Pope calls for end to Mideast violence, expresses concern for civilians

LES COMBES, Italy (CNS)—

Repeating calls for an end to the bloodshed in the Middle East, Pope Benedict XVI said he was particularly concerned about the “defenseless civilian population unjustly stricken in a conflict in which they are just victims.”

The pope expressed his concern for all those who live in northern Israel and for “those who live in northern Israel and for the ‘great multitude of Lebanese who, once more, are seeing their country destroyed and had to leave everything behind to seek safety elsewhere.’”

Before praying the Angelus on July 23, he reiterated the rights of Lebanon to have its sovereignty and borders respected, “of the Israelis to live in peace in their nation, and of the Palestinians to have a free and sovereign homeland.”

In his July 23 address to some 5,000 pilgrims near his Alpine vacation retreat, the pope repeated his calls to all sides in the conflict to establish an immediate cease-fire and the “flow of humanitarian aid into the region and, ‘with the support of the international community, to seek ways to begin negotiations.’”

He also reiterated the rights of Lebanon to have its sovereignty and borders respected, “of the Israelis to live in peace in their nation, and of the Palestinians to have a free and sovereign homeland.”

The pope prayed that people’s hopes for peace “may be realized as soon as possible, through the harmonious commitment of leaders.”

Pope Benedict later spent the afternoon leading prayers for peace at a parish church in the nearby town of Rhemes-Saint-Georges.

Speaking without a text, the pope told those gathered that there is no reconciliation in a world “still full of rancor and war.”

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College students hike across the country to save lives

By Mary Ann Wyand

“Crossroads Pro-Life Walk Across America” participants had a spring in their steps last week as they hiked across Indiana. They were happy that President Bush vetoed legislation on July 19 that would have expanded federal funding for embryonic stem-cell research.

Human embryos are no matter how small they are, the Crossroads walkers emphasized on July 20 during a break from their pro-life pilgrimage along U.S. 40 west of Indianapolis.

“I congratulate President Bush for taking a stand against the destruction of life,” Crossroads volunteer Dennis Stoll said. “I think that takes a lot of guts. He did what needed to be done, and now life will be protected at the earliest stage, which is great. Embryonic stem-cell research is presented in a very deceptive way [by advocates]. It’s the destruction of human life in its earliest form.”

Stoll is a member of Most Sacred Heart Parish in Florsaint, Mo. He earned a bachelor’s degree in political science at the University of St. Louis in May and decided to break from their pro-life pilgrimage along U.S. 40 west of Indianapolis on July 20 before continuing their pro-life pilgrimage to Washington, D.C.

Thirteen colleagues spoke about the importance of “Taking Steps to Save Lives” during Masses at St. Mary Church, St. Mark the Evangelist Church, St. Ann Church, St. Joseph Church, St. Francis and Clare Church in Greenwood last weekend.

Walking for life

By Mary Ann Wyand

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Thirteen colleagues spoke about the importance of “Taking Steps to Save Lives” during Masses at St. Mary Church, St. Mark the Evangelist Church, St. Ann Church, St. Joseph Church, St. Francis and Clare Church in Greenwood last weekend.

The Criterion during a retirement luncheon held in their honor on June 28 at the Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center. They retired last month after completing 23 years of service to the archdiocese. Stumpf was a member of the Publications and Graphics Department and Williams was a senior account executive.

Longtime Criterion employees

St. Barnabas parishioner Louis Stumpf, left, and St. Joseph parishioner Loretta Williams, both of Indianapolis, read a commemorative “edition” of The Criterion during a retirement luncheon held in their honor on June 28 at the Archbishop O’Meara Catholic Center. They retired last month after completing 23 years of service to the archdiocese. Stumpf was a member of the Publications and Graphics Department and Williams was a senior account executive.
WASHINGTON (CNS) — Surrounded by children who once were frozen embryos and the families who adopted them, President George W. Bush announced on July 19 that he had used the first veto of his five-and-a-half-year administration on a bill that would have expanded federal funding of embryonic stem-cell research.

"As science brings us ever closer to unlocking the secrets of human biology, it also brings with it temptations to manipulate human life and violate human dignity," Bush said.

"Our conscience and law as a nation demand that we resist this temptation."

If the Stem-Cell Research Enhancement Act had become law, "for the first time in our history, we would have been forced to fund the deliberate destruction of human embryos, and I’m not going to allow it," the president said.

Among the Catholic leaders praising the veto was Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson of the Knights of Columbus, who said the stem-cell bill was "eminently worthy of President Bush’s first veto."

"Every human life, no matter how small, should be protected in law," Anderson said in a statement. "Unfortunately, in America, the destruction of unborn human life is perfectly legal, whether in a laboratory or in an abortion clinic."

The vetoed legislation would have added "insult to injury by forcing the taxpayers to pay for that, and that is unconscionable," he added.

Richard Doerflinger, deputy director of the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, praised the veto and Bush’s “insistence that that progress in treating devastating diseases must be pursued in ways that are both effective and morally sound."

“We join the president in invoking Congress and the scientific community to work together on the issue for the good of our history, we would have been forced to fund the deliberate destruction of human embryos, and I’m not going to allow it," the president said.

They also plan to attend Mass on Aug. 15—the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary—at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Two other groups of Crossroads volunteers also are walking to the nation’s capital via the northern Appalachian routes this summer. They take turns walking and praying the rosary during the day and through the night regardless of the weather.

The collegians attend Mass daily if possible and stop at various cities on weekends to pray outside abortion clinics, speak at Masses and talk to as many people as they can about the need to respect and protect the sanctity of life. Elite Delahunt of Chicago graduated from the University of Illinois in Champaign, Ill., in May with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry and a certificate in secondary education. She interned Mass at St. John’s Catholic Newman Center during her college years.

