Ambassador to Vatican says Lebanese conflict had no victor

ROME (CNS)—Israel’s ambassador to the Vatican said the Lebanese conflict had no victor, but it served to focus world attention on the threat of global Islamic terrorism.

At the same time, the aftermath of the fighting offers an opportunity for the West—and the Catholic Church—to help moderate Muslims by helping to rebuild Lebanon and resettle refugees, the ambassador, Oded Ben-Hur, said in an interview with Catholic News Service.

The ambassador also encouraged Church leaders to promote a new wave of pilgrimages to the Middle East, which he said would send a calming message and help restore normality in the region.

A U.N.-brokered cease-fire was implemented in mid-August after a month-long Israeli offensive against Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon. The fighting killed more than 1,200 people, most of them Lebanese civilians, and destroyed homes, roads, bridges and factories throughout the country.

Ben-Hur lamented the loss of life and destruction on both sides and said the war had “no winners or losers.”

“We don’t need to claim victory because there is no room for victory. Let [Hezbollah] claim victory. We would like to claim peace,” he said.

He said Hezbollah fighters had hidden behind civilians during the conflict, using the inevitable victims as instruments of propaganda in the media. As a result, he said, Israel’s image was damaged.

But the ambassador said some good had come out of the Lebanese fighting. For one thing, he said, the West can see more clearly that the actual root cause of the Arab-Israeli conflict is “extremist Islam and terrorism.”

Ben-Hur said Hezbollah was part of a larger terrorist phenomenon that stretches from Hamas in the Palestinian territories to al-Qaida in southern Asia and other groups in Indonesia.

“We have a problem on a world scale, and we have to deal with it. The Western world should react with a relentless, unyielding war against terrorism, uprooting them, stopping all their financial sources and looking for them wherever they are,” he said.

The ambassador said the fighting had also opened the West’s eyes to Hezbollah’s activities as a “state within a state” and the number of people dependent on foreign aid.

Numbers displaced by Katrina, Rita still unknown

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Nobody, even nearly a year after hurricanes Katrina and Rita battered the Gulf Coast, knows exactly how many people were displaced by the storms.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans, which was hit hard by Katrina, does not know how many of its Catholics are still outside the archdiocese.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has processed more than 2.36 million requests for aid. FEMA limits aid requests to one for each household.

A FEMA spokesman said the agency has no way of knowing how many people are in each household asking for help; further, the numbers include people who still live on their property, albeit in FEMA-supplied trailers.

An analysis of U.S. Census Bureau information by the Brookings Institution shows that in the New Orleans metropolitan area, the population dropped more than 28 percent overall, though in St. Bernard Parish, a civil entity, the decrease was about 95 percent. In the Gulfport-Biloxi, Miss., area, the population decreased by almost 17 percent.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, the hurricanes dispersed more than 200,000 students in Louisiana alone to 49 states and the District of Columbia.

As time goes on, the people who fled may choose to put down roots elsewhere. And “elsewhere” may be very far away.

“We’ve worked with 79, almost 80, individuals since September [2005]. Nobody really knows the figures about the people we’ve worked with,” said Amy Isaacson, disaster response and relief coordinator for the Diocese of Spokane, Wash.

“Eighty-five percent of the people [we’ve worked with] have family members here, a friend who lives here, or has a connection with a friend,” Isaacson told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview. “And we have people who want to get as far away from a hurricane’s path as possible.”

“We’re inland, too, and that’s a big selling point,” said Greg Cunningham, program director of refuge and immigration services programs for the diocese, which covers the eastern third of Washington state.

“From our perspective, the people here have been extremely welcoming to hurricane survivors. Cunningham told CNS. He said of “a couple of fellows—a father and son—who were first featured in a local newspaper story” and “were met in the street by a total stranger who saw them from the newspaper story and handed them a $100 bill.”

Millie Burns, deputy director of programs and program manager for Katrina assistance for Catholic Charities of the East Bay in the Diocese of Oakland, Calif., said that since June the number of open cases of hurricane survivors there has been

Archdiocese continues rebuilding lives on Gulf Coast

(Editor’s note: In June, Stefanie Anderson joined a group of parishioners from St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus to help people whose lives and homes had been devastated by Hurricane Katrina. In this first-person account, the communications and marketing coordinator for the archdiocese’s Secretariat of Catholic Charities and Family Ministries shares her experiences.)

By Stefanie Anderson

WAVELAND and BAY ST. LOUIS, Miss.—A team of mostly teenagers nailed down new subflooring, sanded drywall and painted calming shades of blue and green in Cassie Rhodes Badin’s home.

Like many people whose lives were devastated by Hurricane Katrina in August of 2005, the 63-year-old woman is eternally grateful for the help she has received from volunteers to rebuild the home she inherited from her father: a new roof, interior ceiling, drywall, plumbing, electrical lines and insulation.

A year after the storm struck, the rebuilding in the Gulf Coast region is still in its early stages. The recovery process involves the intertwining of lives from across the United States.

During my trip, I had the opportunity to meet Cassie and others like her, who must rebuild their lives and homes on small incomes and rely on the generosity of strangers. The people I spoke with touched my heart forever.

Cassie lost her home on the beach in Bay St. Louis during the early hours of the storm. See ARCHDIOCESE, page 8
By Mary Ann Wyand

INTERNATIONALLY known journalist Raymond Arroyo will make the news instead of reporting it as the keynote speaker for the 24th annual Celebrate Life dinner on Sept. 14 at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

Arroyo is the host and creator of EWTN’s “The World Over Live,” which is watched by more than 100 million people around the world.

He interviewed Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger—now Pope Benedict XVI—as early as 2003 and blessed Teresa of Calcutta, and earned numerous awards for his reporting. He also worked for the Associated Press and was a Capitol Hill correspondent.

The 7 p.m. awards dinner is sponsored by Right to Life of Indianapolis, and will raise funds for pro-life radio advertisements as well as educational programs at area high schools.

During the dinner, the organization also will recognize Dr. Paul Jarrett, an Indianapolis obstetrician and gynecologist, with its Respect Life Award and honor three members of the Boarini family, from St. Luke Parish in Indianapolis, with its Charles E. Stimming Pro-Life Award.

Jarrett performed 23 abortions before becoming a Christian in 1978. He has been active in the pro-life movement since the early 1980s, and has served as a medical missionary in Kenya for six months each year since retiring from his private practice in 2001.

He also volunteers as a speaker for Right to Life of Indianapolis and is a board member in Mission to Ukraine.

The Boarini family has donated hundreds of floral arrangements for the Celebrate Life dinner for more than 12 years.

Mary Alice (Grande) Boarini as well as her daughter, Mary Anne (Boarini) Noble, and granddaughter, Mollie Noble, will be honored with the Stimming Award for their years of volunteer service to the cause of life.

