Archdiocesan youth and adults ready for pilgrimage

The 179 youth and adults from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis who will be making the pilgrimage to Cologne, Germany, for World Youth Day 2005 are now only days from leaving.

The group, under the leadership of Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, will be traveling to Italy and Germany from Aug. 10-22.

The closing Mass for World Youth Day, to be celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI, will be on the morning of Aug. 21.

Four priests of the archdiocese will also be in attendance: 

While Aug. 10 will be spent in travel on three different flights, the pilgrimage group will gather for a day of sightseeing in Rome on Aug. 11 before checking into a hotel near the Vatican.

The youth and adults will tour the catacombs and celebrate Mass at St. Paul Outside the Walls, one of Rome’s four patriarchal churches.

The next day, the pilgrims will travel to Assisi to visit the Basilica St. Francis and celebrate Mass there.

On Aug. 13, Archbishop Buechlein will celebrate Mass for the pilgrims at Catholic Social Services. The one exception to the change is St. Elizabeth and Coleman Pregnancy and Adoption Services in Indianapolis.

Cardinal Keeler also strongly criticized Frist, an opponent of legalized abortion, saying the senator’s stem-cell position “is not ‘pro-life.’ ”

The cardinal reiterated the Catholic stand that current human embryonic stem-cell research is not ‘pro-life.’ 

See CHARITIES, page 7

See STEM-CELL, page 7

See PILGRIMAGE, page 13
Homeland Mission Project helps youth see needs in archdiocese

By Brandon A. Evans

About 35 youth took a mission trip in July to serve the poor and those in need, but they didn’t really go far. The youth spent a week taking part in the Homeland Mission Project, a first-time event for the archdiocesan Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

During each day, the young people took turns serving different Indianapolis agencies in small groups, the Cathedral Soup Kitchen, Miracle Place, Holy Trinity Adult Day Care Center, St. Augustine Home for the Aged, St. Elizabeth—Coleman Pregnancy and Adoption Center, and a day camp for Hispanic children operated by the Missionaries of Charity.

Then, following a day of service, the youth returned to their overnight facilities at Christ the King Parish and Bishop Chatard High School for mass, prayer and free time.

Each evening, the young people also listened to various speakers, who discussed such things as service and the Eucharist, seeing Christ in others, service to the poor in the Scriptures, and making sense of poverty.

Father Robert Robeson, director of the Archdiocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, said that the idea for this event came out of a discussion with Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein.

Many youth, Father Robeson said, often travel outside the archdiocese for mission trips, so he wanted to help youth see the needs in their own backyard.

“In fact, there is an awful lot of work that needs to be done in our archdiocese,” he said.

Kelly Calwell, a junior at Bishop Chatard High School, heard about the week from her friend’s mother.

“I’ve wanted to go on a mission trip, so I wanted to come,” Kelly said.

She said that service gives her the opportunity to not just serve, but to learn from those who are served—and to get to know them.

One of her highlights was “the communication that I have with the people that I’m helping,” she said.

Anna Marie Miller, a member of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis and sophomore at Bishop Chatard, said that her favorite part of the week was visiting the senior citizens who spend time at Holy Trinity Adult Day Care Center.

At that particular site, the service entailed by the youth was nothing more than to keep company with those at the center—to play games with them and talk with them.

But even things that seem simple can be intimidating at what it would mean. Sean Winningham, a member of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis and a junior at Marian College in Indianapolis, was a site director for two of the locations. He said that seeing all the forms of service is part of the experience the youth were having.

“They’re seeing different kinds of ways to do service,” Winningham said. “You can do service for anybody, no matter where they’re at in their journey, young or old—people their own age as well.”

Billy Brandle, a member of St. John Parish in Daylight, Ind., in the Evansville Diocese and a junior at Marian College, helped to organize the weeklong mission.

He echoed Winningham’s remarks and said, regarding the youth, that “we want to show them the different service areas and different service opportunities.”

“We don’t just want them doing the same thing all week—we’re doing different types of services.”

Some youth, he said, are not exposed much to the things that they spent the week doing.

The mission, Father Robeson said, successfully communicated to the young people the needs of their own city.

“Many of them had the opportunity to see things that are being done, and see dimensions or areas of the city of Indianapolis that they would normally not encounter,” he said. “Many of the youth talked about how it had really affected them.”

Father Robeson said that he considers the event a success, and plans to continue it each year. He hopes that as many as 60 youth will sign up next year, though he added that they could easily accommodate up to 80.

Eddie Fernandez, a member of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood and sophomore at Greenwood High School, said that the event was a chance to meet new people, and hopes that even more youth will show up next year.

Catholic HEART Workcamp provides needed service in southern Indiana

By Brandon A. Evans

For three years, Tammy Becht, youth ministry coordinator at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Parish in Floyd County, took young people on weekend service trips in different parts of the country.

Each time that they took part in a mission trip organized by Catholic HEART (Helping Everyone Attain Repairs Today) Workcamp, it was also with youth from all over the country.

Together, the youth performed maintenance and service for people in neighborhoods who couldn’t afford it themselves.

But this year, the southern Indiana youth stayed home—and hosted their own weekend work camp from July 17-23.

Becht said that a year ago some of the parish youth suggested that they petition the Catholic HEART Workcamp, which has been operating sites all around the country each year since 1993, to allow the youth to host a camp in southern Indiana.

“I was blown away by their enthusiasm,” Becht said. But she was also a little intimidated at what it would mean.

Part of every Catholic HEART Workcamp—namely, the spiritual talks and worship sessions each night—is organized by trained teams.

All the rest of the planning is done by the local managers, who in this case were going to be Becht and her daughter, Jamie. Hosting a Catholic HEART Workcamp meant bringing nearly 300 participants from around the country to the New Albany area.

So Becht prayed about it.

“It was like every door that we knocked on swung wide open for us,” she said.

Local planning had to account not only for organizing the participants into small work groups of about six, but also finding them a place to sleep at night—in this case, a middle school—and figuring out where they would all be serving each day.

Pete Roth, a member of St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Parish, was one of four men who used the suggestions of local organizations, including the New Albany Housing Authority, to find suitable sites for the youth.

Part of that job also meant visiting the home that the youth would help fix up and talking to the owners.

In one case, Roth said, he visited an elderly lady and told her about the youth that would come to help her.

“When she woke up the next morning,” he said, “she was so excited about what was going to be done that she thought that it might have been a dream.”

The woman, with the aid of a walker, slowly made her way inside her house to find the card that Roth had left behind—to prove to herself that it was real.

The work that the youth did was varied, Becht said, and ranged from painting curbs and cleaning dumpsters to clearing brush and mulching community playgrounds.

Jami Becht, who not only was a camper in the past, but also served on the national team one summer that helps to put the events on, recalled the work she did at a camp several years ago.

She spent the entire week with a small group working on one man’s house.

“He had ceilings that were falling in, walls that needed to be finished,” she said. “His yard was greatly overgrown. We painted the outside of his house. We did everything down to giving his dog a bath.”

And it wasn’t just the campers, or even the local youth from the parish who...
Guadalajara deacons minister in the archdiocese, foster vocations

By Sean Gallagher

From late June until Aug. 8, three deacons from the Archdiocese of Guadalajara in Mexico have been ministering among Hispanic Catholics in the archdiocese, but also witnessed the many challenges facing this growing segment of the faithful in central and southern Indiana.

Through it all, they have tried to plant seeds of priestly and religious vocations in the hearts of the young Hispanic men and women they met here.

Deacon Pedro Gonzalez ministered at St. Lawrence and St. Philip Neri parishes in Indianapolis and St. Joseph Parish in Shelbyville.

Deacon Gonzales has preached at Masses, celebrated baptisms, blessed houses, been involved in numerous areas of catechesis and helped prepare Hispanic young adults to participate in a 2006 Encuentro, a national meeting of Hispanic Catholics to be held at the University of Notre Dame.

Ministering at three parishes in Indianapolis and Shelbyville helped Deacon Gonzales see the many needs of Hispanic Catholics in the archdiocese, especially for priestly vocations.

But he said that the presence of ordained ministers from Mexico among the Hispanics is a way of fostering vocations here in the archdiocese.

“They see us as a part of the world,” Deacon Gonzales said. “We’re with the people. They see us as one of them and so that in itself is a motivating factor to the priesthood or religious life.”

Deacon Emeterio Gomez ministered at St. Monica and St. Gabriel parishes in Indianapolis. In these faith communities, he trained altar servers, laid a necessary foundation to solid catechesis to children, much like Deacon Jimenez said. “They want us to walk with them and their lives of faith. They want us to help them with their causes and concerns of Hispanic Catholics and trying to give them hope. They want us to help them.” Deacon Jimenez said. “They want us to walk with them. They want us to help them with their questions of life, their own interior growth needs. They want us to listen. We listen to them.”