"I’m walking for life and I think it’s great that the president is defending life by taking a stand against embryonic stem-cell research," Delahunt said. "It involves the destruction of human life—in addition to abortion—and people need to know that."

The pro-life pilgrimage has shown her the reality of "the fight of good against evil," she said. "I can really feel God’s presence when we’re walking. I feel like the Blessed Virgin is kind of hovering there and protecting us... It was amazing to see how many times that the devil has been trying to knock us down with injuries. It was really hard for our other walkers because there weren’t enough people, but with all the prayers and the grace we’ve made it through so far."

Delahunt said it has been "so amazing to see the support that we get when we walk across America, whether it’s just somebody driving by and handing us money out of their car window to support our cause or priests and people at parishes giving us hugs when we give a talk. "I love the support that’s out there," she said. "It’s great knowing that people are praying for us as we go across the country."

Bush said the Fetus Farming Prohibition Act of 2006, which he signed on July 19, "prohibits one of the most egregious abuses in biomedical research, the trafficking in human fetuses that are created with the sole intent of aborting them to harvest their parts."

"Human beings are not a raw material to be exploited, or a commodity to be bought or sold, and this bill will help ensure that we respect this fundamental ethical line," he added.

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**Embryonic stem-cell bill called ‘eminently worthy’ of Bush’s first veto**

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**Resisting the temptation**

Embryonic stem-cell bill called ‘eminently worthy’ of Bush’s first veto

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**Crossroads**

spend his summer promoting life issues by walking across the country. He joined the 12th annual walk in California.

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**Family Style Chicken Dinner**

St. Paul’s Church

New Alsace, Indiana

Saturday, August 12, 2006

6 p.m.-11 p.m.—Over 21 Beer Garden, Games, Food, Live Band

Sunday, August 13, 2006

Mass at 9:00 A.M.

Dinners 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.—Continuious Family Style serving

Lunch Stand—Country Store—Quilts

Prizes—Games—Beer Garden

Rain or Shine—Under Cover

**Our First Annual ‘International Bazaar’**

Saturday, August 5, 2006

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

In a ‘ministries helping ministries’ spirit, Our Lady of Fatima is proud to present an ‘International Bazaar!’ Vendors include Global Gifts, Broad Ripple Key Club, Universal System for Education, Inc. and many more! Mission vendors will be offering handmade items from Peru, El Salvador and around the world. Traditional vendors will have homemade Italian food items, books, gifts and more, as well as hand-made items such as stationary, quilts, purses and jewelry.

There is no cost to attend the bazaar, but we will be accepting donations. All donations will be split between Lucious Newsom Ministries and Our Lady of Fatima.

**Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House**

5353 E. 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46226

(317) 545-7681

www.archindy.org/fatima
Be Our Guest/Dr. Hans Geisler

We have a moral obligation to give hydration, nutrition to the permanently unconscious

I am afraid that Dan Conway, in his July 7 editorial in The Criterion, mistakenly applauded Father Michael Place’s pronouncement concerning what Father Place described as a nuanced approach to the provision of hydration and nutrition to persons in a “persistent vegetative state” (PVS).

It should be noted first that Pope John Paul II, in his allocution given in March 2004, declared the use of the term PVS. He pointed out that all human beings have an innate dignity as children of God and, therefore, no human should be referred to as being a vegetable.

Secondly, the pope stated that the provision of hydration and nutrition, even by means of a feeding tube, is morally obligatory as long as the patient is not terminally and can reasonably be expected to regain consciousness and the nutrition and hydration. Father Place is wrong when he describes the giving of hydration and nutrition as possibly burdensome.

Assuredly, there is a theoretical possibility of this being true. However, food and water can be administered through a feeding tube even at home by someone minimally trained. The administration of fluids through a feeding tube is not in the realm of rocket science.

Many families have been trained in the procedure, and a medical or nursing degree is not required.

The pope’s statement agreed with that of the World Health Organization. Jan 14, 1992, when they wrote: “As a general conclusion, in almost every instance, there is an obligation to continue supplying nutrition and hydration to those in a persistent vegetative state” (PVS).

One thing is clear. The liturgy speaks a language of love.

O ur Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy king- dom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

On June 15, during their national meeting in Los Angeles, the Catholic bishops of the United States approved a new English translation of the Order of Mass.

This new translation involves the most basic and familiar parts of the Mass—the penitential rite, Gloria, creed, eucharistic prayers and acclamations, Our Father and other prayers and responses used daily. The changes are expected to take effect in the next year or two—following Vatican approval.

The new translation is bound to be controversial. For one thing, it changes expressions that have become a familiar part of the prayer of English-speaking Catholics since the early 1970s.

Secondly, it uses a stricter (more literal) interpretation of the original Latin, which is bound to be somewhat clumsy given the differences in grammar and syntax between these two very different languages.

Finally, the new translation takes what might be called the blunt character (or directness) of “plain English” and attempts to provide the Mass with a richer and more expressive symbolic vocabulary.

So, for example, where we now pray in Eucharistic Prayer III “so that from the present good to which we are expectant and to which we are called by the Lord,” the new translation proposes “so that from the present good to which we are called" (Dr. Hans Geisler, retired oncol- gologist, is a member of the arch- diocesan Pro-Life Activities Advisory Committee. He is also a member of St. Luke Parish in Indianapolis.)

We have a moral obligation to give hydration, nutrition to the permanently unconscious

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” (Communio et Progressus, 116).