The owner of Grande Greenhouses, Mary Alice Boarini also volunteers at her parish and Catholic Charities.

David and Mary Anne Noble serve as mentors for engaged couples at St. Luke Parish. She is the cafeteria manager at St. Luke School, and prepares food for families facing grief or illness as a member of the parish Good Samaritans committee.

She also has been actively locally and statewide in programs for children with mental and physical disabilities.

Born with Down syndrome and a heart defect, Mollie Noble attended special education classes and graduated from Cardinal Ritter Jr./St. High School in 2001.

“While it might sound strange to you, I think at this point it is extremely important to start with a new wave of pilgrimages to the Middle East, to send a pacifying, calming message to the whole world,” he said.

“We know that the Christian community in the Middle East has always been a positive, bridging factor between Christian and Muslim communities, and we would like to see this happening again,” he said.

The ambassador acknowledged Vatican concerns that a huge influx of reconstruction aid from countries like Iran and Saudi Arabia could fuel the conflict in Lebanon into a more militant Islamic country. But he said he knew this was a Christian communiti offered to many Muslim refugees during the Lebanese fighting should help Lebanon remain “a model of Christian-Muslim coexistence.”

“The greatest Christian response to the Muslim threat will be to show the force of good over evil, to embrace this area,” he said.

Ben-Hur, who spoke with Vatican officials during the fighting, said he disagreed with an argument often made by Church leaders—that the root cause of the region’s problems is the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. He said he thinks Israeli and Lebanese relations have not been damaged by the Lebanese conflict, even if Israel’s image was tarnished because of widespread coverage of civilian casualties.

“As for Pope Benedict XVI’s views during the fighting, he has said for the record that he was truly very balanced. He said Israel in particular appreciated the pope’s endorsement of a declaration by the Group of Eight industrialized nations in July that criticized the militant groups Hamas and Hezbollah for fueling an escalation in fighting, urged Israel to exercise restraint and called for demilitarization of all armed groups in Lebanon.

“The pope also called repeatedly for an immediate cease-fire, which was refused by Israel. Ben-Hur said that as time went on he thought the Vatican better understood the reasons for the Israeli position—that an immediate cease-fire and a withdrawal of Israeli soldiers from their positions in the south would have created a vacuum, which very quickly would have been filled by Hezbollah or Hamas,” he said.

“Israel has invited the pope to visit the Holy Land, and Ben-Hur said his understanding of the pope had intended to make the trip in 2007.

“We hope that it’s still on,” he said. He added that the pope’s recent comment that he hoped to visit the Holy Land at a time of peace was open to interpretation.

“Then it would itself help create the conditions for his coming,” he said.
You rarely hear the ever-humble Don Striegel brag, and you rarely see himASHER right. Yet both men show those sides when they talk about a special national meeting in the archdiocese on Labor Day weekend.

The 92nd national meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be held in Indianapolis from Aug. 30 to Sept. 2—the first time the Indianapolis council has ever hosted the event.

For Striegel, it will be an opportunity to focus the spotlight on the mission that binds the 600,000 international members of the Catholic service organization that is dedicated to helping the needy.

“We’re called to take God’s Word to the people and give them hope,” said Striegel, the president of the organization’s Indianapolis council. “I remember one time making a home visit that still leaves me in tears. The mother told me her son didn’t want to go to school the next day. I said, ‘Why?’ She said, ‘His socks have holes in them. He’s embarrassed.’ I went to Target and gave him some socks. He was so happy. I felt that’s why God sent me on the call. If a simple thing like three pairs of socks helped him, imagine what we do when we provide food, furniture and other things for people.”

For Striegel, the national meeting will be an opportunity to showcase the local organization’s unusual distribution center and a new, expanded food pantry that is expected to open later this year—part of an effort that provides free furniture, appliances and food to about 50,000 low-income families in the Indianapolis area each year.

“We’ll be promoting our programs to other people—bragging, if you will,” said a smiling Striegel, the co-chairperson of the national organization’s planning committee. “We’ll have tours of our facilities. Our distribution center for furniture and appliances is one of the few free distribution centers in the country, and probably the largest. People are really amazed that we’re able to get enough funding to provide items for the needy free of charge.”

Another tour will feature the new, expanded food pantry facility at 3001 E. 30th St. in Indianapolis. When it opens, the facility will allow the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to double the number of families it can provide food for each week—from 1,500 to 3,000. The current food pantry is at 2111 E. Spann Ave. in Indianapolis.

“It’s a client-choice pantry, where the clients pick out the food they want,” said Striegel, a member of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis. “Before we opened it in 1999, the society’s council, are shown in the society’s new warehouse at 3001 E. 30th St. in Indianapolis.

The leaders of those volunteers—about 135,000 volunteers in the country, according to Striegel—will come to Indianapolis for a meeting that will feature the theme, “Our Journey Together,” and the organization’s mission, “Serve Christ in the Needy.”

During the meeting, the society’s recently elected national president, Joe Flannigan of East Brunswick, N.J., will share his plans for leading the United States council for the next six years.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein will celebrate Mass Sept. 2—the first time the Indianapolis council has ever hosted the event. Asher and Striegel, both leaders in the society’s council, are shown in the society’s new warehouse at 3001 E. 30th St. in Indianapolis.

The meeting will also showcase the debut of the national organization’s mobile kitchen, a trailer-sized kitchen that can be transported to any area of the country to help the needy after major disasters, including hurricanes, floods and tornadoes.

“It’s just another way of trying to make a difference,” Asher said. People ask, ‘Why do you keep doing this?’ ” he said. “I sometimes think, ‘This could be me on the other side.’ Besides, a lot of people appreciate what we do.

“There’s always something that keeps you going. God has a job for you. His work is never done!”
The debate over whether the congregation should stand or kneel during various parts of the Mass, especially during the Eucharistic Prayer, has gone on for a long time. But the controversy got out of hand at a parish in the Diocese of Orange, Calif.

Bishop Tod D. Brown of the Orange Diocese decided that the instruction in his diocese should not kneel after the Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) of the Mass because “standing reflects our human dignity. It’s not that we think we’re equal to God, but we recognize that we are made in the image and likeness of God.”

Parishioners at St. Mary’s by the Sea Church disagreed, and about a third of them continued to kneel at the point during Mass when the priest holds up the consecrated host and chalice, and says, “Behold the Lamb of God.”

The pastor, Father Martin Tran, then used the parish bulletin to explain the reasons for standing. When parishioners continued to kneel, he issued a series of statements condemning what he called “despising the authority of the local bishop” by refusing his order to stand. He wrote that kneeling “is clearly rebellion, grave disobedience and mortal sin.”

When some parishioners still continued to kneel, he dismissed some from membership on the parish council and wouldn’t allow them to serve as lectors or extraordinary ministers of holy communion.