Deacon Pedro Gonzales, ordained for the Archdiocese of Guadalajara in Mexico, leads children in song at St. Philip Neri Parish in Indianapolis during a vacation Bible school on July 18. Deacon Gonzales was one of three deacons from Guadalajara who ministered to Hispanic Catholics for six weeks this summer in and around Indianapolis.

Deacon Ismael Jimenez ministered at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House and St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis.

Ministering at the retreat house and St. Monica Parish, Deacon Jimenez said they have learned much about the deacons’ way of life.

But he said that the presence of Hispanic Catholics in the archdiocese has sent semi-narians to minister to Hispanic Catholics here, although this is the first year that all three were deacons.

Deacons Gonzales and Gomez were ordained last May while Deacon Jimenez was ordained in December 2004. They are scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood on June 4, 2006.

In the short time that they ministered to Hispanics in the archdiocese, the deacons said they have learned much about their lives of faith.

“The majority would rather be at home [in Mexico],” Deacon Jimenez said. “But they come here because of economic need. After coming here and stabilizing their economic situation, then the journey becomes more of the interior journey that is still not at peace.”

The deacons noted that this disharmony is often manifested in Hispanic immigrants in a breakdown of the family. Men sometimes will have children in Mexico and children in the United States. Cohabitation is common and divorce is frequent.

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House

“Dreams: Our Spiritual Insights”
Sr. Olga Witter, OSF
October 28-30

Dinners 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. EDST - Continuous serving
Prizes - Games - Beer Garden
Rain or Shine - Under Cover

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House
5355 E. 56th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46226
(317) 545-7681
fatima@archindy.org

Country Style Chicken Dinner
St. Paul’s Church
New Alsea, Indiana
976 North Dearborn Road - Guilford, Indiana
Sunday, August 14, 2005
Mass at 9:00 A.M. EDST
Dinners 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. EDST - Continuous serving
Lunch Stand - Country Store - Quilts
Prizes - Games - Beer Garden

St. Pius X
50th Anniversary Homecoming Event
Sunday, August 28, 2005
At St. Pius X
7200 Santa Drive
Prayer service 4 p.m. with dinner to follow
Inviting all past parish priests, nuns, administrators, teachers, coaches, students, parishioners.
Mandatory RSVP by Aug. 15th through parish office 255-4534 or visit website @ www.spzxparish.org
Click on 50th Anniversary Homecoming Event
Catholics and the battle for the Supreme Court

David Brooks, a columnist for The New York Times, has observed a strange feature of the ideological battles that have taken place over recent judicial appointments. According to Brooks, Confirmation battles have come to seem like occasions for bitterly divided Catholics to turn political battles into holy war Armageddon. Most of the main Democrats on the Judiciary Committee are Catholics who are liberal or moderate (Senators Edward Kennedy, Joseph Biden, Richard Durbin and Patrick Leahy), and many of the most controversial justices or nominees are Catholics who are conservative (U.S. Supreme Court justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, federal judge William Pryor Jr.). When they face off, you get this brutal and elemental conflict over the role morality should play in public life.

Whether or not we agree with Brooks’ analysis, there is something very disturbing about the image of Catholics in America waging “holy wars” over judicial appointments. There was a time—not so long ago—when Catholics were effectively excluded from the debates that took place at the highest levels of American public policy. Now that we clearly have a voice (or voices), we need to ask ourselves whether what we have to contribute to these arguments is true to who we are as Catholics and as Americans.

The good news is that Catholics care deeply about the role morality should play in public life—and are willing to fight about it. The bad news is that Catholics on both sides of the ideological divide tend to be confused about what the Church actually teaches on fundamental moral issues and how this relates to the role of public officials, particularly at the level of the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court nominee John G. Roberts has been asked whether his Catholicism is an obstacle to public service. On the contrary, religious values can strengthen and enhance a public official’s dedication to the protection of life and the promotion of the common good.

Catholics who truly understand the teaching of our Church, and who strive to integrate these principles into their personal and public lives, have much to contribute to legislative proposals and judicial interpretations. We don’t need “holy wars” waged by extremists. We need principled thinking, sound moral judgment, and an authentic understanding of who we are as a nation governed by the rule of law and dedicated to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in the finest and most authentically American ways.

Daniel Conway
(Daniel Conway is a member of the editorial committee of the board of directors of Criterion Press Inc.)

Church Facts
Choosing a Justice

Most U.S. adults want a new Supreme Court justice who would uphold the ruling that legalized abortion across the nation. Percent of those who want a justice who would…

- Overturn Roe vs. Wade: 49%
- Keep Roe vs. Wade: 29%
- Don’t know/no response: 18%

Letters Policy

Letters from readers are published in The Criterion as part of the newspaper’s commitment to “the responsible exchange of freely held and expressed opinion among the People of God” (Comunicati et Progressus, 116). Letters from readers are welcome and every effort will be made to include letters from as many people and representing as many viewpoints as possible. Letters should be brief, relevant, well- expressed and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

The editors reserve the right to select the letters that will be published and to edit letters from readers as necessary based on space limitations, pastoral sensitivity and content (including spelling and grammar). In order to encourage opinions from a variety of readers, frequent writers will ordinarily be limited to one letter every three months. (Embrace- less than 300 words) are more likely to be printed. Letters must be signed, but for serious reasons, names may be withheld.

Send letters to: Letters to the Editor,
The Criterion, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1717. Readers with access to e-mail may send letters to criterion@archindy.org.
Bishop Bruté arrives in Vincennes and begins to build a diocese

El obispo Bruté llega a Vincennes y comienza a constituir la diócesis

El día 26 de octubre de 1834, el nuevo obispo, el obispo Simon Bruté, arribó a Vincennes. Brutoé busca sacerdotes que le ayuden a evangelizar y a preparar el terreno para el establecimiento de la diócesis con Vincennes como la sede designada. Yea, ‘el hombre del pecado’ se concentró principalmente en Vincennes. Escribió que el pueblo era “en su mayoría descendientes de franceses, pobres, illettrés, pero con una disposición abierta y viva que revela su origen. Conservan su fe, aman a sus sacerdotes, pero son negligentes a la hora de cumplir con sus deberes religiosos. También son muy negligentes para enseñar a sus hijos las oraciones y el catecismo y esto hace que ellos mismos los olviden.” En algunos sectores el nuevo obispo no fue bien recibido. Un ministro escribió en un artículo en un periódico protestante: “Probablemente estarán al tanto de que el Papa ha establecido recientemente un nuevo obispo en este país tan rico y poblado, una diócesis con Vincennes como la sede designada. Así es, ‘el hombre del pecado’ ya se ha establecido aquí y en el ‘misterio de la iniquidad’ está empezando a obrar de manera esotérica. El nuevo obispo consagrado acaba de llegar con dos sacerdotes y ha tomado posesión indiscutible del pueblo más importante del estado en la actualidad.” Un hombre de Evanstons, el propio obispo Bruté, llegó a Vincennes y anunció que vendría para verlo por sí mismo.

La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en agosto

El obispo Bruté llega a Vincennes y comienza a constituir la diócesis.

El hombre del pecado, ¿Se refiere a mí? La pregunta del obispo Bruté: “Sí, señor, me refiero a usted. Me dijeron que podría verlo con toda su infamia”, dijo el hombre. “Qué harás para ayudarlo, el obispo?” Bruté se puso su cruz pectoral, una capa y una mitra y sujetó su báculo para que el hombre lo viera. “Ahí lo tienes – le dijo – ahora has visto al hombre del pecado. Ahora puede irse a casa y contarle a la gente de Evanstons sobre él.”

La próxima semana: El obispo Simon Bruté busca sacerdotes que le ayuden a difundir la fe en la nueva Diócesis de Vincennes.

Traducido por: Language Training Center, Indianapolis

La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en agosto

Conocimiento de la Parroquia: Que cada parroquiano sea consciente de su papel para fomentar todas las vocaciones y anime a nuestros jóvenes a considerar la vida sacerdotal y religiosa.

ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO DANIEL M. BUECHELIN, O. S. B.

Seeking the Face of the Lord

Businga a la Cara del Señor

ARCHBISHOP/ARZOBISPO DANIEL M. BUECHELIN, O. S. B.

On Oct. 28, 1834, the feast day of Our Lady of the Assumption, Bishop Simon Bruté was consecrated by Bishop Joseph Rosati in St. Louis. He had wanted to be consecrated on the feast of the Holy Rosary because of his devotion to the Blessed Mother, but the time was too short for preparation. Bishop John Baptist Purcell of Cincinnati preached for the occasion. He chose for his text, “Simon, do you love me more than Su Amo”.