Letters from readers are welcome and every effort will be made to publish letters from as many people and representing as many viewpoints as possible. Letters should be brief—no more than 150 words—and should be typed or printed legibly. The editors reserve the right to select the letters that will be published and to edit them for clarity, conciseness, punctuation, and space limitations. In some instances, letters may be published in abbreviated form, with space limitations. In some instances, letters may be published in abbreviated form, with abbreviations limited to one letter every three months. Concise letters (usu- ally less than 300 words) are more likely to be printed.

Letters must be signed, but, for serious topics, they may be anonymous.

Send letters to “Letters to the Editor,” The Criterion, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1717.

Letters to the Editor

Priests have resided at St. Paul Hermitage for many years

I enjoyed Sean Gallagher’s article in the June 30 issue of The Criterion about the priests living at St. Paul Hermitage.

However, the article is not correct in stating that Msgr. Richard Kavanagh was the first retired priest to move there. My sister, Florence Smith, and I well remember that our uncle, Father Patrick H. Griffin, who was ordained in June 1905, retired from Assumption Parish on Blaine Avenue in west Indianapolis as pastor and moved to the hermitage.

He served as chaplain until his last illness and death on April 28, 1982, at St. Margaret Hospital. Father Patrick was buried at the Priests’ Circle at Holy Cross Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Also, there was Father John Riedinger, who retired as pastor of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish and moved to St. Paul Hermitage in 1966. Father Riedinger died on July 15, 1991.

There is no doubt that other priests resided there as well in years past. Betty Hull, Indianapolis

Understanding the great mystery of the Trinity and the Holy Spirit

I know and believe that there is a Trinity. Also, Jesus told his disciples to baptize them in “the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

How does one describe this to some-
SIN LA EUCARISTÍA NO EXISTIRÍA LA IGLESIA CATÓLICA

C ontinué con mis reflexiones acerca de qué constituye la Arquidiócesis de Indianapolis por medio de un análisis de la Eucaristía, el orien
to de nuestra vida como Iglesia. En los anales de la Iglesia, los cristianos representaban verdaderamente una minúsi
cula minoría en el mundo que los rodeaba. La adoración de deidades paganas era mucho más popular que la alabanza al Dios trino evidenciada por la encarnación de Cristo en la vida cotidiana. Desde el principio, los Apóstoles y sus sucesores se desplazaron hasta donde pudieron, por tierra o por mar, para difundir la misión de Cristo. Sin embargo, en ese primer tiempo se habrían perdido más de lo que se habrían ganado. Pero eso no detuvo a los Apóstoles y sus sucesores. Misioneros como St. Paul no dudaron ni un instante más, y eso hubiera llevado a la difusión de la misión de Cristo.

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### Events Calendar

#### August 29
- **St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, 535 E. Edgewood Ave., Indianapolis.** “Fun Fest,” 4 p.m.-midnight, rides, food, games. Information: 317-787-8246.

#### August 28

#### August 27
- Marcan Center of Indianapolis, 3356 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. “Medjugorje: Our Mother, Six Wonders, a Sanctuary, and 40,000,000 Pilgrims,” archdiocesan seminarian Rick Nagel, presenter. 7 p.m., no charge. Information: 317-924-3982.

#### July 29
- Holy Angels Parish, 740 W. 28th St., Indianapolis. “Lectures on the Lawn” series, weather permitting or program in Parish Center. 7:30 p.m., no charge. Information: 317-334-0033.

#### July 28-29

**Funtastic Fun Fest**

#### July 30

- Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Office of Family Ministries. “Ministry of Catechesis Training.” Information: 317-545-7081 or e-mail gwen@archindy.org.

**Michaela Farm Retreat**

#### August 9-10
- Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Eco-Camping,” boys and girls ages 8-12, $50 per camper. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail michaelafarm@seidata.com.

#### August 4
- Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Fun Fest” for engaged couples, 1-4:30 p.m. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail michaelafarm@seidata.com.

#### August 5-6
- Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Living of the Past,” 2-4 p.m., donations to Michaela Farm. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail michaelafarm@seidata.com.

#### September 17-18
- Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “It’s a Boy, it’s a Girl!” information: 317-545-7081 or e-mail eugen@archindy.org.

#### September 19
- Kordes Retreat Center, 841 E. 14th St., Ferdinand, Indiana. Directed retreat. Information: 812-357-6611 or e-mail patton@stmoniarm.edu.

#### September 19-20
- St. Michael Archangel Church, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. “Wisdom’s Way,” Benedictine Father Niel Machle presenter. Information: 812-357-6611 or e-mail gavin@stmoniarm.edu.

#### September 22-23
- Kordes Retreat Center, 841 E. 14th St., Ferdinand, Indiana. Directed retreat. Information: 812-357-6611 or e-mail gavin@stmoniarm.edu.

#### September 24
- St. Simon the Stiphanus, 11420 N. State Road 545, Fulda. “Tobit Weekend” for engaged couples. Information: 317-545-7081 or e-mail eugen@archindy.org.

#### September 26
- Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Family Fun Day,” farm tours, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail michaelafarm@seidata.com.

#### September 27
- Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Living of the Past,” 2-4 p.m., donations to Michaela Farm. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail michaelafarm@seidata.com.

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#### September 28
- Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Fun Fest” for the Faith, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-545-7081 or e-mail gavin@archindy.org.

#### September 28-29
- St. Simon the Stiphanus, 11420 N. State Road 545, Fulda. “Tobit Weekend” for engaged couples. Information: 317-545-7081 or e-mail eugen@archindy.org.