Then he sent letters to 55 parishioners “inviting” them to leave the parish and the diocese for “creating misleading confusion, division and chaos in the parish by intentionally and publicly opposing the current liturgical norms.”

After the controversy reached the media, Father Joseph Fenton, a spokesman for the diocese, said that Bishop Brown supports Father Tran. As for the statement that disobeying the kneeling edict is a mortal sin, he said, “That’s Father Tran’s interpretation and he’s the pastor. We stand behind Father Tran. We understand, though, that Father Tran later retracted the part about mortal sin.

There’s no doubt that Bishop Brown has the authority to decide what the people should stand. The current liturgical instructions say, “The faithful kneel after the Agnus Dei unless the diocesan bishop determines otherwise,” and this bishop has determined otherwise. But we believe that inviting people to leave the parish and the diocese is much too drastic, especially in an age when politicians who support abortion are not so “invited.”

The two sides in the “stand vs. kneel” controversy both have good arguments. Yes, it’s true that we usually stand when someone with authority enters the room, and it’s true that the earliest Christians stood during the liturgy. And, yes, it’s true that kneeling is more reverential and the more traditional way of worshiping God.

It’s also true that postures of respect and adoration differ from one culture to another. Nobody is going to win the argument over which posture is better. That’s why the Holy See’s Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments leaves such decisions to bishops’ conferences or to the diocesan bishop.

In the case in Orange, it was those who favor kneeling who disobeyed. Sometimes it’s those who favor standing who disobey the instruction in the United States that the congregation should kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer. Admittedly, before the U.S. bishops made that determination, the Church itself caused confusion when some churches were built, and others renovated, without knellers.

Frankly, we believe that some people take this matter too seriously. Of course, we should take instructions regarding the rubrics seriously, but postures shouldn’t be so important that people are rebelling against the pastor and bishop, or that a pastor is drumming people out of the Church.

In general, we believe that people should follow the guidelines. Obey the rules that exist where you’re attending Mass, whether or not you agree with them. Avoid calling attention to yourself by doing something different from the rest of the congregation.

Perhaps that is most difficult for older Catholics who have their own ideas about what is right and proper. That obviously is true in that parish in Orange, where parishioners experienced a conflict between Bishop Brown’s new directive and their ideas about the proper posture in the presence of God in the Eucharist.

— John F. Fink

The discovery of God’s plan for our sacrament of matrimony is awesome and life-giving. The next opportunity to experience the weekend is Oct. 13-15. For more information, call Steve and Yvonne Ray at 812-246-0126 or visit www.wmme.org.

(Steve and Yvonne Ray are members of St. Paul Parish in Sellersburg.)
Algunos cuestionan si deberíamos aban-
nuestras comunidades parroquiales man-
la visión del gran valor académico y reli-
stancias primitivas, Santa Teodora fundó
Madre Teodora.

En contra de todo pronóstico, en circun-
mas de la Providencia en Santa María de
octubre. ¡Cuán emocionadas están las her-
manas de la Providencia en nuestra parroquia.

I

Santa Teodora fue un modelo de oración para todas las corrientes misioneras.

Santa Teodora tenía una visión misionaria que se ajustaba a la vida en el Nuevo Mundo, lo que la convirtió en una precursora de las misiones en América del Sur.

Archbishop/Arzobispo Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.

Archbishop Buechlein’s intention for vocations for August

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.
August 25-26 Nativity of Our Lord Church, 72525 Southwestern Ave, Indianapolis. Parish festival, rides, food, entertainment, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Information: 317-357-1200.

Prince of Peace Church, 413 E. 16th St., Madison. Community Festival, Father Shawn Memorial Jr./Sr. High School Senior luncheon. 8:30-11:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., 5-11 p.m., food, carnival rides. Information: 317-265-4166.

St. Rita Parish, 1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave, Indianapolis. “Golden Night under the Stars,” 6-10 p.m., food, entertainment, $30 per person. Information: 317-762-8949.

Holy Angels Parish, 740 W. 28th St., Indianapolis. Yard sale, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Information: 317-926-3102.


St. Christopher Parish, 3301 W. 60th St., Indianapolis. 1:35 p.m. per person. Eucharist prayer. Information: 317-241-6134, ext. 100.

Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 2349 S. 30th St., Indianapolis. First annual Indiana Parish festival, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., booths, games, entertainment, quilts, 10 a.m.-2:45 p.m., chicken dinner in dining room or carry-out meals. Information: 317-623-3670.

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 4773 E. Morris Church St., Morris, LaPorte. 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m., chicken and roast beef,11 a.m.-11:30 p.m., soup, refreshments, lunch stand, games, entertainment, quilts. Information: 317-934-6218.

September 3-5 St. Therese of the Infant Jesus Parish, (Little Flower) Parish, 4720 E. 51st St., Indianapolis. RCIA formation sessions 1, 7-9 p.m. Information: 317-359-5216.

September 6 St. Mary Parish, Marian Center, 1101 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Single Saints. Singles. Single Saint masses. Information: 317-357-6611 or e-mail at stmaryindy@saintmeinrad.edu.

September 8-15 Father William, St. Francis Xavier Church, 653 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Religious Orders 101.” Holy Cross Brother Joseph Israel, presenter, 7:30-9:30 p.m., $10 per person or $25 per family. Information: 317-545-7681 or e-mail at rjoseph@archindy.org.

September 9 Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Vermi-composting at Home,” 10-11:30 a.m., $50 per family. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail at michaelafarm@seidata.com.

September 17 Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Living Things of the ‘P’” and “P” day, donations to Michaela Farm appreciated. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail at michaelafarm@seidata.com.

September 19-21 Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. “Services: The Primary Response to the Real Presence in the Eucharist,” Benedictine Father Jeremy King, presenter. Information: 812-357-6611 or e-mail at avinson@saintmeinrad.edu.

September 22-24 Mount St Francis Center for Spirituality, 101 St. Anthony Drive, Mount St. Francis. Women’s retreat. Information: 317-823-8817.

September 23 Indiana Convention Center, 100 S. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis. “Lions Breathe Fire! Why Be Catholic?” first annual Indiana Catholic Men’s Conference, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Brother John Mark Falkenhain was a member of St. Francis Xavier Parish in St. Louis, where he was a member of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology at Christian Brothers College in Memphis, Tenn., then earned master’s and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology at St. Louis University.

For five years, he worked at Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital in St. Louis. Brother John Mark is an adjunct assistant professor of psychology at Saint Meinrad School of Theology.

Brother Paul Nord was a native of Indianapolis and was later a member of St. Joseph Parish in Dale, Ind., in the Evanovich Diocese.

In 1997, he earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute. He earned a Master of Divinity degree at Saint Meinrad School of Theology.

Brother Paul is the associate director of supervised ministry for Saint Meinrad School of Theology.