John Baptist Purcell de Cincinnati predicó en Vincennes 46 años antes, lo instaló como primer obispo en Bardstown, quien había sido misionero y posteriormente obispo Benedict Joseph Flaget de Louisville, que había sido misionero en Vincennes 46 años antes, lo instaló como primer obispo en Bardstown, quien había sido misionero.

El obispo Bruté dio un sermón sobre la importancia de la fe y la obediencia a los mandatos de la Iglesia.

La fe de los niños.

En su catedral bajo el patronato de Nuestra Señora, Bishop Bruté described his cathedral: “The Cathedral Church, a plain brick building 115 feet long and 60 broad, consisting of the four walls and roof, unplastered and not even white-washed—no sanctuary—even not a place for preserving the vestiments of sacred vessels. Only a simple altar of wood with a neatly gilt tabernacle, and a cross and six beautiful candlesticks, a gift from France, which were much in contrast with the poverty and utter destitution of the place. The house built for the missionary, and now the episcopal residence, consists of a small, comfortable room and closet, 15 feet by 12, without however a cellar under, or a garret above; a small plot for a garden lays between the church, on the other side of which is the Catholic cemetery.” Nearby was a stable “ready for the bishop’s horse, when he is able to get one.”

Bishop Bruté described in detail the circumstances of his cathedral to illustrate the poverty of the new diocese and its urgent need for help in attending to the basic necessities. He pleaded for funding in order to be able to educate “young men intended for the priesthood and building up of those institutions of charity for orphans or others, without which religion can never be firmly established.”

In the beginning, the bishop’s ministry was mostly focused on Vincennes. He wrote that the people were “mostly of French descent, poor, illiterate, but of that open lively disposition which bespeaks their origin. They retain their faith, love their priests, but are negligent in attending to their religious duties. They are very remiss also in teaching their children their prayers and the catechism, and this causes them to forget it themselves.”

The new bishop was not well-received in some quarters. A minister wrote in an article in a Protestant paper: “You are probably aware that the Pope had constituted recently all this rich neglected country into a diocese with Vincennes as its designated seat. Yea, ‘the man of sin’ has already established himself there and the ‘mystery of iniquity’ is beginning to work in a fearful manner. The newly consecrated bishop has just arrived with two priests, and taken undisputed possession of the now most important town in the state.” A man from Evanstons who read about “the man of sin” arrived in Vincennes and announced that he came to see for himself.

“The Man of Sin! You mean me!” Bishop Bruté asked.

“Yes, sir, I mean you. They told me that I could see you in all your infernal gloria,” the man said.

“You mean paraphernalia, I suppose. Well come inside and I’ll see what I can do for you.” The bishop put on his pec- toral cross, a cope and mitre, and held his crozier for the man to see.

“There,” he said, “now you have seen the Man of Sin. You can go home and tell the people of Evanstons about it.”

“That I will, sir. Why, it’s all nothing but paraphernalia just like you said. They told me it was infernal.” From this primitive setting, in five short years, the undaunted Bishop Bruté would establish his diocese on a solid footing.

(Next week: Bishop Simon Bruté looks for priests to help him spread the faith in the new Diocese of Vincennes.)

Parish Awareness: that all parishioners will be aware of their role in promoting all vocations and have the awareness especially to encourage our youth to consider the priestly and religious life.
Events Calendar

August 5
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. St. Meinrad, Ind. Information: 317-974-2460.

August 6-6
St. Joseph Parish, 1005 N. Broadway, Sellersburg, Ind. Parish yard sale, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Information: 812-246-2512.

August 9
Holy Name of Jesus Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove, Ind. Altar society annual summer rummage sale, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454.

September 8
St. Michael Church, 353 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. St. Meinrad School of Theology, “Who is God?” Eclectic Lay Ministry Program (ELMP), 10 sessions. Information: 317-788-7581 or e-mail benedicinst@carmel.net.

September 9-16
Koedel Retreat Center, 841 E. 14th St., Ferdinand, Ind. (Diocese of Evansville). Direct retreat. Information: 800-880-367-2777 or e-mail benedicinst@carmel.net.

September 16-18
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Tobit Marriage Preparation Workshop. Information: 317-545-7891.

September 17-23
Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove, Ind. Grace Abounds: Humility Matters” retreat. Benedicite Sister Mary Margaret Funk, presenter. Information: 317-788-7581 or e-mail benedicinst@yahoo.com.

September 18-9
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Packing Your Faith for Benedicinn.” Rick Wagner, presenter. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

September 12-14

September 12
St. Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. Weekend retreat, “Lord, Teach Us to Pray,” Benedicinte Father Cyprian Davis, presenter. Information: saintmeinrad.edu or mbuzzell@saintmeinrad.edu.

September 21
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Pre-Cana conference, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., $30 per person. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

September 19-21
St. Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. Weekend retreat, “Lord, Teach Us to Pray,” Benedicinte Father Cyprian Davis, presenter. Information: saintmeinrad.edu or mbuzzell@saintmeinrad.edu.

September 22
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Packing Your Faith for Benedicinn.” John Wagner, presenter. Information: 317-788-7581 or e-mail benedicinst@yahoo.com.

September 23-25
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Non-directed silent retreat. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

September 29
St. Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. Mid-week retreat, “The Church and the Family: Discover the Crucial Treasure,” Benedicinte Fathers Jenny King and Benet Amato, presenters. Information: www.smarchabbey.org or mbuzzell@saintmeinrad.edu.

October 23
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Senior Mass and Social. Information: 317-545-7861.

September 2</no-break>

October 23
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Senior Mass and Social. Information: 317-545-7861.

September 2-4

September 21-23

August 6-7
St. John the Baptist Parish, 533 S. Merrill St., Greenfield, Ind. Parish festival, Saturday, 5-10 p.m. Information: 317-689-4244.

August 7
Valle Vista Golf Club, 755 E. North School St., Greenfield. Phil Neui golf outing, shotgun start, 10 a.m. Information: 787-9935 or 317-352-5892.


August 8-7
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Tobit Marriage Preparation Workshop. Information: 317-545-7891.

August 9
St. Boniface Parish, 1551 N. State Road, 545, Parida, Parish dinner. Information: 317-924-2861.

August 13-9
Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove, Ind. “Grace Abounds: Humility Matters” retreat. Benedicite Sister Mary Margaret Funk, presenter. Information: 317-788-7581 or e-mail benedicinst@yahoo.com.

August 9-12
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Packing Your Faith for Benedicinn.” Rick Wagner, presenter. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

August 13-14
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Pre-Cana conference, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., $30 per person. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

August 14
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Pre-Cana conference, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., $30 per person. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

August 19-21
St. Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. Weekend retreat, “Lord, Teach Us to Pray,” Benedicinte Father Cyprian Davis, presenter. Information: saintmeinrad.edu or mbuzzell@saintmeinrad.edu.

August 22
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Pre-Cana conference, six sessions, 7:30-9 p.m. Information: 812-944-1164.

August 23-25
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Non-directed silent retreat. Information: 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. Mid-week retreat. “The Church and the Family: Discover the Crucial Treasure,” Benedicinte Fathers Jenny King and Benet Amato, presenters. Information: www.smarchabbey.org or mbuzzell@saintmeinrad.edu.

September 23
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Senior Mass and Social. Information: 317-545-7861.

September 24-26
Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove, School of Lecitio Divina. Information: 317-788-7581 or e-mail benedicinst@carmel.net.

September 27-30
Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove, School of Lecitio Divina. Information: 317-788-7581 or e-mail benedicinst@carmel.net.

October 28
St. Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. Weekend retreat, “Lord, Teach Us to Pray,” Benedicinte Father Cyprian Davis, presenter. Information: saintmeinrad.edu or mbuzzell@saintmeinrad.edu.

October 31

November 2
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Senior Mass and Social. Information: 317-545-7861.

December 24

December 25

December 31
Patrick Madrid to lead apologetics seminar at St. Mary Parish in Mitchell

By Sean Gallagher

Patrick Madrid, author of nearly a dozen books on Catholic apologetics and publisher of the "Apologetics Magazine Envoy," will lead a seminar on apologetics at 7 p.m. on Aug. 18 at the Family Life Center at St. Mary Parish in Mitchell.

"Answer Me This: How to Respond to Common Questions About Catholicism," according to Madrid, will have a threefold goal. He said he hopes the participants will leave being able to explain the faith more intelligently, defend it more charitably and share it more effectively.

The event is open to the public. Admission is free. A free-will offering will be collected.

In a telephone interview with The Criterion, Madrid said that he intends to show those who attend the seminar how Scripture and the evidence of Church history combine well to give sound answers to commonly asked questions about Catholic beliefs and practices.

But he also noted that simply gathering the proper evidence to explain the faith is not enough. Catholics need to answer questions put to them with gentleness.