**VIPs...**

Harold and Evelyn (Levis) Helangem, members of St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on July 28. The couple was married on July 28, 1956, at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. They have two children, Lee Fischer and Jackie Murphy. They have three grandchildren.

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### Retreats and Programs

#### July 28
- **Michaela Farm, Oldenburg.** “Nature’s Pollinators,” 10 a.m.-noon, donation. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail michaelafarm@seidata.com.

#### July 29
- **Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis.** “Spirituality in the Summer 2006: The State of Faith Pure and Simple,” four sessions, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-236-1221 or chad@archindy.org.

#### July 31-August 4

#### August 2

#### August 3
- St. Francis Education Center, 5305 S. Emerson Ave., Suite 100, Indianapolis. “St. Francis Medical and Surgical Weight Loss Center,” “Back to Basics,” healthy eating for parents and children, $15 per child, additional siblings $10 per family. Information: 317-782-7525.

#### August 10

#### August 20
- Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. “The Prodigal Son and his Elder Brother,” Benedictine Father Eugene Hessell, presenter. Information: 812-357-6611 or e-mail gavin@stmoniarm.edu.

#### August 21
- Battelle High School, auditorium, Our Bulldog Blvd., Batelle. St. Nicholas Parish summer seminar. “Healing through the Power of Jesus Christ,” Father Gregory Boylan, Linda Schuberth and Claire Merek, presenters, 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m. (EDT), $40 per person, includes lunch and dinner. Reservation required. Information: 812-623-8007.

#### August 25-27
- Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Tobit Weekend” for engaged couples. Information: 317-545-7081 or e-mail eugen@archindy.org.

#### September 15-17
- Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Tobit Weekend” for engaged couples. Information: 317-545-7081 or e-mail eugen@archindy.org.

#### September 16
- Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Family Fun Day,” farm tours, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail michaelafarm@seidata.com.

#### September 17
- Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Living of the Past,” 2-4 p.m., donations to Michaela Farm. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail michaelafarm@seidata.com.

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### Fun in the sun with a nun

Sister Maria Augustine Giannini, a Sister of Charity of St. John Antia, tosses a baseball during the 50th wedding anniversary reunion on July 22 in Miami. The bocce tournament pitted faculty and alumnae against members of the Class of 1966 at the high school. Sister Maria Augustine will be 90 in October.

### Finishing touches

Peter Pasquereillo, who works for Motta Mosaic Art Studios, prepares grout for the Redemption Dome mosaic in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., asaf创投2完成于7月11日。这个雕塑是安装在天花板的一段大型的雕塑，在基座上面，最高的floor下面。
Knights of Columbus raise $10 million for Katrina relief

NEW ORLEANS (CNS)—The $10 million raised by the Knights of Columbus for hurricane relief on the Gulf Coast represents the largest disaster relief effort in the organization’s 124-year history, said Patrick Korten, vice president for communications.

Almost before the winds had died down on the Gulf Coast following Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson had initiated a conference call with all state directors in the United States and Canada to begin relief efforts.

“The first response was to place $2.5 million aside for disaster relief immediately,” Korten told the Clarion Herald, New Orleans archdiocesan newspaper, during a visit to New Orleans.

He said that even before local councils knew what was going on at the national level they were raising funds and collecting supplies.

“The local Knights didn’t wait, they were already doing something,” Korten said. For the first two months following the storm, the supreme council matched all funds raised at the local level, adding another $2 million to its initial commitment, he said.

“All over the United States and Canada, we were doing what the Knights do—charitable works raising money for hurricane victims,” he said.

Many U.S. and Canadian councils collected supplies and shipped them into disaster areas by any means possible.

Councils in the Gulf Coast area whose buildings were not destroyed by the hurricane opened them up for various emergency uses, from food distribution centers for evacuees to operations centers for police, firefighters and disaster response teams.

The executive director of the New Orleans archdiocesan Department of Christian Formation, Dominican Father Neal McDermott, had his own needs and told the Knights to help him.

“They were truly my brothers,” said Father McDermott, as he told how the Knights’ ability to respond instantly helped hundreds of kids re-enroll in a Catholic school wherever they were.

“I had kids lined up trying to get into Catholic school. But the parents couldn’t afford to pay a second tuition and, of course, they couldn’t get their tuition back from their original school at that time because it was probably still under water,” Father McDermott said.

At a daily archdiocesan staff meeting shortly after the hurricane, he said, New Orleans Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes mentioned receiving $1 million from the Knights for church repairs.

“I kind of exploded about spending that money to repair damaged churches when I had all these kids in need. So the archbishop gave me the name of someone and told me to call,” he said.

He said he phoned Dennis Savoie, assistant supreme treasurer, and told him he had 500 kids who needed $1,000 tuition supplements to get back into Catholic schools.

“He listened, told me there was a meeting that afternoon and he would get back to me before the end of the day,” Father McDermott said. “Well, at 4 p.m. the phone rang, and he said, ‘Even as we talk, a half-million dollars is being wired into the archdiocesan account to help with those tuitions.’ ”

The Knights gave direct aid to several schools. Korten said St. Augustine High School received $50,000—$25,000 from the New Jersey state council with a matching grant from the supreme council. The school’s president, Josephite Father Joseph M. Doyle, “told me that was tremendous relief because that was the amount he needed to supply to assure his students would attend the MAX school,” Korten said. MAX, which stands for Mary-Augustine-Xavier, was a combined high school, housed at Xavier Prep School, that was formed after the hurricane to educate students from Xavier, St. Augustine and St. Mary’s Academy. The archdiocese received $1 million from Supreme Knight Carl Anderson when he visited Archbishop Hughes in Baton Rouge in early September, and another $1 million this June. Anderson made treks across the Gulf Coast region leaving checks behind for relief efforts in other dioceses.