Retreats and Programs


August 27 Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5535 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Religious Orders 101,” Holy Cross Brother Joseph Israel, presenter, 7:30-9:30 p.m., $10 per person or $25 per family. Information: 317-545-7681 or e-mail at rjoseph@archindy.org.

September 1-3 Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. “Wisdom’s Way,” Benedictine Father Noel Mueller, presenter. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail at michaelafarm@seidata.com.

September 8-15 Michaela Farm, Oldenburg. “Vermi-compost at Home,” 10-11:30 a.m., $50 per family. Information: 812-933-0661 or e-mail at michaelafarm@seidata.com.

September 22-24 Mount St Francis Center for Spirituality, 101 St. Anthony Drive, Mount St. Francis. Women’s retreat. Information: 317-823-8817.

October 15 Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. “Radical Christianity,” Bernard William and Mary Evelyn (Picozzi) Krupsky, members of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct. 27. The couple was married on Aug. 31, 1946 at St. Catherine the Great Church in Indianapolis. They have 10 children. Their children are Ellen Barker, Teresa Bixler, Maria James, Brian, Casey, Chris, Gerry, Jim, Paul and Tom.

Tom and Pam (Chot) Pugh, members of St. Philip Neri Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 25. The couple was married on Aug. 25, 1956, at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. They have six children: Karen Kurtz, Sharon Winakski, Bill, David, Jim and Steven Krupsky. They have 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

John and Susan (Steigmann) Hauffer, members of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 25, 1956, at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. They have 10 children. Their children are Elaine Barker, Teresa Bixler, Maria James, Brian, Casey, Chris, Gerry, Jim, Paul and Tom.

Pugh. They have 29 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

John and Susan (Steigmann) Hauffer, members of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 25, 1956, at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. They have 10 children. Their children are Elaine Barker, Teresa Bixler, Maria James, Brian, Casey, Chris, Gerry, Jim, Paul and Tom.

Richard D. and Ella L. (Sutherland) Wagner, members of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 25. The couple was married on Aug. 25, 1956, at St. Bernadette Church in Indianapolis. They have five children: Janet Eisenhart, Susan Sapp, Pamela Schmutte, Andrew and Jennifer Sapp. They have 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Two men profess solemn vows as monks of Saint Meinrad

Brother John Mark Falkenhain and Brother Paul Nord professed their solemn vows as Bene- dictine monks of Saint Meinrad Archabbey during a liturgy on Aug. 15 at Saint Meinrad Archabbey Church in St. Meinrad.

They entered the novitate at Saint Meinrad in 2002 and professed their simple vows the following year.

In professing solemn vows, they make a lifelong commitment to fidelity to the monastic way of life and stability in the community at Saint Meinrad. They also become permanent members of the Benedictine community.

Brother John Mark is a native of Belle- ville, Ill., and grew up in St. Louis, where he was a member of St. Francis Xavier Parish.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology at Christian Brothers College in
Marian Center to host first Indiana Catholic Men’s Conference

By Sean Gallagher

Men in parishes across the archdiocese are growing in their faith through renewal programs like Christ Renews His Parish and Cursillo and through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

In response to this, the Marian Center in Indianapolis will host the first Indiana Catholic Men’s Conference from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 23 at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis.

The title of the conference is “Lions Breathing Fire: Why be Catholic?” It is taken from a homily of St. John Chrysostom, where the fourth-century saint described what people should be like if they were to receive communion.

“(Christ) has allowed those who desire him not only to see him, but to touch, and eat him ... Let us then return from that table like lions breathing fire, having become terrible to the devil; thinking ... about the love which he has shown to us.”

Mike Fox, a member of St. John X Parish in Indianapolis, is helping to organize the conference. He thinks that it will help men apply their faith more strongly in their everyday lives.

This type of an event can help men grow closer to Christ, and become better husbands and fathers,” he said. “We hear from different people that that’s something that they would like to have an opportunity to do.”

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein will open the conference by welcoming participants. Other archdiocesan speakers will be Father Jonathan Meyer, director of the archdiocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and Father Daniel Mahan, executive director of the Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship in Indianapolis.

National speakers will be Tim Staples, a staff apologist at the San Diego-based Catholic Answers; Bowie Kuhn, the former commissioner of Major League Baseball; and Franciscan Father Francis Mary Stone, the host of the Eternal Word Television Network’s show “Life on the Rock.”

The primary celebrant will be the archdiocesan vicar general, Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel. Priests will be available for confession throughout the day.

There is an early-bird fee of $35 per person for those who register before Sept. 6. The fee increases to $40 per person after that date. The fee for high school and college students is $15. Clergy and seminarians may attend at no charge.

All registrations received before Sept. 18 will include lunch. Walk-in registrations on the day of the event are also welcome.

(For more information about the Indiana Catholic Men’s Conference, call 317-924-3992 or 317-588-0873. To register online or to gain more information about the conference, log on to www.indianacatholicmen.com.)

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House

“Teology of the Body for Parents and Teens”
August 31, 2006
7:00 – 9:00 pm
Rev. Jonathan P. Meyer

Fr. Meyer, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, leads this evening program intended for high school teens and their parents. The Teology of the Body, a gift of our late Holy Father Pope John Paul II, allows us to come to a deeper understanding of God’s gift and plan for the family, marriage, and sex.

There is no cost to attend, but donations will be accepted at the door. For planning purposes, please call (545-7681) or e-mail rwagner@archindy.org your intention to attend this event.

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House
5353 E. 56th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46226
(317) 545-7681
www.archindy.org/fatima

In Celebration of Summer

Looking at nature, I had the impression of perceiving, perhaps through a veil, the presence of God under all things.

So that, if the pine trees were gilded by the sun, or the stream tumbling down their sparkling waterfalls, or the daisies and other flowers and the sky were in celebration of summer, much stronger was the vision of a sun that was beneath the whole of the created.

And God made it in such a way as not to be, as we would see it, everything was connected with the other in love, as much as to say, one in love with the other. So, if the stream ended in the lake, it was out of love. If a pine grew beside another, it was for love.

And the vision of God beneath all things, which gave unity to creation,

was stronger than the things themselves ... the unity of all was stronger than the distinction ... Chiara Lubich
and children will attend a school a few miles May. The school is now permanently closed, their school operated out of similar tents until Grotto remained intact. Parishioners now cel-

tivating the home of her father, who passed 

inland, where she watched water flood his 

Aug. 29, 2005, when the eye of Hurricane 

was obvious that they were new, and I 

overheard them tell someone that they were 
from New Orleans, and of course everybody was talking about Katrina, and 

asked them if they needed some place to 

stay,” parishioner Marilyn Haendel told 

the Tennessee Register, the newspaper of the Diocese of Nashville, Tenn. 

Haendel and her husband put up the Shanklins rent-free at a house they had lived in while their own home was undergoing renovation. 