Madrid said that he hopes that those who come to hear him speak at St. Mary Parish will be able to approach what can sometimes be difficult situations where objections to the Catholic faith are raised with "a sense of calm confidence, not being angry, not being defensive, certainly not being triumphalistic or anything like that."

Following the conclusion of the seminar, a general open forum and answer session will be held.

In addition to writing several books about the faith, Madrid has given seminars on apologetics and evangelization across the country and throughout Europe, Asia and Latin America.

During his visit to the Bloomington Deanery parish, Madrid will be hosted by Catholic Women in Faith, based in nearby Bedford.

(For more information on Madrid's seminar, call 812-849-3570 or 812-275-6539.)


campers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Jamie Becht said that her experience as a camper made an impact on her life and humbled her.

She said that her hope for this year's camp was that the young people would walk away with the same experience that she had.

It was a hope that was not in vain. Each day that the youth spent working did not drain all their energy, she said.

"They come back so rejuvenated, even after a full day's work, because of the people that they work for," she said.

"They're very humbled. You realize what you do have, and you're so grateful for that."—Jamie Becht

Roth recalled an incident during which Tammy Becht pulled aside the group of young people from St. Mary-of-the-Knobs who were participating in the camp and asked them what kind of work they had been doing.

"In every single case," Roth said, "they didn't talk about the work they had to do or how hot it was or how dirty it was. They wanted to talk about the people they were working for."

"You could see the changes in the kids," he said, changes that spread out even to the praise and worship sessions each night.

"You could see the kids open up and be less apprehensive about expressing their faith amongst their peers," he said.

This will hopefully be an event, Roth said, that will not only be repeated in the New Albany area.

So much good was done, he said, that one of the School Sisters of Notre Dame connections made during the week was to link the work of the volunteers to Jesus' miracle of the multiplication of the fishes and the loaves.

"What little we could provide," Roth said, "[Jesus] really performed some wonderful miracles for some people in the area."

(For more information about the Catholic HEART Workcamp, log on to www.hearthworkcamp.com.)

Many people who have heard of embryonic stem cells associate them with destruction of fetal tissue and destruction of human life. The work that the parishioners did served not only to help those in need in the area to get help, but to give the embryos what would have otherwise been destroyed the opportunity to live.

"Especially disturbing is the senator's approval of the parents and that the parishioners did served not only to help those in need in the area to get help, but to give the embryos what would have otherwise been destroyed the opportunity to live."

"But I also strongly believe—as do many Catholic and many of our staff are Catholic, we talked about whether or not continuing to use this distinction would be helpful."

"However, we concluded that it is very important that those who receive our services know that whatever assistance that they have received is given in the name of the Church ... and ultimately in the name of Christ."

"The Catholic name also conveys to people our commitment to serve them ‘with dignity, respect, compassion and love,’ he said.

"Siler added that the name will continue to help everyone see the good work that the Church is performing in central and southern Indiana. Awareness of that work is lacking, he said, even among Catholics. ‘We want every Catholic to know and feel proud that every day we are sheltering homeless families, feeding thousands of hungry people in need, those in despair, caring for neglected children, welcoming refugees, bringing hope to girls and young women who become pregnant unexpectedly, befriending lonely seniors and many other acts of Christian charity,’ he said.

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Fourteen Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods celebrate golden jubilarians this year. Providence Sisters Josephine Bryan, Suzanne Dailey, Jean Faqua, Ann Matilda Holloran, Rita Lechner, Marijo Lynch, Margaret Ann McNamara, Kathryn McHulity, Nancy Nolan, Ann Margaret O’Hara, Mary Ann Phelan, Margaret Quinlan, Alice Ann Rhinesmith and Rose Marie Thole were honored during a eucharistic liturgy on July 22, 1955, from St. Ambrose Parish in Cheverly, Md., and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1962. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education then received a master’s degree in U.S. history from Indiana University and a doctorate in U.S. history from St. Louis University.

In the archdiocese, Sister Suzanne Marie taught at Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville from 1964-67. At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, she served as an assistant/associate professor from 1971-82, vice president for academic affairs from 1982-90 and executive vice president/provost from 1990-93. She also ministered in Bogota, Colombia. Sister Jean Faqua, a native of Owensboro, Ky., ministers as assistant director of the White Violet Center for Eco-Justice at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

She entered the congregation on Feb. 2, 1955, from The Immaculate Parish in Owensboro and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1962. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics then received a master’s degree in mathematics from the University of Notre Dame and a master’s degree in business management from Indiana University.

In Indianapolis, Sister Josephine taught at St. Andrew School from 1960-61 and St. Joan of Arc School from 1961-64. At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, she ministered in the infirmary as a staff member from 1964-65, second floor head nurse from 1967-69, supervisor from 1971-73 and director of nursing from 1976-84. She also ministered in Vietnam.

Sister Suzanne Dailey, a native of Lincoln, Neb., ministers as director of adult education for Southwestern Illinois College in Belleville, Ill. The former Sister Suzanne Marie entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from St. Ambrose Parish in Cheverly, Md., and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in social studies then received a master’s degree in U.S. history from Indiana University and a doctorate in U.S. history from St. Louis University.

In the archdiocese, Sister Suzanne taught at Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville from 1964-67. At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, she served as an assistant/associate professor from 1971-82, vice president for academic affairs from 1982-90 and executive vice president/provost from 1990-93. She also ministered in Bogota, Colombia. Sister Jean Faqua, a native of Owensboro, Ky., ministers as assistant director of the White Violet Center for Eco-Justice at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

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In the archdiocese, Sister Suzanne Marie taught at Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville from 1964-67. At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, she served as an assistant/associate professor from 1971-82, vice president for academic affairs from 1982-90 and executive vice president/provost from 1990-93. She also ministered in Bogota, Colombia. Sister Jean Faqua, a native of Owensboro, Ky., ministers as assistant director of the White Violet Center for Eco-Justice at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

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Sister Josephine Bryan, a native of Hollywood, Md., ministers as director of Health and Human Services for the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in LaCrosse, Wis. The former Sister Josephine entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from Holy Redeemer Parish in College Park, Md., and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Catholic University of America and received a master’s degree in medical and surgical nursing from Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis.

In Indianapolis, Sister Josephine taught at St. Andrew School from 1960-61 and St. Joan of Arc School from 1961-64. At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, she ministered at
The former Sister Marie Ignatius entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from Agnes University in Chicago and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education then received a master’s degree in education administration from DePaul University.

At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, Sister Mary Phelan served as administrative assistant for academic services from 1986-88 and assistant director of Women’s External Degree program from 1988-90. Sister Mary Phelan is a native of McNamara, a native of Chicago, and minister in prayer at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

The former Sister Marie Nicholas entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from St. Mel Parish in Chicago and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in English then received a master’s degree in business education from Indiana University and a master’s degree in pastoral theology from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.

In the archdiocese, Sister Ann Margaret O’Hara, a native of Louisville, Ky., ministers as general superior of the Sisters of Providence at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. She entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Clarksville and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in English then received a master’s degree in business education from Indiana University and a master’s degree in pastoral theology from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.

In the archdiocese, Sister Ann Margaret Quinn, a native of Troy, N.Y., ministers as adjunct instructor for Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and the Women’s External Degree program, and also serves as director of education for Providence Self Sufficiency Ministries in West Terre Haute.

The former Sister Ann Juve entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from Holy Spirit Parish in Evansville, Ind., and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in social studies then received a master’s degree in English from Indiana University.

The former Sister Marie Marcella entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from St. Clement Parish in Lanesdowne, Md., and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in social studies.

Sister Mary Ann also ministered in Illinois, Massachusetts, Washington, D.C., and Maryland.

Sister Margaret Quinlan, a native of Troy, N.Y., ministers as adjunct instructor for Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and the Women’s External Degree program, and also serves as director of education for Providence Self Sufficiency Ministries in West Terre Haute.

The former Sister Ann Juve entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from Holy Spirit Parish in Evansville, Ind., and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She received from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in business education then received a master’s degree in business education and office administration from Ball State University and a master’s degree in health service administration from the University of St. Francis.

In the archdiocese, Sister Alice Ann taught at Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville from 1963-67, the former Bishop Schulte High School in Terre Haute from 1967-68, the former Bishop Chartrand High School in Indianapolis from 1968-69 and Roncalli High School in Indianapolis from 1969-71. She served as secretary-treasurer of the congregation’s St. Gabriel Province in Indiana from 1971-73 and treasurer of St. Gabriel Province from 1973-78. She also served as administrator of the Providence Retirement Home in New Albany from 1978-79.

At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, she served as vice president for business affairs from 1979-86. Sister Rose Marie Thole, a native of Evansville, Ind., ministers as assistant director of nursing for Health Care Services at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

The former Sister Anthony Marie entered the congregation on Jan. 5, 1955, from Assumption Parish in Evansville and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education then received a master’s degree in business education and office administration from Ball State University and a master’s degree in health service administration from the University of St. Francis.