In addition, many Knights around the country have spent their time coming to the Gulf Coast to help clean, gut and rebuild. “Several of our college councils spent their spring breaks working somewhere in disaster relief,” Korten said.
Archdiocese to sponsor pilgrimage for October canonization

By Sean Gallagher

The Oct. 15 canonization of Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin at St. Peter’s Square in Rome will be a historic day that the faithful of the archdiocese can take part in throughout an Oct. 11-19 archdiocesan-sponsored pilgrimage.

On that day, Blessed Mother Theodore, the 19th-century foundress of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, will become the first saint from Indiana and only the eighth from the United States.

“For anybody who is able to go with us on this pilgrimage, this is going to be a once-in-a-lifetime event,” said archdiocesan vicar general Mgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, who—along with Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein—will lead the pilgrimage.

“There’s a great spiritual linkage between the people of the archdiocese and Mother Theodore and this canonization,” Mgr. Schaedel said. “She’s one of us.”

Carolyn Noone, archdiocesan associate director for special events, has organized many pilgrimages for the archdiocese. She said the one in October will stand out for her.

“It’s an excitement that we’ve not had before in pilgrimages,” she said. “It was extremely exciting to go to the beatification and for Indiana to have somebody who was called blessed. And now, to see this all come together after this length of time, it’s just a wonderful blessing for our state.”

In addition to witnessing the declaration of Blessed Mother Theodore’s sainthood, the pilgrims will also visit places closely connected with several other saints from Church history.

Upon arriving in Rome on Oct. 12, the pilgrims will travel by deluxe motorcoach to the Tuscan city of Siena, the home of St. Catherine of Siena.

Also included in the trip to Siena will be a visit to the Church of St. Francis, which features a special eucharistic miracle—the preservation of hosts consecrated more than 270 years ago.

Later in the pilgrimage, day trips from Rome will include Assisi, the home of St. Francis of Assisi and an optional one to Monte Cassino, the final home of St. Benedict.

The focus of the trip will, of course, be on the events related to the canonization in Rome.

On Oct. 14, Vespers on the evening before the canonization of Blessed Mother Theodore will be prayed in the Baroque Church of the Gesù.

The following morning, the pilgrims will participate in the canonization Mass to be celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI at St. Peter’s Square.

A Mass of thanksgiving will be celebrated on Oct. 16 at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside-the-Walls.

Events on Oct. 17 will include attending the pope’s weekly general audience.

In addition to the canonization liturgies, Mass will be celebrated each day with other regular opportunities for prayer and spiritual devotions.

The pilgrims will stay at four-star hotels throughout the pilgrimage, with most meals included. Transportation to all pilgrimage events is also provided.

For more information on the life of Blessed Mother Theodore and what the Sisters of Providence have planned for the canonization, visit their Web site at www.spsmw.org.

(For more information about the canonization cause of Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin, go to www.archindy.org/geurin or www.spsmw.org.)

People attend the 1998 Mass at St. Peter’s Square in Rome at which Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin was beatified. The facade of St. Peter’s Basilica was covered at the time for restoration. Pilgrims participating in the upcoming archdiocesan pilgrimage will attend a similar liturgy on Oct. 15 at which the 1998 canonization of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods will be canonized.
Imagine sitting next to Jesus during the Last Supper. What would you say to Christ? How would this experience affect your faith?

A new interactive sculpture at St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis will invite people to sit outdoors at a table beside a life-size image of Christ and spend time in prayer or reflection. Father Michael Welch, pastor of the Indianapolis West Deanery parish at 5301 W. 16th St., hopes people will “visit with Jesus” often at “The Last Supper” sculpture.

It will be blessed during a 10:30 a.m. dedication ceremony on July 30 in front of the Parish Activity Center and parish office. Parishioners and guests will then walk to the church for Mass. The public is invited to participate in the dedication and liturgy.

Father Welch said the bronze sculpture of Jesus breaking bread will be illuminated at night so people can spend time there whenever they want—or need—to pray to God.

“I think it’s going to be an opportunity for evangelization for people that says, “This is what St. Christopher’s is all about.”” Father Welch said. “For us at St. Christopher’s, the Eucharist is most important.”

A plaque mounted near the sculpture explains the purpose of this one-of-a-kind prayer experience.

“As Jesus and his first disciples gathered around a table on the eve of his Passion,” the plaque reads, “these empty seats are an invitation for you to sit with Jesus and pray, allowing Christ to nourish your spirit and body.”

In a catalog featuring his artwork, master sculptor Timothy P. Schmalz of Toronto, Canada, describes this work as “a powerful and traditional image of Our Lord breaking bread while seated at the center of this interactive sculpture of ‘The Last Supper.’ The 12 empty seats invite and challenge viewers to sit at Christ’s table and become his disciples today.”

Father Welch said he thinks people will be eager to pray in new ways in this image setting.

“The parish community is excited about the aspect of being able to sit down and perhaps share supper with the Lord,” he said. “I think they are able to bring children over to explain what the Lord is doing at the Passover Supper.”

The response so far has been overwhelming, Father Welch said. “We just fell in love with it and we wanted people to sit at Christ’s table and seats were absolutely amazed” when they were shown the design with the bronze sculpture of Jesus breaking bread and the bronze chalice and plate.

“When we said, ‘We’re making a table for Jesus,’ they took great pride in what they were doing,” he said. “They knew what it meant to us and how awesome it would be when it was done.”

Quinnette said the construction workers who made the table and seats were “absolutely amazed” when they were shown the design with the bronze sculpture of Jesus breaking bread and the bronze chalice and plate.

