the brothers’ community at Columbia Hall on the Notre Dame campus from 1958-62 then served as assistant provincial from 1962-68. Brother Lawrence served as a social worker at the Father Gibault School in Terre Haute from 1968-73 before beginning a social work assignment at the Evansville State Hospital in Evansville in 1973.

From 1984-91, he assisted in the Offices for the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross at Notre Dame then retired to Dujarie House there. Surviving are three brothers, Edgar, Eugene and Francis Miller, and three sisters, Anita, Cornelia and Ruth.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., 46567.

Osteoporosis
Physicians in the field of Osteoporosis are looking for volunteers to participate in a research study involving an FDA approved medication.

To Qualify:
1. Female and 55-84 years old
2. At least 5 years postmenopausal
3. Not currently taking Fosamax, Actonel, Evista or hormones

Free study related care including:
- Free lab work
- Free bone density measurement
- Free consult with a physician
- Free investigational study drug
- Compensated if accepted into a study

Risks will be disclosed prior to participation

Call the Osteoporosis Nurse for more information:
Anne 317-274-0945

African visit
Laura Bush greets a child while touring facilities at the PASADA AIDS center in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on July 13. The center is run by the Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam. The first lady was in Africa for an official visit to promote AIDS prevention and strengthen the role of women on the continent.

Holy Cross Brother Lawrence Miller was 92
Brother Lawrence was born on Jan. 31, 1913, in St. Wendel, Ind. He completed grade school at St. Boniface School in Evansville, Ind., then dropped out of high school after one year to help earn money for his family. From 1928-29, he studied at Loyola University in Chicago, then worked for four years at an orphanage. In 1933, he entered the candidate program of the Brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Watertown, Wis., to finish high school and begin training for the brotherhood. He received the habit of the brotherhood at the beginning of his novice year in 1936 in Rolling Prairie, Ind., then professed his first vows on Feb. 19, 1937. He made his perpetual vows on Aug. 16, 1940, at Notre Dame. Brother Lawrence served on the faculty at Cathedral High School when it was a high school at 1400 N. Meridian St. in Indianapolis then returned to Notre Dame to complete his bachelor’s degree in 1941. Brother Lawrence earned a master’s degree in social work at the University of Chicago then served as the director of two boys’ homes staffed by the Holy Cross brothers in Milwaukee, Wis. He also served his order as superior of the community there. He was superior of the brothers’ community at Columbia Hall on the Notre Dame campus from 1958-62 then served as assistant provincial from 1962-68. Brother Lawrence served as a social worker at the Father Gibault School in Terre Haute from 1968-73 before beginning a social work assignment at the Evansville State Hospital in Evansville in 1973.

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VACATION RENTALS

BEACHFRONT CONDO, Maderia Beach, Fl. On the Gulf of Mexico, 2BR/2BA, pool. March through November. Max. 8 guests. Owner Sean photos, maps. Call Scooter at 317-357-2431.

NEW SMYRNA Beach, FL. Oceanview condos, fully furnished. 2BR/2BA., 2 pools & tennis. Visit Beach, too! Phone 386-427-5376.

INDIAN ROCKS Beach, FL. Pixie place condo facing beach, on intercostal, gorgeous pool, secure lobby with covered parking. $550-1200 $500 wk, $1600 month. 317-324-1004.


PANAMA CITY Beach townhouse, sleeps 4. Beach pool, mini golf, tennis, pool w/ grill. 823-9880.

PANAMA CITY Beach, FLA. Oceanview condo, fully furnished 2 br/2 ba. Owner: Photos, maps. Call Scooter at 317-357-8955.


Pammy Home Specialist Specializing in Roofing – Home Repairs Call Dave 317-381-3051.

DECK DOCTOR (Our Lady of the Commons Parish) Deck and Fence Pressure Washing and Sealing Concrete Cleaning Driveways, Patios, Pool Areas Free Estimates Reference (15+ years experience) 317-388-7622 or 317-372-5340 Servicing the Greater Indianapolis Area.

GUTTER SERVICE Kelly’s Gutter Cleaning Free Estimates • Minimum Repair 862-9377.

Office Space Available

Beautiful waterfront office space approvals on street level and second floor level. Immediate occupancy. Call Jan at 317-576-0700.

Indianapolis’s Largest Weekly Newspaper Is Growing! Call 226-1572 to advertise!

Positions Available

Bishop Chatard High School is seeking a Communications, English, or some other allied area. E-mail Dana ddanberry@archindy.org or call 317-575-1975 or 866-557-9910. For information about rates for classified advertising, call (317) 236-1572.

Positions Available

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Seeking an individual to serve St. Mary’s Parish by providing vision and direction for the religious, educational and spiritual formation of the parish. To serve and direct the pastor, board and staff. An opportunity to develop and implement ministries/programs rooted in the teachings and spiritual formation of the Roman Catholic Church. To empower parish lay leadership. To create and implement a new vision for the parish. Salary $50,000-$55,000. Please send resume to: Father Kevin Weiss, Pastor, St. Mary’s Catholic Church, 111 S. Pearl Street, Anderson, IN 46016.