In the archdiocese, Sister Ann Marie entered the congregation on July 22, 1955, from St. Vincent Parish in Clarksville and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in English then received a master’s degree in business education from Indiana University and a master’s degree in pastoral theology from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.

The former Sister Margaret Ann taught at the former Bishop Chartrand High School in Indianapolis from 1963-67. She served as executive secretary of the congregation’s St. Gabriel Province in Indiana from 1975-79. At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, she served as dean of administration from 1976-77 and vice president for student affairs from 1977-78. She ministered as a general officer for the congregation from 1991-2001 and as vicar from 1996-2001.

Sister Mary Ann Phelan, a native of Baltimore, ministers as associate promoter of Mother Theodore Guérin’s Cause at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

The former Sister Margaret Quinlan, a native of Troy, N.Y., ministers as adjunct instructor for Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and the Women’s External Degree program, and also serves as director of education for Providence Self Sufficiency Ministries in West Terre Haute.

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In the archdiocese, Sister Margaret taught at Nativity School in Indianapolis from 1960-62 and Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville from 1972-78 and 1979-81. At Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, she taught in the Aspirancy program from 1964-66.

Sister Alice Ann worked as a native of Bellefonte, Pa., ministers as business manager for Most Holy Redeemer Parish in Evergreen Park, Ill.

She entered the congregation on Feb. 2, 1955, from St. Joan of Arc Parish in Indianapolis and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1962. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in business education then received a master’s degree in business education and office administration from Ball State University and a master’s degree in health service administration from the University of St. Francis.

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The former Sister Antiony Marie entered the congregation on Jan. 5, 1955, from Assumption Parish in Evansville and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1963. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education then received a master’s degree in business education and office administration from Ball State University and a master’s degree in health service administration from the University of St. Francis.

In the archdiocese, Sister Alice Ann taught at Our Lady of Providence High School in Clarksville from 1963-67, the former Bishop Schulte High School in Terre Haute from 1967-68, the former Bishop Chartrand High School in Indianapolis from 1968-69 and Roncalli High School in Indianapolis from 1969-71. She served as secretary-treasurer of the congregation’s St. Gabriel Province in Indiana from 1971-73 and treasurer of St. Gabriel Province from 1973-78. She also served as administrator of the Providence Retirement Home in New Albany from 1978-79.

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If you are experiencing chest pain, seek immediate help. A false alarm is much better than waiting too long to seek treatment. But it’s also important to get help from the right hospital. St. Francis is the only hospital on the south side that offers comprehensive surgical and medical cardiac and vascular care, and is the first Indianapolis-area hospital accredited as a Chest Pain Center. Continuing a 20-year tradition of making every second count with complete, compassionate care.

Don’t take chances with chest pain.

Or where you treat it.
PILGRIMAGE

Continued from page 9

inside St. Peter’s Basilica after they get a chance to tour the Vatican Museum and the Sistine Chapel.

The pilgrims will leave Rome the next day, bound for Milan, Italy, by train. The Sodexho, the company that catered for World Youth Days in Paris in 1997 and in Rome in 2000, will make 6.3 million meals throughout the celebration—100 tons of food a day. The menu will be international; organizers said German specialties like pork knuckle and sauerkraut might not appeal to international visitors.†

From that point, the schedule for World Youth Day takes over.
On Aug. 16, among other activities, there will be an opening Mass with Cardinal Joachim Meisner of Cologne. Aug. 17-19 will include a variety of catechetical sessions and festivals as well as a welcome celebration with the pope and a Way of the Cross.
On Aug. 20, all the pilgrims will make their way to Marienfeld, a large field outside of Cologne, to participate in a prayer vigil with the Holy Father.
The youth and adults will spend the night camped out in the field with hundreds of thousands of other people and rise the next morning for the closing Mass with the pope.

After Mass, the pilgrims will split into three groups again and depart for home, arriving back in the U.S. on Aug. 22.
(For regular updates of pictures and information from the pilgrimage, go to www.CriterionOnline.com from Aug. 10-22.)†

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Mass intentions for archdiocese’s World Youth Day pilgrimage</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 11</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>For the conversion of those who do not know Christ or His Church.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 12</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>For world peace, especially in the Middle East.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 13</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>For the seminarians of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 14</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>For an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 15</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>For all couples preparing to receive the sacrament of holy matrimony.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 16</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>World Youth Day Opening Mass with Cardinal Meisner</td>
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<tr>
<td>For the sick and homebound.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 17</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>For all the religious sisters and priests in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>For an increased love of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and for all those who will receive their first Holy Communion in the upcoming year.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 20</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>For Pope Benedict XVI.</td>
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<td><strong>Aug. 21</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Closing Mass with Pope Benedict XVI. For the youth and young adults of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 22</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For the priests of the archdiocese.†</td>
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St. Mary’s
Lanesville, Indiana
2 miles off Interstate 64, Exit #115, follow signs
Sunday, August 14th
Delicious Chicken or Ham Dinners Served Country Style in our air-conditioned Cafeteria Carry-outs are Available
$5000 in Cash Prizes
More than 35 Hand Made Quilts to be raffled “Special Quilt” Drawing Bingo! Bingo! Bingo!
Food Booth with Brats and Lemonade Booths open serving beginning at 10 a.m. EST License No. 2005 105804

WORLD

Continued from page 1

After all, lead to Catholic encounters.”
The Muslim community in the nearby town of Niederkassel has offered 60 young people a place in the communal hall beneath the mosque. The community’s chairman, Niyazi Ileli, said, “Pilgrimage is central for us as Muslims, and if young Christians want to do that, we support it happily.”

However, he added, Muslim leaders turned down organizers’ request to allow young people to hold Christian morning prayers in the mosque.

World Youth Day registration includes a public transportation pass, and providers are offering round-trip hour-and-a-half services all day and into the nights.

To help the many foreign visitors, travel information will be offered in several languages, including Latin. The German railways are adding more than 40 extra trains.

On Aug. 21, 1,200 extra buses will shuttle pilgrims from 12 stations and parking lots to the closing Mass with Pope Benedict, which will take place 15 miles outside the city and is expected to attract more than 800,000 people.

For that Mass on the Marienfeld, a recultivated open cast mine, construction workers had laid out more than 30 miles of new roads and tipped 80,000 cubic yards of gravel to create the 30-foot high “Pope’s Hill,” on which the altar will stand.

Cell phone operators are building an entire network of transmitters to cope with the increased population at the Marienfeld, but they are issuing no guarantees that the network will not break down when the pope drives by and people try to use their phones to take pictures and send them to family and friends. German Telekom is also offering special “sacred” ring tones, including church bells or the tune, “Go Tell It on the Mountain.”

Police chief Klaus Steffenhagen said the London subway bombings had made security a central concern, and the pope’s arrival on June 18 will turn Cologne into a high-security zone. Bridges will be closed while the pope travels on the Rhine River; airspace will be closed over papal events. Police say they have called in all the crowd barricades they could find in Germany.

Meanwhile, the pilgrims will have to be fed, and, as Cardinal Joachim Meisner of Cologne said, they will need more than five loaves and two fishes.

Sodeco, the company that catered for World Youth Days in Paris in 1997 and in Rome in 2000, will make 6.3 million meals throughout the celebration—100 tons of food a day. The menu will be international; organizers said German specialties like pork knuckle and sauerkraut might not appeal to international visitors.†
Natural Family Planning Week includes Mass, adoration

By Mary Ann Wyand

Natural Family Planning (NFP) helps married couples grow in intimacy with God and each other. St. Luke parishioners Tony and Vivian Kurzendoerfer of Indianapolis said, and communicate better with each other as spouses and parents.

“We have found that practicing NFP has really helped our marriage.” Vivian Kurzendoerfer said following an archdiocesan Mass on July 29 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

“The Mass and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament were held as part of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ national observance of Natural Family Planning Week on July 24-30.”

“In His Presence — A Call to Chastity” was sponsored by the archdiocesan Multicultural Ministry, archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Ministry and Couple to Couple League of Greater Indianapolis.

“Originally, we were thinking that we needed to practice NFP because we wanted to space out our children.” Tony Kurzendoerfer said, “but then as we practiced it we began to realize that we were more accepting of children than ever before. God brings us what we need to take care of those gifts that he gives us. He helps us by giving us peace with the idea that he provides for us.”

The Kurzendoerfers have been married for 10 years and are the parents of three children. They serve as a sponsor couple for engaged couples preparing for marriage at St. Luke Parish.

“We always advise engaged couples to practice chastity if they aren’t already,” he said, “and to continue to practice it before they get married because the time they spend practicing a chastity life is going to help improve their communication and help them welcome in the sacrament when they receive it at the time of their marriage.”