The day the Shanklins moved into the house, two parishioners brought over a queen-size bed with all the needed bedding and blankets. Others gave them a couch, a television and other household items. One Sunday, Joyce Shanklin said, someone wanted to get her a crockpot, but instead they were given a check for $1,000. Another parishioner took them to the Red Cross office so they could get money to buy food, and people went through their own closets looking for clothing for them. 

“That was the beginning of all the good things that happened to us,” said Joyce Shanklin, who was born and raised in 

New Orleans. In partial repayment for parishioners’ generosity, the Shanklins cooked a Creole supper for the parish that drew a standing-room-only crowd. 

Not everybody has such a happy ending. “In a disaster situation, anyone with a serious health situation is likely to have 

their care disrupted,” Burns said. 

Archdiocese of Indianapolis’ Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries 

Catholic Charities USA 

$1,710 

St. Mary-of-the-Knobs HEART Work Camp (youth group) 

$25,000 

St. Clare Recovery Center 

$5,000 

National Catholic Cathedral Leaders: Operation Cathedral 

$25,000 

Catholic Charities Jackson, Miss. 

$90,632 

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops 

$100,000 

Archdiocese of New Orleans 

$25,000 

Catholic Charities USA 

$5,000 

Catholic Church Extension Society 

$25,000 

Catholic Charities Honolulu, Hawaii 

$25,000 

Archdiocese of New Orleans 

$5,000 

Archdiocese of Indianapolis Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund 

$615,632 

Catholic Charities USA

In our archdiocese, Archbishop Daniel 

M. Buechlein has agreed to support the 

GOD IS BIGGER!” †

M. Buechlein has agreed to support the 

One case in point was a young woman 

named Yvette, who had been sick before 

Katrina pounded the Gulf Coast. “She had 

been moved to a hotel here [in Indiana]. 

We could not move her out of the hotel due 

to her health,” Burns said. “There were days 

when she was bleeding through the sheets, 

and the cleaning people would notify the 

manager and he would call us.”

In the end, Burns said, Yvette died. “One of my case managers actually 

set it up for her parents and Church 

members to begin to do the visiting, to 

make sure she had adequate care and 

company and support,” she said. “We 

got pretty close to her. In fact, my case 

manager and her parents were probably the 

last people to visit her.”

One year later, this sign still greets visitors when they arrive at St. Clare Parish in Waveland, Miss. 

In the end, Burns said, Yvette died. “One of my case managers actually set it up for her parents and Church members to begin to do the visiting, to make sure she had adequate care and company and support,” she said. “We got pretty close to her. In fact, my case manager and her parents were probably the last people to visit her.”

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Special collection for hurricane relief 

Parishes in the Archdiocese of 

Indianapolis are participating in a second 

collection for the ongoing hurricane 

Katrina and Rita relief efforts on the week-

end of Aug. 26-27. “Last year, parishioners in our archdio-

cese responded generously and compassion-

ately to the call for donations for hurricane relief,” Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein said in a letter mailed to all parishes. 

Donations to this collection will be spent in three ways. First, a portion will go to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Hurricane Katrina Second Collection. Second, a portion will be used to help evac-

uees who have chosen to remain in Indiana. Third, some of the funds are earmarked for the St. Clare Recovery Project in Waveland, Miss. †
"Don't be afraid to use prophetic dialogue... in teaching us how to live, ... in ministry, catechism, Bible study. Use what is there to speak the truth." — Divine Word Father Charles Smith

Local priest who ministered to McVeigh speaks of God's grace

ATLANTA (CNS)—When he ministered to Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, Divine Word Father Charles Smith found that his faith, instilled in him by loving parents despite the childhood pain of discrimination, enabled him to be Christ's representative even as the inmate verbally assailed him.

"When I first came in [to see him], I thought 'God is the owner of my life,' and I went to him and he threw his feces on me and called me all types of names and said, 'You can't be a priest because I've never seen a you-know-what as a priest.'" Father Charles said on Aug. 5. "The devil was messin' with me."

He made the comments in a workshop he led during the 2006 Interregional African-American Catholic Evangelization Conference, which was held on Aug. 4-6 in Atlanta.

Father Charles and his brother, Divine Word Father Chester Smith, are the first black Catholic priests in residence at St. Rita Parish in Indianapolis.

Other priests and Southern Baptist ministers who previously worked—unsuccessfully—with the man found guilty of bombing the Oklahoma City federal building in 1995 and murdering the 168 people who died from the blast.

But Father Charles persevered in his ministry to McVeigh, and the convicted murderer, who was a baptized Catholic, began to repent. "He did a lot of things, but in the end we had confession, reconciliation. In the end, he asked me a question a lot of people ask me. He asked, 'Father Charles, can I still get to heaven?'"

The priest said he responded, "I am not your judge," but reminded McVeigh that he had told him, "You must submit your will and ask God for true forgiveness. ... You knew there were a lot of innocent people and children in that building."

McVeigh asked Father Charles to walk with him to his June 11, 2001, execution. "And the tears came running down. He was crying. I was crying because he did something that changed my life, too."

"As a man, it's hard to ask, but for him to ask for God's love and God's grace, that did something to me," he recalled, reflecting on how God's grace can transform even the worst evil.

As he walked with McVeigh, Father Charles remembered how, when he was a child, a porter on an Illinois train told him his light-skinned parents that he couldn't serve "wicked children," who had darker skin, and how Mississippi restaurants refused to serve them.

"I remember my mom and dad say, 'Just be patient. God is going to make a way. God is going to change you. God is going to rise, and you're going to be raised up. Your life will be redeemed and your people [will be] ...'. I remembered all of that, being with Timothy McVeigh."

In his workshop presentation, Father Charles encouraged people to speak the truth in love and humanity, never pressuring anyone to join the Church and avoiding a superior attitude to anyone.

"I know if God can call two little black boys from the south side of Chicago to live 16-17 years in an international religious order, to go around the world, and to come back home to be with his people to teach and to preach and be free in the Spirit, I have nothing to fear," he said. "I'm not worried about what any man says. And my eyes are on the sparrow: God is with me, and I know God is with you and we shall be free forevermore."

He encouraged his audience to be bold but gentle as they speak up for what they believe is right, even if it's controversial. But "don't be afraid to use prophetic dialogue... in teaching us how to live, ... in ministry, catechism, Bible study. Use what is there to speak the truth."

He prescribed for them "old-school spirituality" of morning, noon and evening prayer, recalling how, when he was told as a youth that he couldn't learn and shouldn't go to college, his grandmother would say, "Child, you just pray and God will make a way." He went on to graduate from college as a valedictorian.