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Quinnette said he can’t wait to see people sit down at the table with Jesus.

“It kind of draws you in for a closer look,” he said. “I think even people who aren’t that spiritually focused, who are just walking down the street and see it, may come up and sit down and say a prayer or talk to God and Jesus.”

Neighborhood residents have asked about the sculpture, Father Welch said, and people from nearby faith communities are excited about seeing this contemporary depiction of “The Last Supper” on the parish lawn.

“The Eucharist is central to any Christian,” he said. “People can share that in common and have a place to come to pray whenever they want to.”

The dramatic outdoor installation was conceived as a place for people of all ages to talk to God in prayer, grieve the loss of a loved one or celebrate their faith, Father Welch said. He envisions incorporating the sculpture into school and religious education classes.

Children preparing for First Communion and adults enrolled in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program can benefit from spending time with “The Last Supper” sculpture, he said. It also will welcome people who are waiting in line for help at the food pantry, attending the parish festival or participating in a Catholic Youth Organization sport.

“How God interacts in each person’s life is obviously individual and personal,” Father Welch said. “What we’re hoping to do is create the conditions for the possibility of something happening in someone’s life. … Somebody can sit there and be prayerful, can come there with good things or come there with some burdens.”

He expects the sculpture to be seen by people from all over the world who attend Mass at St. Christopher Church while in town for races at the nearby Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

“It’s a place of prayer for anyone wanting to have a closer experience of their faith,” Father Welch said. “There is an answer for every need when you sit down at the table with Jesus.”

By Mary Ann Wyand

A large table and 12 seats in “The Last Supper” sculpture invite people to sit at Christ’s table and challenge disciples today. The sculpture is located in front of the St. Christopher Parish Activity Center and parish office at 5301 W. 16th St. in Indianapolis.
Faith and Family/Sean Gallagher

Celebrate the gift of life

What's the greatest birthday gift you've ever received? Whether it was a car or a simple “fun” gift, the birthday gifts we get as children are a way to enjoy the present and remember and cherish the people in our lives.

Nowadays, I usu-
al-ly don't get such “fun” gifts. But birth-
day gifts are still fun for me. I would have partic-
ipated with them in the intensity that I had, and we cer-
memony.

The gift of life seemed to be slipping from my sons, and I had to accept the fact that my son, Raphael, who was 14 months old at the time and a patient at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis was suffering from pneumonia and was going to have surgery the next day. My birthday is on July 16. On that day in 2003, I learned that my son, Michael, who was 14 months old at the time and a patient at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis was suffering from pneumonia and was going to have surgery the next day.

For one, I'm beginning to wish that I wasn't so busy. For two, I've found that my birthdays lately have been emotionally intense like my son's birthday was, but for a vastly different reason.

Most importantly, they've allowed me to appreciate a new dimension of the gift of life that underlies all birthday celebrations: the gift of life itself.

Despite all of its trials and tribulations, its failures and foibles, life is sweet. Our life and the creation in which we live it are gifts of unbreakable beauty from our God who loves us infinitely. Jesus came to show us the path to life: “I came so that [you] might have life and have it more abundantly” (Jn 10:10).

God shares this abundant life with me through my children’s performances of my favorite moment of his life that underlies all birthday celebrations: the gift of life itself.

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The Sunday Readings

Sunday, July 30, 2006

*2 Kings 4:42-44
* Ephesians 4:1-6
* John 6:1-15

The Second Book of Kings is the source for this weekend's first reading. Originally, First and Second Kings composed one volume, however, at one point in the revision of the Scriptures, this collection was divided into two parts. As the title implies, these books have to do with the kings of the united nation of Israel.

The Hebrew scriptures always had as their purpose the conveyance to the people of religious truths and values. Religion was the most important aspect of life, as living by religious standards, as given by God, was crucial. Hence, the stories in First and Second Kings almost always have a religious significance.

By the same token, prophets are prominently mentioned. After all, they spoke for God to the people. In this weekend’s reading, the central figure is not a king, but Elijah, the prophet. The message is twofold.

God, the almighty Creator, gives humans the control necessary to the extent that they can govern nature, which is for the use and well being of humans. The other part of the message that God provides for humans. His gift is a supernatural gift, bringing life when no human involvement is forthcoming.

For its second reading, the Church presents a passage from the Epistle to the Ephesians. It is a moving appeal to the Christians to be patient with each other, and to love each other.

The Apostle and the crowd are helped in their task by Jesus, who through the Eucharist, provides for the use and well being of humans.

Reference Ephesians indicates clearly that the Christians in Ephesus were at odds with each other at times. They were under stress. The Roman culture looked upon Christianity as ridiculous and as a threat to the good order of the empire. Obviously, the Christian teaching of one supreme God, a divinity of love, was at odds with the Roman notion of things. Ephesus was more than a great city and seaport. It was a shrine. Its temple, dedicated to Diana, the goddess of the moon, was the destination of many pagan pilgrimages. The majority of Ephesians were fervent in their paganism.

So it is with life, even without the particulars of the struggle between Roman culture and Christianity. The Gospel faces many opponents.

The Church calls us to strong faith. It reminds us that we need God. Even if we are true believers, as was Philip, we cannot see everything. We cannot survive on our own. The wonder, and the consolation, are that God provides for us.

In the Eucharist, God provides food for our strength and our everlasting nourishment.

Q
An obituary in our newspaper noted that the deceased Catholic had donated his body to a medical school.