Natural Family Planning dramatically increases communication between the couple, he said. “In every way, in the practice of your intimacy, you are inviting God into it with you. That’s what brings you closer together. You realize that the two of you have become one with God, and you’re practicing something which is sanctified by God that he gives us. He helps us by giving us peace with the idea that he provides for us.”

Father Whittington said, because it increases communication between the couple, he said. “In every way, in the practice of your intimacy, you are inviting God into it with you. That’s what brings you closer together. You realize that the two of you have become one with God, and you’re practicing something which is sanctified by God that he gives us. He helps us by giving us peace with the idea that he provides for us.”

The Church has the experience of 2,000 years of helping Christians live according to the way God has intended us to live,” he said. “...The goal of chastity is love—true love within the structures of committed love. ...This is the way that we prepare to love the Christian life in its fullness, a way that leads us to eternal salvation.”

Father Shaun Whittington, associate pastor of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis, preached about how practicing chastity is an important way to train for eternal life during Benediction on July 30 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. Father Daniel Mahan, pastor of St. Louis Parish in Batesville, was the celebrant for a Mass in observance of Natural Family Planning Week.

Multicultural Ministry Office offers Mass for Catholics from India

By Mary Ann Wyand

Catholics from India who now live in central and southern Indiana are invited to celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary as well as their native country’s Independence Day during a 6 p.m. Mass on Aug. 13 in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis.

Indian Independence Day and the feast of the Assumption are observed on Aug. 15. The Mass is sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Multicultural Ministry.

A reception will follow Mass and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on July 29 at the start of 16 hours of eucharistic adoration in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis. Father Daniel Mahan, pastor of St. Louis Parish in Batesville, was the celebrant for a Mass in observance of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week.

Last year, the Multicultural Ministry Office sponsored a traditional Advent novena, Mass and breakfast for Filipino Catholics, which will become an annual celebration in December.

The archdiocese also offers a weekly Mass for Vietnamese Catholics at St. Joseph Church in Indianapolis. ✤
Six days after the event at Caesarea Philippi (last week’s column), Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain and was transfigured before their eyes. Moses and Elijah appeared with him. This was all as the Law and the prophets had written. As usual, Jesus spoke of his suffering, death and resurrection. This, of course, was a reference to his death, resurrection and ascension.

The time surrounding this, even the dozen Apostles of the Transfiguration might have realized that Jesus was no ordinary man. His face shining like the sun in his clothing was white as light (recalling Daniel’s vision of a man whose “face shines like lightning” and whose “clothing was snow white”). Even if that wasn’t enough, next a bright cloud cast a shadow over them and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” It was similar to what happened at Jesus’ baptism except for the additional command to listen to him.

I don’t know how many of us can imagine how frightened the three simple fishermen were. Matthew’s Gospel says that they fell prostrate. But then Jesus touched them and said, “Rise, and do not be afraid.” I can imagine a man who touched Daniel and told him to “fear not.”

After the vision ended, Jesus cautioned the three Apostles not to tell anyone about what they had seen “until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.” Only in the light of Jesus’ resurrection could the meaning of his life and message be understood. They obeyed and wondered what Jesus meant about rising from the dead.

The Apostles were still curious about something. They had just seen Moses, who died about 1,500 years earlier, and Elijah, who vanished from view about 800 years earlier. But according to the prophet Malachi (Mal 3:2-3; 24), Elijah was to come before the Messiah would appear. Jesus replied that Elijah had already come. The Apostles realized that he was referring to John the Baptist.

It was important for these three men to see Jesus in his glory as the Son of God because soon they would see his intense agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. †

As I write this, the heat outdoors is extreme, whether we are working in the “great outdoors” in extreme weather, or working in the “great indoors” at home, in our workplace or school. Heat can be deadly. Heat stroke is suspected, call 911. Heat exhaustion symptoms appear, help if heat exhaustion symptoms appear.

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Religion and immigration

As we enter a period of escalating tensions around the issue of immigration, it will be interesting to see how religious groups line up this time. Whoever wins the current tug of war will shape the nation’s immigration policies in the years ahead.

President Lyndon Johnson supported the bill, at least partly because he saw it as a way to demonstrate to the United Nation that people around the world viewed the United States (not Russia) as a land of opportunity and, if given the opportunity, would flock here. In other words, it was a piece of America’s anti-communist strategy during the Cold War. It was also an extension of the civil rights movement and a tribute to President John F. Kennedy, who had proposed immigration reforms in the United States.

Congressman, Celler had voted against the Immigration Act of 1924, and he devoted a good deal of his life to overturning it. But the Hart-Collin-Slayer bill was defeated and the number of people who could immigrate to the United States was set at 150,000 a year for the next five years. The Hart-Collin-Slayer bill was finally rejected by Congress in 1965. It wasn’t until 1965 that religious outsiders won the tug of war and a more inclusive immigration policy was passed. It was an extension of the national origins quotas that were the cornerstone of the 1924 act and replaced them with a point system that factored in skills and education. It also increased the number of people who could immigrate to the United States.

Congress loosened somewhat the country’s highly restrictive immigration policies by the Immigration Act of 1950, but it wasn’t until 1965 that religious outsiders won the tug of war and a more inclusive immigration policy was passed. It was an extension of the national origins quotas that were the cornerstone of the 1924 act and replaced them with a point system that factored in skills and education. It also increased the number of people who could immigrate to the United States.

With its rejection of national origins quotas, Johnson’s immigration act was a historic event. He and Johnson believed that the nation’s immigration policies should be in the interest of the people who immigrate to the United States. And Johnson and other top officials of the Department of Labor and Department of Justice supported the bill, while many of the nation’s current immigration policies are in the interest of government officials. The bill was signed into law on July 1, 1965.

As we enter a period of escalating tensions around the issue of immigration, it will be interesting to see how religious groups line up this time. Whoever wins the current tug of war will shape the nation’s immigration policies in the years ahead.
Finally, God appears in places and events and forms least expected, such as in tiny whispering sounds in the middle of storms and earth tremors. But, to repeat the first lesson, God is with humanity, and God speaks to humans. St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans is the source of the next reading. In this reading, Paul verifies his own status as an Apostle and his own truthfulness. He mourns that his kin do not accept God. He admits his own humanity. He would like to be with his own and his beloved, but insists that he will remain true to his calling as a Christian and an Apostle.

For its last reading this weekend, the Church gives us a passage from St. Matthew’s Gospel. It is a familiar story. Last weekend, the reading from Matthew was from verses immediately preceding these passages. It also was a familiar story of the Lord’s miraculous feeding of the five thousand.

In this story, the Lord literally walked across water to reach the boat from which the Apostles were fishing. Peter, impulsive as was his personality, leaped from the boat in an attempt to meet Jesus. Indeed, Jesus invited Peter to come forward. However, as often happened, Peter’s impulsiveness gave way to uncertainty and doubt. When these feelings took hold, Peter’s own ability to walk on the water failed. He began to sink.

Jesus, however, not outdone by Peter’s lack of faith, pulled him from the water, rescuing him from death.

Reflection: Last weekend, the lesson from the Gospel was that Jesus alone is the source of life. He is the only security. Life cannot be measured just by earthly standards. It must be measured by its totality, in other words, with attention given the fact of eternity. Jesus alone gives eternal life. Such is the message of the Gospel read this weekend. Jesus and Jesus alone, is the source of life, especially and uniquely of eternal life.

However, we must believe that Jesus alone gives true life. If we believe otherwise, we will drown. †

Legend about female pope dates back to 15th century

On a discussion about popes, a friend stated that he once read claimed there were two female popes in the Catholic Church. Is this true, who were they and why were they popes? (Delaware)

Every once in awhile, the leg-end surfaces, usually in some anti-Catholic tracts, about a Popess Joan. This is possibly what your friend remembers reading about in a book. The story of Popess Joan is a bizarre one that first appeared in the 13th cen-tury, nearly 300 or 400 years after she was said to have lived. After a distin-guished career as a scholar, she disguised herself, so the story goes, so effectively that she became a priest, a cardinal in the Roman Curia and finally pope. She reportedly reigned for two and one-half years as Pope John Angelicus or Joan or Gilberta (the stories vary) sometime between the years 800 and 1100. Her sex was discovered, according to the story, when she gave birth to a child dur-ing a papal procession near the Colosseum.

According to one variation of the tale in an appendix of J.N.D. Kelly’s Oxford Dictionary of the Popes, she died on the spot and was buried. Because of the scandal-ous event, popes thereafter avoided using the street.

The legend is given no credibility whatsoever by historians. I know of no other supposed woman pope in the his-tory of the Church.