"You are a child of God. If you give your all to God, he'll give his all to you, so we've got to be people of prayer," Father Charles said. "Pray for God's perfect timing in your life. He's going to give you the revelation that you need."
POINT PEDRO, Sri Lanka (CNS)—The increasingly tense civil conflict between Sri Lankan government forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam has massacred in early August in their Muttur line are still living in temporary shelters after the tsunami, hundreds of fishermen were killed and more than 1 million have been displaced since 1983 when Tamil rebels demanded autonomy for areas in northern and eastern Sri Lanka. Ethnic Tamils account for 19 percent of Sri Lanka’s 19 million people, while ethnic Sinhalese account for 70 percent of the population. †

“We are really helpless, though there is no shortage of funds,” said Father Christopher Jayakumar, director of Caritas in Jaffna. “As the [security] situation is deteriorating, we are forced to revise our targets downward.”

Caritas has reduced its 2006 budget for tsunami work from 900 million rupees ($8.7 million) to 400 million rupees ($3.8 million). Caritas had planned to build 2,000 permanent houses for the Jaffna peninsula. Agency officials wanted to finish at least 1,000 houses in 2006, but only 300 were finished by July.

“We should have handed over these [permanent] houses last year. But even now, they are not complete,” said Father Jayakumar, pointing to two dozen permanent houses nearing completion.

“When contractors and their staff are leaving the work scared of the situation, what can we do?” asked Father Jayakumar. “More than 200 civilians have been killed in [Jaffna peninsula]. We don’t know who is behind it.”

Approximately 80,000 people have been killed and more than 1 million have been displaced since 1983 when Tamil rebels demanded autonomy for areas in northern and eastern Sri Lanka. Ethnic Tamils account for 17 percent of Sri Lanka’s 19 million people, while ethnic Sinhalese account for 70 percent of the population. †

Priest says Pope John Paul I’s cause will be at Vatican by year’s end

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—As the 28th anniversary of Pope John Paul I’s brief pontificate approached, one of the projects working on his sainthood cause said the paperwork would be sent to the Vatican by the end of the year.

Carlo Alberto Longinotti of Venice, Italy, was elected on Aug. 26, 1978, to succeed Pope Paul VI. As Pope John Paul I, he served for a month, dying on Sept. 29.

The diocesan phase of his cause for sainthood formally opened in 2003 in his home Diocese of Belluno and Feltre, Italy.

Vatican Radio reported that Msgr. Giorgio Lise, vice-postulator of the cause, said on Aug. 17 that 170 witnesses had already been interviewed about the late pope’s life and ministry, and the last remaining interviews would be conducted by early November.

A formal biography and the witnesses’ testimony will be sent to the Congregation for Saints’ Causes by the end of the year.

The postulator already had forwarded to the Vatican information about a southern Italian man who believes he was cured of cancer through the intervention of Pope John Paul I, Msgr. Lise said.

The monsignor said the congregation found the material promising, but the alleged miracle “interested” and asked for more information, which was sent.

“We are awaiting their response, but we are optimistic,” Msgr. Lise said.

Vatican Radio said that on average the congregation takes 10 years to complete its historical and theological examinations of the submitted material, but approval of Pope John Paul I’s beatification, a major step toward sainthood, could come more quickly if the miracle is recognized. †

Legacy for Our Mission: For Our Children and the Future

Catholic Cemetery Fund Provides Beautiful, Sacred Resting Places

At the cemeteries of the archdiocese approach their sesquicentennial commemoration in just a few short years, the Catholic Cemeteries Association finds some facilities are nearing capacity while others have land available to develop.

But nearly all share a common need: ongoing maintenance and improvement.

The Catholic Cemeteries Association Perpetual Care Endowment Fund supports the maintenance and expansion of these facilities. It exists to faithfully serve the families of the archdiocese by carrying on the tradition of providing beautiful and sacred places to honor and memorialize their loved ones.

For the Catholic Cemeteries Fund, the goal of the Legacy for Our Mission campaign is increasing the endowment to supplement its continually improved financial position while the demand for cemetery space grows in diverse regions of the archdiocese.

The Catholic Cemeteries Association Perpetual Care Endowment Fund currently has a balance of more than $1 million, and it is the annual interest earned on this fund that is used to maintain and grow.

Jeffrey D. Stumpf, chief financial officer of the archdiocese, said it is hoped that $1 million will be raised through the Legacy for Our Mission campaign to support future needs for maintenance and improvement of archdiocesan cemeteries.

The importance of maintaining adequate cemetery facilities is emphasized by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein. “Even after we die we are still members of the Christian community. Our cemeteries are reminders that we are marked with the sign of faith, that we are remembered with great love and gratitude.”

Such a study led to the decision to build a new mausoleum in the Our Lady of Peace cemetery on the northeast side of Indianapolis. Ground was broken for the facility in April, according to cemetery manager Don Masters, and completion is scheduled for 2007. The present 1,000-crypt mausoleum is 92 percent reserved, he noted, although there are more than 8,000 spaces available for ground burial with additional land available for expansion.

The present mausoleum, only a decade old, filled quickly as a result of demand for this type of burial and increasing floor space available to accommodate growing burials. Don Masters explained the new mausoleum will provide an option for Catholic families, he added, as the population in the area continues to grow and people learn more about mausoleums.

According to Wahl, the new mausoleum represents just one of several financial needs of the cemetery program. Maintenance and repair are major items and include such things as new perimeter fences for the cemetery, fencing in Indianapolis and Terre Haute, with the latter also in need of road resurfacing. Operating funds represent another need, he said, as well as replacement of lawnmowers, backhoes and other equipment that he described as “tools of the trade.”

Altogether, there are 99 cemeteries located in 26 of the archdiocese’s 39 counties, most of them owned and operated by local parishes.

The Catholic Cemeteries Association maintains and operates seven Catholic cemeteries owned by the archdiocese:

• Calvary, Indianapolis (has land available to develop)
• Holy Cross and St. Joseph, Indianapolis (adjacent cemeteries, both are nearing capacity)
• Our Lady of Peace, Indianapolis (mausoleum to be constructed; has land available to develop)
• Calvary, Terre Haute (has land available to develop)
• St. Joseph, Terre Haute (is nearing capacity)
• St. Malachi North, Brownstown (adjacent to parish, is nearing capacity)
• St. Malachi West, Brownstown (has land available to develop)

The network of Catholic cemeteries began nearly 150 years ago when Holy Cross Cemetery—originally named St. John Cemetery—was founded by a parish of Irish immigrants in Indianapolis and Terre Haute, with the latter also in need of road resurfacing. Operating funds represent another need, he said, as well as replacement of lawnmowers, backhoes and other equipment that he described as “tools of the trade.”
Bishop Gettelfinger named St. Meinrad Distinguished Alumnus

By Sean Gallagher

Bishop Gerald Gettelfinger, the spiritual leader of the Evansville Diocese and a former chancellor and vicar general of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, received Saint Meinrad School of Theology’s Distinguished Alumnus Award on Aug. 8 at the southern Indiana seminary.