I recall reading that although organs may be donated, bodily donations are not permitted. Please explain the current Church teaching. How does one arrange for this? (New York)

A
Donation of one’s body for scientific or medical purposes is unquestionably permitted. It can, in fact, be a generous act of charity to give one’s body or needed organs and tissues (cornea, skin, heart valves) at the time of death.

It is true that medical schools today rely heavily on models which simulate many major physiological structures and functions. But the need for organs and bodies remains significant.

The Catholic Church strongly supports the principle and practice of giving organs or tissues of one’s body to another.

Pope John Paul II restated this position years ago, speaking of the shortage of available donors for patients awaiting transplants. It is a matter of Christian generosity, he said, and “no solution will be forthcoming without a renewed sense of human solidarity” based on Christ’s example, which can “inspire men and women to make great sacrifices in the service of others” (April 30, 1990).

The process of organ transplants, before or after death, can become complicated, since it involves certain risks. The decision of whether or not to initiate a treatment rests with the patient and his relatives.

The Catholic Church allows Catholics to donate organs and body tissues to living persons who need them or the gift of one’s body for education and research may be obtained from Living Bank, Box 6725, Houston, TX 77265. These organs are handled with care.

There also are many regional donation centers, and most states now have donor forms on the back of the driver’s license. Your secretary of state’s office can provide more details.

Q
In a recent column, you mentioned anti-popes. Just what is an anti-pope, and how many have there been? Is there a list of them or can such a list be printed? (Hawaii)

A
An anti-pope is a man set up, usually by some group or faction opposed to the validly elected pope, as a rival “bishop of Rome.” There have been about 30 such rival popes in the history of the Church.

The first known anti-pope was St. Hippolytus, a prominent theologian, who opposed what he thought were overly lax attitudes toward sinners on the part of the bishops of Rome in his day. His followers elected him pope, but when he was sentenced, with Pope Pontian, by the Roman authorities to the mines in Sardinia (known as the island of death), he renounced his “papacy” and his errors.

Both men died as martyrs in 235 or 236 A.D. Their feast day is Aug. 13. Interestingly, the massive writings of Hippolytus give us some of our best information about the life and liturgical practices of the Church in the third century.

From 1309 to 1377, the pope lived “in exile” in Avignon, France. During this time of the so-called Great Western Schism, political and nationalistic animosities, and deep divisions and turmoil in the Church produced such a series of anti-popes that it was difficult at times to determine which men were the authentic popes and which were not.

The last anti-pope, Felix V, was elected by a regional council in Switzerland in 1440. There has been no other papal schism in the Church since then.

A list of anti-popes is usually found in any scholarly history of the Catholic Church.
In the archdiocese, Sister Catherine taught at St. Mary School in Richmond from 1938-43. She served as assistant principal for 46 years at schools staffed by the sisters in Indiana, California, the District of Columbia, Florida, Oklahoma and Taiwan.

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In the archdiocese, Sister Catherine taught at St. Mary School in Richmond from 1938-43. She served as assistant principal for 46 years at schools staffed by the sisters in Indiana, California, the District of Columbia, Florida, Oklahoma and Taiwan.
Sisters of Providence honor golden jubilarians

Fourteen Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods recently celebrated their golden jubilees. They were honored during a eucharistic liturgy at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse.

The jubilarians are Providence Sisters Maureen Abbott, Agnes Clare Buckley, Catherine Buster, Ann Casper, Mary Ann Maureen Abbott, Agnes Clare Buckley, the motherhouse honorees during a eucharistic liturgy at the Brandywine Parish in Indianapolis recently celebrated their golden jubilee. They were honored at the Eucharistic Liturgy at the Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education then received a master’s degree in education at Indiana University.

In the archdiocese, Sister Mary Ann taught at St. Malachy School in Brownsburg from 1961-66. She also ministered in Fort Wayne and Illinois. Sister Joanne Golding, a native of Hammond, Ind., ministers as a professor at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College. The former Sister David Therese entered the congregation on July 22, 1965, from St. Ann Parish in Lansing, Ill., and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1964. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education then earned a master’s degree in educational psychology and counseling at the University of Illinois and a master’s degree in theology at the Jesuit School of Theology.


In the archdiocese, Sister Mary Adrian taught at the former Saint School in Indianapolis from 1961-67. She served on the infirmary staff at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods from 1967-70 and 1976-78, and ministered as a foster parent and nurse educator for ProVida Self Sufficiency Ministries in New Orleans from 1995-96. She also served in Illinois, Connecticut and Washington, D.C.

Sister Ellen Kehoe, a native of Dallas, ministers as a pastoral associate for the Catholic Newman Center at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. The former Sister Theresa Mary entered the congregation on July 22, 1966, from Immaculate Conception Parish in Tula, Okla., and professed perpetual vows on Aug. 15, 1964. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education then earned a master’s degree in educational psychology and counseling at the University of Illinois and a master’s degree in theology at the Jesuit School of Theology.


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Sisters of Providence elect new leadership during general chapter

Providence Sister Denise Wilkinson, a native of Chicago, has been elected the new general superior of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. She succeeds Providence Sister Ann Margaret O’Hara, who has served as general superior for the past five years. Sister Ann Margaret chose not to seek re-election.

Elected to the congregation’s General Council was Providence Sister Marsha Speth, vicar and first general councilor; Providence Sister Jane Marie Osterholt, second councilor; Providence Sister Nancy Reynolds, third councilor; Providence Sister Marie McCarthy, fourth councilor; and Providence Sister Paula Damiano, fifth councilor. All but Sister Jane Marie were re-elected to their second five-year term. The officers-elect will be installed during a eucharistic liturgy on Sept. 9.