Q: Recently you explained how the moral character of the priest or other minister of a sacrament does not affect the validity of the sacrament. Along the same line, a priest said a few weeks ago, as I understood him, that the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ at Mass takes place through the “faith of the congregation.” I’m a convert to the Catholic faith, but that would seem to make the validity of the Eucharist very subjective. Could he be right? (New York)

B: I have a strong suspicion that whatever the priest said was seriously misunderstood. This is a point of Catholic doctrine easily mistaken. Especially during the Reformation years, some Protestant theologians seemed of the opinion that the eucharistic presence of Christ depended on the strong faith of the congregation. If people didn’t believe in his presence during the liturgy, he was not there. That is not contrary to Christian faith since the first century. Catholic theology and doctrine have never come close to such a theory. The Catechism of the Catholic Church echoes our ancient belief several times. “In the institution narrative [during the Eucharistic Prayer],” the catechism says, “The power of the words and the action of Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit, make sacramentally present under the species of bread and wine Christ’s body and blood” (#1353).

It is the power of Christ’s act and the power of the Holy Spirit that effect the transmutation of the elements into the body and blood of our Savior through the words of the priest. Lack of faith may diminish the spir-i-tual effects of the sacrifice and sacra-ment for an individual believer, but it cannot nullify the action of Jesus and his Spirit. †

Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith for possible publication in the “My Journey to God” column. Submissions and selections are also appreciated. Please include name, address, parish and telephone number with submissions. Send material for consideration to “My Journey to God,” The Criterion, PO Box 1717, Middletown, IN 47356 or e-mail to criterion@archindy.org †

The Lord’s Warrior

Who among us is up to the task to undertake a feat where only the honorable, strong-hearted and true will last? Who is the foe? I hear you cry. “The foe my friend, is you and I.” Who is the foe? I hear you cry. “The foe is always you and I.” However, the perfect blend for an individual believer, but it cannot nullify the action of Jesus and his Spirit. †

Thirteen Saturday in Ordinary Time/Msgr. Owen F. Campon

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Aug. 7, 2005

• Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
• Romans 9:1-5
• Matthew 14:22-33

The first reading again this weekend is from the First Book of Kings. First and Second Kings prominently mention the kings of the united kingdom of Israel, but they are not historical histories. Of course, politics and other realities of life in Israel under the kings appear in these books. However, the chief purpose of these writings is to reveal God’s mercy, justice and identity. Thus, along with the kings, and often more emphatically and extensively than the kings, these books mention prophets, who spoke for God. The reading for this weekend from First Kings is in this mode of writing, and it is typical.

The principal person in the reading is Elijah, the prophet. God speaks to him. Elijah learns that God will be visible and audible before him. Looking for God, Elijah is in the midst of a raging storm, but God was not in the wind. Next came an earthquake, which was not an unusual event in the Middle East. Elijah cannot find God in the earthquake. At last, Elijah hears a tiny whispering sound. It is the voice of God.

Several lessons emerge from this reading. First, God communicates with humanity, and the communication is conveyed to humans by humans. Elijah, after all, was human. Second, Elijah looked for God in these great outbursts of nature, in the storm and in the earthquake. God is supreme over nature, but the ancient Hebrew concept was that God did not so much punish wayward humanity, even through disasters, as much as the thought that by sin humanity brought the communication is conveyed to humans by humans. Elijah, after all, was human. Second, Elijah looked for God in these great outbursts of nature, in the storm and in the earthquake. God is supreme over nature, but the ancient Hebrew concept was that God did not so much punish wayward humanity, even through disasters, as much as the thought that by sin humanity brought misery upon itself. Sin so disrupted the order of life that even nature was askew, presenting terrifying sounds. It is the voice of God. It is the power of Christ’s act and the power of the Holy Spirit that effect the transmutation of the elements into the body and blood of our Savior through the words of the priest. Lack of faith may diminish the spiritual effects of the sacrifice and sacrament for an individual believer, but it cannot nullify the action of Jesus and his Spirit. †

The J"C\"ourney to God

Who among us is up to the task to undertake a feat where only the honorable, strong-hearted and true will last? Who is the foe? I hear you cry. “The foe my friend, is you and I.” Who is the foe? I hear you cry. “The foe is always you and I.” However, the perfect blend for an individual believer, but it cannot nullify the action of Jesus and his Spirit. †

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CHICAGO (CNS)—When it comes to immigration law, Carmen Estacio, a natu-
ralized U.S. citizen who is from the Phil-
ippines, did everything by the book,
including applying for a visa for her then-
18-year-old son to join her in the United
States. She filed the application in 1991. Her
son, now 33, arrived from the Philippines
this June.

“I waited and I waited and I waited,” said Estacio. “I requested help from con-
gressmen. I thought about getting a lawyer, but I knew it was very expensive.”

Estacio’s experience illustrates one problem with U.S. immigration law fami-
lies end up separated for years—say advoc-
cates for immigration reform. Those advo-
cates include the U.S. Conference of
Catholic Bishops, which launched its
Justice for Immigrants campaign in May.

The 14-year wait for Estacio’s son is
actually shorter than the current 22-year
backlog for siblings of Filipino immigrants
to immigrate to the United States, accord-
ing to Fred Tsao, policy director for the
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and
Refugee Rights.

Overall, the average wait time for fam-
ily-preference visas—the most common
way for new immigrants to enter the United
States—is 12 years, Tsao told the
Catholic New World, newspaper of the Chicago Archdiocese.

He explained that a limited number of visas are approved each year, with further
limits on categories such as siblings, adult
children and so on.

Wait times depend on the country of
origin, with each nation generally limited
and 11 million, also could get legal
permission to stay, although they would
have to pay a $2,000 fine and move to the
back of the line for permanent status.

The bill, which has the support of the
USCIS, also would increase the number of
visas available to unskilled workers.

Nearly all the employment-based visas now go to
highly skilled workers. The guest worker
program would allow workers to bring
spouses and minor children with them.

Whatever Congress does on immigra-
tion, it likely will be too late for Teresa
Figueroa, a Melrose Park woman set to be
deported this summer. Figueroa entered
the United States with a legal visa in 1999, but
then purchased someone else’s Social
Security number to get a job.

The person whose number she bought
alerted police after the IRS inquired about
unreported income from the job Figueroa
was working. Figueroa was arrested.

A mother of four and grandmother of
one, Figueroa said she never intended to
hurt anyone, and if she knew how much
trouble she was going to get into she
would not have done it.

While the Illinois Coalition for
Immigrant and Refugee Rights was purs-
ing special legislation to allow her to
stay, Figueroa was leaning heavily on her faith
to get her through. With the hours she used
to spend at her job, she now prays and
does volunteer work at St. Charles
Borromeo Parish.

“I have a big faith,” Figueroa said.
“Whatever God decides, it’s going to be
the best for me. One thing I’m grateful
about, I’m alive and I’m happy.”

“All the time I have left, I want to help
all the people I can,” she said. “To the
people who have documents, I would say, sup-
port the ones who don’t. I would tell them
to pray a lot and have faith, asking God for
help. If God was here right now, he
wouldn’t bring the immigrants to Caesar.
He would fight with them and support
them.”

Estacio said she would support any
effort to make the system more rational.
She explained that her son’s case was
delayed because she became a U.S. citizen
in 2000. She had to refile the petition for
her son, starting at the back of a different
line for children of naturalized citizens.

“It didn’t make sense,” she said. “I felt
so bad, but I had already taken my oath.”
Finally, Estacio hired an attorney, who
pressed the case under a legal provision
that says petitions filed by legal residents
should continue to be processed if the resi-
dents become citizens. ↑

The number of people applying is
ten to 20 times the numbers that can be
accommodated under the law,” Tsao said.

“When my father immigrated from
China, it took only a few years. He was able to
sponsor my uncle in 1973, so it took two
years. If my father was doing it now, it
would take 12 years.”

Parents, spouses and minor children
citizens do not have to wait, Tsao said, but
even that gets complicated. For example, if
a citizen applied for a visa for her parents,
they would be able to come to the United
States. But if the citizen had any brothers
and sisters at home, they could not come
with their parents, no matter how young
they were.

Tsao said one of the comprehensive
immigration bills in Congress, sponsored
by Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and
Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., would address that.

He also said it would create a more
workable guest worker program, giving
people with proof of a job in the United
States the chance to get a three-year visa,
renewable for another three years, with a
chance to get permanent resident status.

Many undocumented immigrants in
the United States, estimated at between 8 mil-
lion and 11 million, also could get legal
permission to stay, although they would
have to pay a $2,000 fine and move to the
back of the line for permanent status.

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Figueroa, a Melrose Park woman set to be
the help immigrant families fight separation

Back to School Shopping Section—continued

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Bermudas $13.98

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NEWS BRIEFS

U.S.