Call or Email Dana For your Classified Needs 236-1575 or ddanberry@archindy.org.

LITURGY DIRECTOR

Seeking an individual to serve St. Mary’s Parish, providing vision and direction in the areas of liturgical celebration, 5 sacramental areas, worship, music and liturgy planning. To carry out the Parish Mission and the Mission of the Parish Team. This is a half-time position and therefore financially ineligible for benefits. Must be a practicing Roman Catholic. Bilingual is a plus, but not required. Appropriate education and/or experience is required. Please send resume, n/a if later than August 30th, 2005, to Liturgy Director Search Committee St. Mary’s Church 1115 Pearl Street Anderson, IN 46016.
Indianapolis native ordained to the priesthood for French religious order

By Sean Gallagher

On April 24, Pope Benedict XVI enthusiastically declared during the homily of his inaugural Mass that “the Church is alive” and “the Church is young.” This youth and vitality were on display on June 25 when a former Immaculate Heart of Mary parishioner from Indianapolis, Deacon Mary David Hoyt, was ordained to the priesthood in the Basilica of St. Mary Magdalene in Vézelay, France, as a member of the Community of St. John.

This religious order was founded in France only 30 years ago yet now has more than 500 members hailing from more than two dozen countries around the world. The average age of the members of the order is 37. Father Mary David is 31.

The pastoral ministries of the order include parish ministry, teaching, preaching, youth ministry and serving as chaplains in schools, hospitals and prisons.

Father Mary David, who was given the name Michael Paul at his baptism, joined the Community of St. John in 1997 at its priory in Laredo, Texas. The only other current foundation of the community in the United States is in Princetown, Ill.

Dan Hoyt, a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, was present for his son’s ordination with his wife, Judy, along with several other members of his family and fellow parishioners.

“It was an answered prayer,” Dan Hoyt said. “We have nine children. Since we were married, we hoped that we’d have a vocation among one of our children. So this is just a huge victory and we prefer to say that we’re thankful rather than proud.”

Father Mary David learned about the order as he was discerning a call to religious life while a student at Ball State University, in Muncie, Ind., in the mid-1990s.

But in an interview following his ordination, he noted that the seeds of his vocation were planted many years earlier. As a member of the Boy Scout troop at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, he and other scouts were often accompanied on hikes by the troop’s chaplain, then-Msgr. Gerald Gettelfinger, now the Bishop of Evansville.

And in 1988, Father Mary David, when he was 14, served as Msgr. Gettelfinger’s bowman during a canoeing trip in the lakes on the border between the United States and Canada on northern Minnesota.

Father Eric Johnson, who was ordained to the priesthood in 1997 and is now the Bishop of Evansville, recalled watching Father Mary David and the other young men he knew “grow up, wondering if any of them would become priests.”

He kept in contact with the Hoyt family, knew that Father Mary David had entered religious life and was pleased about his ordination to the priesthood.

“I’m very proud of him,” he said. “I’m excited for him and for the Church as well and, especially, for his mom and dad and the whole family.”

Judy Hoyt was pleased beyond words about her son’s ordination.

“You just can’t put into words,” she said. “It’s so, so incredible. Words just diminish it. I feel.../1

She was also struck by and values the youthfulness of her son’s religious community that was displayed at a reception following his ordination when young men from around the world were celebrating together.

“As I looked out at them, all smiling and laughing and being wonderful friends together,” she said, “I thought, this is the Church and why can’t this be the world?”

Father Mary David noted that while the Community of St. John has a decidedly international flavor, the majority of its members were born in France, a country where the Church recently has had a reputation for lacking vitality.

“On one side, there’s not a [local] Church which is limping along more than the Church in France,” he said. “But on the other, as of about 30 to 35 years ago, there’s been a renewal in religious life in France. There are probably about 10 to 15 new, living and fervent new religious communities there.”

Father Mary David’s first pastoral assignment will be at a Community of St. John priory in Souvigny, France. Soon after he was ordained to the priesthood, Father Mary David visited his parents in Indianapolis.

He celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11:30 a.m. on July 17 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Indianapolis.

In an interview a few days before that mass, he said that his first few weeks as a priest have been privileged ones for him, especially as he has heard confession and celebrated the Eucharist.

“The joy that I’ve had is a great experience of joy and being able to communicate the mercy of Jesus Christ to people,” Father Mary David said. “And especially the unbelievable, profound joy of living the Mass and having this new unity with Jesus Christ in the consecration of the Eucharist.”

But Father Mary David has also been pleased with the joy he has seen in others at his ordination to the priesthood, a joy shown on the faces of many people at his Mass of Thanksgiving.

“My joy and friendship with Jesus Christ over the past couple of weeks has been pretty incredible for me to live,” he said. “And just the joy of other people has been a great blessing for me, to see how touched people are by the priesthood, by the mercy of God, that God comes yet again into their lives by the great sacrament of the priesthood.”

Judy Hoyt, members of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis, hold hands while praying the Lord’s Prayer during a Mass of Thanksgiving on July 17 celebrated at their parish church by their son, Father Mary David Hoyt, a member of the Community of St. John, a religious order founded 30 years ago in France.