“It goes without saying that for one to be singled out to receive that award is a great affirmation for one and, for two, it’s also an encouragement to continue to do what you’ve been doing …,” said Bishop Gettelfinger in a recent telephone interview.

He began his priestly formation at Saint Meinrad in 1949 as a high school freshman and completed it 12 years later when he was ordained as a priest of the archdiocese.

“[At Saint Meinrad] we went there in September and came home at Christmas, and then went back in January and came home in June,” he said. “It was home for 12 years.”

In addition to completing his coursework, Bishop Gettelfinger got involved in many extracurricular activities, including being a stage manager for the seminary’s theater and helping to organize athletic activities.

Although grateful for the award, Bishop Gettelfinger said that it reflected as much on the impact that the monks of Saint Meinrad, who formed him for the priesthood, had on him and the other seminarians who were there with him.

“We invested some effort on our part,” he said. “But they invested their very being on our behalf.”

Bishop Gettelfinger also credited the support he received from three archbishops of Indianapolis for helping him serve in such a distinguished manner.

During his 28 years in the archdiocese, he served as a high school instructor, guidance counselor, principal, schools superintendent, chancellor and vicar general.

“I always had the backup knowing that I had the support of Archbishop [Paul C.] Schulte first, Archbishop [George J.] Biskup and then Archbishop [Edward T.] O’Meara,” he said. “They were willing to give me the chance to do things because they began to recognize that I would do the best I could.”

Bishop Gettelfinger served in the archdiocese from his ordination in 1961 until his appointment by Pope John Paul II as the Bishop of Evansville in 1989.

[George J.] Biskup and then Archbishop [Edward T.] O’Meara,” he said. “They were willing to give me the chance to do things because they began to recognize that I would do the best I could.”

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St. Paul: His Failures in Rome and Spain

In late summer of the year 59, the Roman procurator in Caesarea, Porcius Festus, had banished Paul to Rome, escorted by a centurion.

It is possible that Paul had been in Rome much too late in the year for a sea voyage, but somehow a ship was found that Paul could make the journey. A storm came up, and the ship was forced from the beach and ran aground near Malta.

They spent the winter there and finally reached Rome the following spring or early summer. Paul was then in house arrest in Rome for more than a year. It was not until he had planned five years earlier when he sent Prisca and Aquila to Rome to prepare for his arrival. He then had sent similar letters to the Romans, but that was four years ago.

By the year 60, Paul was unknown to the Romans. He was not allowed to speak to anyone. If he arrived, he had sent his Letter to the Romans and Prisca and Aquila to Rome to prepare for his arrival. He then had sent similar letters to the Romans, but that was four years ago. By the year 60, Paul was unknown to the Christians in Rome.

Still, Paul wanted to go as a missionary to Spain. Would the Roman Christians send him? No. How, they asked, would Paul communicate with the Latin-speaking people of Spain? He spoke Greek. Paul's release was determined to go to Spain. When he was released from house arrest, he went on his own.

It is unlikely that he realized that the Romans had been right. Unable to commu- nicate with the Spanish, he gave up his ambition and went to CORSICA, which was the east. It is believed that he revisited some of his earlier communities in Ilyricum, Thessalonica, and Philippi, and then returned to Ephesus. He looked forward to being reunited with the church in Ephesus and beyond.

After he arrived, however, he discovered that Timothy had been ineffective as bishop of Ephesus. Timothy had been a magnificent "number two" man for Paul, but lacked the leadership skills that Paul possessed. Paul took over and sent Timothy to check on other Churches.

However, Paul did not go to Timothy. Indeed, he seems to have alienated most of the community. Finally realizing that, in a great gesture of humility, he wanted to go as a missionary to Spain, Paul went on his own.

Arriving in Rome, Paul immediately tried to take a leadership position among the Christians. This was not expected by the Christians, and as he wrote to Timothy (2 Tim 4:16), when Paul was called to appear before the magistrate, no one turned up to support him. He was called up because the magistrate wanted to find out who this man was. Was he dangerous? "We know from his letter to Timothy that he was held in chains as a hardened criminal," one turned up to support him.

Well, guess what. Time has marched on, and now we find leeches used for medical treatments. They are also used to flush burn victims and other kinds of infected areas, cheaply and effectively. Except for the leeches we once thought were terribly sick to permit this, it's great news. Leeches are now deemed good.

The interesting news over the years in how we exercise to maintain good health and good looks. Remember sit-ups, the standing or sitting, or lying and back- and post-partum tummy control? You lay on the floor with legs straight out, folded your arms across your chest and sat up as many times as possible. But now, according to physical thera- pists, that exercise is too hard on the back. Instead, you lie flat with knees up, feet on the floor, elbows out with hands clasped behind your neck as you raise your shoulders up and down a few inches.

So, keep alert. Almost everything we "know" will prove false eventually. Except for the enduring love of God, of course.

(Cynthia Dewes, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greensville, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.)
The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Aug. 27, 2006

**Daily Readings**

**Monday, Aug. 28**
Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church
2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11b-12
Psalm 96:1-3, 13-15
Matthew 23:13-22

**Tuesday, Aug. 29**
The Martyrology of John the Baptist
2 Thessalonians 2:1-3a, 14-17
Psalm 96:10-13
Mark 6:17-29

**Wednesday, Aug. 30**
2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, 16-18
Psalm 128:1-2, 4-5
Matthew 23:27-32

**Thursday, Aug. 31**
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Psalm 145:2-7
Matthew 24:42-51

**Friday, Sept. 1**
1 Corinthians 1:1-11
Psalm 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11
Matthew 25:1-13

**Saturday, Sept. 2**
1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Psalm 13:1, 12-13, 18-21
Matthew 25:14-30

**Sunday, Sept. 3**
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
Psalm 15:2-5
James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**The Sunday Readings**

**The Wooden Cross**

I push open the door … there’s no one there. And yet … I feel his presence there.

I raise my head, and my eyes are locked upon the mighty wooden cross.

My King, my Savior, my Lord, my God. I am in awe of your powerful love.

I walk down the aisle and find a seat. I sit there quietly and feel complete.

I feel enveloped with His Love, and I wonder how it can be that my Lord would die for me?

Am I worthy, is mankind, to accept the gift as when Jesus died?

And yet, the answer is there before me … so loved, so cared for, so precious am I.

(Nicola Vogel is a member of St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus. This crucifix made from a 150-pound block of basswood hangs in St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Church in Bright. The life-size image of Christ was carved by parishioner Daniel Badinghaus.)
Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Thursday before the week of publication; be sure to state date of death. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in The Criterion. Order priests and religious sisters and brothers are included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connections to it; those are separate obituaries on this page.