Orange Diocese honored for programs to protect young people

ORANGE, Calif. (CNS)—The Diocese of Orange’s Office of Faith Formation, which oversees the diocesan schools, will be honored for its efforts to educate teachers and students about domestic violence, teen dating abuse, family violence and sexual abuse. The office will receive the Family Violence Project’s Award for Inspired Action on Aug. 12. The Family Violence Project is a nonprofit organization funded largely by the U.S. Justice Department’s Office of Victims of Crime, which trains key community members to recognize and respond to all types of family violence and abuse.

Illinois church singles group helps troops keep cool in Iraq’s heat

ROMEOVILLE, Ill. (CNS)—Members of the singles group at St. Isidore Parish in Bloomingdale are providing some cooling comfort to American troops serving in Iraq’s hot temperatures. They are making neck coolers for soldiers, according to group member Patricia O’Dwyer. Polymers, watering crystals that are typically used to keep soil moist for potted plants, are sewn inside canvas scarves. When the soldiers dampen the scarves, the polymers retain the moisture and keep them cool on the battlefield. Some days this summer, the temperature in Baghdad reached 115 degrees. In a telephone interview with the Catholic Explorer, newspaper of the Joilet Diocese, O’Dwyer said it takes about 30 minutes to make one scarf. Volunteers make them in an assembly line fashion with one volunteer cutting the material, another one sewing it and another inserting the crystals. Since they started the project in November 2004, the volunteers have made more than 50 of the coolers. In August, they plan to make an additional 25 or so and send them to soldiers in care packages that will include cake in a jar.

WORLD

Pope Benedict calls IRA announcement ‘wonderful news’

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI said the Irish Republican Army’s announcement that it had ended its armed campaign was “wonderful news” that must be followed by efforts to promote trust and reconciliation. “To the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Patrick and all the saints of Ireland, we entrust our common prayer for this intention,” he said on July 31 after reciting the Angelus at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo. With several thousand people gathered in the courtyard of the residence on a sweltering hot day, the pope praised the IRA’s decision to end its armed struggle and rely solely on peaceful negotiations. “This is wonderful news, which contrasts with the painful events we are witnessing daily in many parts of the world,” he said. The IRA decision, announced July 28, “rightly has given rise to satisfaction on the island and to the entire international community.”

Cologne’s Jewish leaders hope pope’s visit helps relations

COLOGNE, Germany (CNS)—Jewish leaders said they hope Pope Benedict XVI’s visit to a Cologne synagogue will help improve Catholic-Jewish relations. “We hope that the visit will be a sign for the future,” said Michael Rado, a member of the board of the Cologne synagogue, which the pope is scheduled to visit on Aug. 19. “In spite of the efforts of the Church in recent years, there is still anti-Semitism based on religious grounds in the minds of some people. If the pope takes the step of visiting a synagogue, it will make once more clear that the movement in the Church is away from anti-Semitism,” he said. Synagogue board member Ebi Lehrer said that it is a German pope who is visiting is not a major issue. “We see him as the pope, not the head of the Catholic Church, and not so much as a German,” he said. “Perhaps it even makes it easier for him to visit a community in his home country.”

Thousands honor Brazilian electrician killed in London

SAO PAULO, Brazil (CNS)—Some 10,000 people paid their respects to Brazilian electrician Jean-Charles de Menezes, killed on a London subway because police thought he was a terrorist. Bishop Werner Siebenbrock of Governador Valadares celebrated the funeral Mass on July 29 in the town of Gonzaga, population 6,000. Loudspeakers were placed in the plaza outside the church so people could participate. Police shot Menezes eight times on July 22 after police suspected him of being a suicide bomber involved in the July 7 terrorist attacks in London. The British government has cleared Menezes of charges, apologized for its mistake and is negotiating with the family for compensation. Menezes’ body arrived from London on July 28 and was transported from Sao Paulo to Governador Valadares on a Brazilian Air Force carrier. In Governador Valadares, the coffin was put on a firetruck and slowly made its way to Gonzaga, 125 miles away. More than 40 automobiles, all displaying black ribbons, followed the firetruck.

Polish official says lack of funds halts work on Warsaw basilica

WARSAW, Poland (CNS)—A Polish Church official said work on a massive new basilica in Warsaw, built in thanksgiving for the collapse of communism and the pontificate of John Paul II, will be halted by the end of the year because of lack of funding. “Legal uncertainties and changing interpretations of the regulations have ensured few firms decided to give support,” Father Bogdan Leszczewicz, project director for the Church of Divine Providence, told Poland’s Catholic Information Agency. KAL on July 27. “It would be halted by the end of the year because of lack of funding.” Legal uncertainties and changing interpretations of the regulations have ensured few firms decided to give support,” Father Bogdan Leszczewicz, project director for the Church of Divine Providence, told Poland’s Catholic Information Agency. KAL on July 27. “It would be halted by the end of the year because of lack of funding.” Legal uncertainties and changing interpretations of the regulations have ensured few firms decided to give support,” Father Bogdan Leszczewicz, project director for the Church of Divine Providence, told Poland’s Catholic Information Agency. KAL on July 27. “It would be halted by the end of the year because of lack of funding.”

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By Katie Zupancic

Before a plant can “go and bear fruit, fruit that will last” (Jn 15:16), a seed must be sown, watered and given a chance to grow and flourish.

The same concept applies to spiritual lives. The seeds of faith must be planted and taken care of before they can flower. For faith to bud and grow, knowledgeable caretakers, “gardeners,” if you will, are necessary to begin and guide the journey of a Catholic person to heaven. If an individual uses the lives of the gardeners (priests, brothers and sisters) as an example, he or she will shine as brightly as a sunflower reaching toward the sky.

A young Catholic’s spiritual seeds are sown into a loving, supportive Church environment during the sacrament of baptism by a priest. As the seeds continue to grow, nourishment for the soul is necessary.

The body of Christ is the spiritual “Miracle Grow” presented to children by the gardeners at first Communion. Sometimes, the weeds of sin creep up toward their delicate buds. Reconciliation repels these imperfections and helps the buds to continue to grow.

As they mature, young adults need role models to look up to. With the support of people involved in the priesthood, brotherhood and sisterhood, young adults are able to make decisions based on the vocation God meant for them to have.

During confirmation, teenagers’ missions are re-evaluated. And with help from the gardeners, they can choose a path that they will follow for the rest of their lives. Some may choose to be a gardener, to help spread the faith and plant seeds in others. Others may choose to carry on their life as a growing sprout, striving to reach the sun with the help of earthly gardeners and eventually achieving eternal life with the Master Gardener, Jesus.

Where are you in your life of faith reaching heavenly heights with other sunflowers or spiritually starving in crabgrass?

If the latter is the answer, the gardeners are waiting nearby in your local church, convent and monastery, ready to help you soar to new heights. It’s their “nature.”

(Katie and her parents, Tom and Carrie Zupancic, are members of St. Malachi Parish in Brownsburg. She is a student at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis and is the ninth-grade division winner in the 2005 Serra Club Vocations Essay Contest.)

India flood

Workers stand in high water to deliver food and water to flood-affected people in Mumbai on Aug. 1. Record rainfall triggered floods and landslides that left nearly 1,000 people dead in India’s financial capital. Pope Benedict XVI offered prayers for victims and relief workers.

For more information or to schedule a presentation, contact Tim Blessing at 317-353-6101

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a nationally recognized abduction prevention program, is available free of charge to the parents and children of Indianapolis. The fun and entertaining program familiarizes parents and young children with strategies that lead to smart choices that can make the difference in potentially dangerous situations.

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Contact:
Mrs. Peffer 322-2044
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Coordinator of Communications, Marketing, and Catholic Charities
The Archdiocese of Indianapolis is seeking a full-time coordinator of communications and marketing for Catholic Charities. The coordinator is responsible for the planning and implementation of the marketing plan for the six agencies that comprise the secretariat with the primary goal of increasing general awareness of the ministry of Catholic Charities. The coordinator must have a thorough understanding of the teachings and structure of the Roman Catholic Church. The position requires a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in public relations, marketing or a related field and a minimum 3 years of experience. Qualified candidates will possess excellent oral and written communication skills and a strong desire to promote the values contained in Catholic social teaching as they work with our Catholic Charities agencies and programs.

Please send a cover letter, résumé, and list of references to:

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Catholic Charities is a Catholic owned company looking for a Registered Nurse. In the Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, Marion, Monroe, St. Joseph, and St. Joseph areas. We also have positions available for Chaplains, Social Workers and Nursing Assistants. We promote pro-life values and our guiding principles are directly out of the Catholic Catechism. If you are looking for a rewarding career that directly impacts others at a time when they are most vulnerable, we may be the company for you! We offer competitive salary and an attractive benefits package, including medical/dental insurance, life insurance, short-term and long-term disability, PTO, 401(k), and much more. We also offer competitive mileage reimbursement! For immediate consideration e-mail your résumé to:

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