"It is very, very humbling to stand in front of the congregation and know that you have their blessing and their confidence. Some of these women have been my teachers, my mentors and my friends for years and years. To know that you have their blessing and their confidence," said Sister Denise. "We made some important decisions during our chapter, and I look forward with excitement and enthusiasm to carry them out."

She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in English. She earned a master’s degree in counseling at Saint Louis University.

Prior to being elected to General Council in 2001, Sister Denise served as director of the Office of Congregational Advancement at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, which oversees development, marketing and communications. She is also a graduate of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in English. She earned a master’s degree in counseling at Saint Louis University.

Her responsibilities as general superior include overseeing the congregation’s general chapter, the congregation defines its goals for the next five years then elects a new general superior. Prior to being elected to General Council in 2001, Sister Denise served as director of the Office of Congregational Advancement at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, which oversees development, marketing and communications. She is also a graduate of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in English. She earned a master’s degree in counseling at Saint Louis University.

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Priests, brothers and sisters enrich others with God’s grace

By Luke Reynolds

Priests, brothers and sisters are messengers of God’s invitation to attain happiness.

These blessed followers of Christ understand the true meaning of God’s will as lived out in his son, Jesus. His will, as based on John 13, is to evangelize by serving others.

“How happy will you be if you put it into practice” (Jn 13:17). It is in this passage that we see God’s plan, a plan that will bring us happiness in this life and in the next.

As priests, brothers and sisters symbolically wash the soles of our feet, they diligently serve to promote a widespread, divine revelation. To those who do not yet know the Lord as Savior, these ministers spread the Word of God.

As for those whose lives are already rooted in Catholic tradition, the service of the clergy takes on a different role. This role is simply expressed in John 13:10: “Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over.”

Thus, to those who have already been baptized into the Church, priests, brothers and sisters act as teachers who try to lift the veil of humanity away from our eyes so that we may truly find God.

“What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later” (Jn 13:7).

It is our humanity and constant condition of sin that impairs our ability to understand what it is that Jesus is preaching. Priests, brothers and sisters, however, have devoted their life to God; thus, they have achieved an enlightened understanding of Christ’s teachings.

These teachings, found in the Church, serve to act as an example for Jesus’ disciples. Therefore, it might be said that priests, brothers and sisters act as a spiritual, full-service “grace” station.

In the humble attitude of their character, they wash our feet, forgive our sins, and bestow upon us and enrich our lives with the grace of God.

Thus, following the model that Jesus taught, priests, brothers and sisters, through living out the Word of God, are an endless example of Jesus’ teachings—teachings that are not of love, but rather, are love.

(Luke Reynolds is the son of Lee and Sue Reynolds, members of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. Luke recently graduated from Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis and is the 12th-grade division winner in the 2006 Serra Club Vocations Essay Contest.)

Legacy for Our Mission:
For Our Children and the Future

Young Parish Plans for the Future With Addition of New School Ministry

The story of SS. Francis and Clare of Assisi Parish in Greenwood began with its founding in 1993 and continues today with groundbreaking for a new elementary school ministry—all made possible in part through generous contributions to archdiocesan capital campaigns.

This young parish is rapidly growing along with the surrounding communities of Greenwood and Center Grove south of Indianapolis. A decade after it was founded, Father Vincent Lampert became pastor of the burgeoning parish that currently serves 950 households with an average age of 35, many of them with young families. As testament to the area’s development, Father Lampert points out that if projections for area growth are realized, SS. Francis and Clare’s population could double within the next seven years.

“We started planning, so we could look at this growth as an opportunity and not a crisis,” Father Lampert explained. A feasibility study launched in 2004 confirmed the expected growth and the need for an elementary school ministry.

In fall of 2005, SS. Francis and Clare conducted a three-year Legacy for Our Mission: Touching Tomorrow Today capital campaign. According to Father Lampert, 51 percent of parishioners participated in the campaign, well above the national average of 32 percent. The parish plans to raise $200,000 needed to reach its $2.5 million goal with the help of an “Over the Top” campaign launched in June.

“The new facility will be called the Assisi Center, the name selected in a parish contest. Rather than constructing a school building, Father Lampert views the project as starting a ministry: a school ministry, a youth ministry and facilities for religious and adult education.

Participating in the July groundbreaking were the pastor and representatives of the archdiocese, church building and capital campaign committeees, architect and construction company, with young Madeleine Whalen representing the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the 12th-grade division winner in the 2006 Serra Club Vocations Essay Contest.

A TIME FOR RENEWAL

While members of his parish finalized groundbreaking plans in May, Father Lampert was glad to be “back home again in Indiana” following a three-month sabbatical in Rome, where he was able to pursue “priestly renewal through education and recreation.” He reported that he spent many hours exploring the city of Rome and its museums and many churches, and he admitted that he enjoyed “all the good food and deserts.”

Farther Lampert’s travels took him to Poland, Germany, Switzerland and other countries. “These diverse cultures helped give me more of a global perspective,” he noted, adding that several parishioners from SS. Francis and Clare were able to join him on some of the trips. As with the elementary school ministry, sabbaticals and other educational renewal programs for priests, such as the one recently taken by Father Lampert, will be made possible through generous contributions to the Legacy for Our Mission campaign.

Even before construction is completed, SS. Francis and Clare’s new elementary school ministry is scheduled to open with kindergarten and first grade in the fall of 2006 under the guidance of a newly hired principal.

“Under the Top” capital campaign, which is guided by the principles of Christian stewardship and is designed to address the unique needs of your local parish. By contributing to the Legacy for Our Mission campaign, you are assisting in meeting your parish’s identified needs which support our larger archdiocesan church.

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