1. Based on a study by the Woodrow Wilson Center’s Mexicali Institute. They also help Mexicans reaffirm their national identity in their new world, and help immigrants advance their social and political concerns in the U.S., said the study, titled “Invisible No More: Mexican Migrant Civic Participation in the United States.”

2. As an example of how the Church is promoting Mexican immigrant social and political agendas, the study cited the U.S. bishops’ campaign for comprehensive immigration reform.

3. The study was released on Aug. 17 by the Washington-based Wilson Center’s Mexicali Institute. It is based on research papers presented at a conference last November. The paper discussed how Churches and other U.S. organizations were helping Mexicans become part of U.S. society.

4. The study found that more than 11 million people in the United States were born in Mexico, which is 4.7 percent of the U.S. population.

5. Through Churches, unions and other organizations and Spanish-language media, Mexican immigrants are increasingly participating in U.S. society, said Jonathan Fox, one of the study’s authors, during the teleconference to release the study.

6. Even though many immigrant cannot vote, they are finding other forms of participating in political life through these organizations, said Fox, a professor of Latin American and Latino studies at the University of California in Santa Cruz.

7. As an example, he cited the marches last spring across the United States demanding widespread immigration reform after the House of Representatives passed a bill that emphasized border security and enforcing laws against illegal immigrants. These marches were a “push back” to the House bill, said Fox.

8. He said the Mexican immigrants at these marches were: “We are not criminals. We are your neighbors.”

9. “Rather than being a threat, Mexican migrants are increasingly joining U.S. society,” he said.

10. The study cited research on Mexican immigrants, but said that many of the general conclusions about them could be applied to other Latin American immigrants.

11. It said that Churches “reaffirm old traditions, practices and beliefs from migrants’ countries of origin, and simultaneously expose migrants to the culture, institutions and traditions of their new home.”

12. The study cited surveys reporting that almost 75 percent of Mexican immigrants are Catholic.

13. Churches attract Mexican because they “often provide a place of worship from migrants’ countries,” he said.

14. Mexicans are also changing U.S. Catholic and Protestant Churches, “bring- ing their own practices and worldviews into their religious communities,” it said.
Prayers Answered
JESUS HELP ME!
In every need let me come to You with thankfulness.
In every need let me come to You with thankfulness.
In every need let me come to You with thankfulness.
In every need let me come to You with thankfulness.
In every need let me come to You with thankfulness.

Jesus, help me!
When I feel impatient, and my cross irritates me:
In hours of loneliness, weariness and trials:
I pray to the Blessed Mother for prayers:

$650 wk/ $2400 month.
secure bldg., covered parking.
private 2BR/2BA condo facing beach,
FT. MYERS, Florida, on the BEACHFRONT CONDO,
9370 Beach, FL. Private tennis, patio w/ grill.
Sleeps 6. Beach pool, mini-golf,
BEACH TOWNHOUSE,
PANAMA CITY BEACH
823-9880.

ATTENTION
The Village Dove, a Catholic gift and book store, has served the community for 30 years. The owners are preparing to retire and are seeking interested buyers for the Broad Ripple and Fishers locations, who have a vision of carrying on the ministry and mission of The Village Dove. Please contact Beth Kuczkowski or Cathy Papesh at 317-253-9552.

Eliza

For Sale
2 WOOD CLARINET (Burton & Lullman) each, age 13 years old. Call 317-852-4436
Bailing
HAULING
Trash Hauling, brush removal cleanup. 25 years experience Call 317-392-1909 or 317-420-9565 cell
BROOKWOOD
317-881-3888

RATES WITH THANK YOU
In every need let me come to You with thankfulness.
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823-9880.
A mosaic of education
Great Spirits Camp focuses on literacy, math skills and fun

By Laura Moore
Special to The Criterion

"GREAT!" shouts the camp director at 9 a.m.
"SPIRITS!" the students, teachers and counselors shout back.
The shouting continues until all attention is gathered and the opening ceremonies can proceed. Children wave their hands in anticipation.

Great Spirits Camp 2006 has begun.

"I like coming to camp each day because of the fun things we do. We have a mixture of fun and learning," said eighth-grade camper Alan-Micah Kanibeh.

Nearly 300 students and 60 staff members participated in the third year of Great Spirits Camp at seven Catholic schools in Indianapolis from June 26 through July 14. The camp is funded by a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant through the Indiana Department of Education.

Campers received personal attention in the areas of reading and math through games and creative activities. Registration is limited to students attending Central Catholic, Holy Angels, Holy Cross Central, St. Andrew and St. Rita Catholic Academy, St. Anthony, St. Joan of Arc and St. Philip Neri schools in Indianapolis.

"It is a good, safe place for children to use their summer time productively while having fun and learning new ways to have fun," said Sarah Batt, program director.

First-grade teacher Melissa Hennessee’s classroom provided typical scholastic elements, including the daily schedule, a shape museum and folders sampling her students’ work. But also tucked throughout her room is evidence of summer camp, including a box of Math Pentathlon games, handmade clay marbles from Conner Prairie and water bottles labeled with each child’s name.

Students and teachers were provided a classroom size that offered a one-to-seven ratio in order to promote extended individual attention during Math Pentathlon games and Accelerated Reading time.

"It is necessary for the students to get the help they need while they are having fun," said sixth-grade teacher Mary Ellen Morris.

"I liked learning about fractions because it wasn’t boring," noted eighth-grade camper Kyle Guyton.

Throughout the three-week curriculum, teachers and counselors focused on increasing the level of literacy and improving math skills for children.

To provide development for students on a holistic level, instructional time was also set aside for the Fun and Fitness program.

At the St. Andrew and St. Rita location, students were welcomed to the gym with upbeat music by fun and fitness director Christopher Moore. Activities ranging from scooter soccer to "capture the flag" promoted good sportsmanship and learning about movement.

"Students need to have physical activity on a daily basis in order to lead healthy lives," he said.

"I love playing games with my friends," added seventh-grade camper D’Asia Carter.

Students also took a field trip to Conner Prairie in Fishers, Ind., to explore several areas of their own heritage through the living history exhibits.

"It gives our kids a different way to learn because it lets them walk through history and touch it, especially the kids who have had a difficult time learning the traditional way," said Batt.

The final way that students learned about their heritage was through the Art with a Heart program. Campers learned about a variety of artists and artistic styles. This year’s project included silk screening T-shirts and designing a fashion company.

Janice Cummings brought three of her grandchildren to Great Spirits Camp.

"This camp keeps kids active and gives them positive role models. It keeps them off the streets and shows them things they wouldn’t normally be exposed to," said Cummings.

As the three weeks ended, students were given tests based on the standards targeted at camp.

"This camp makes a difference, and we should be able to see that difference this year with ISTEP scores and reading levels," said Batt.

Teachers and students alike now pray for continued funding because the four-year, $2 million Indiana Department of Education grant expires before next summer.

New avenues for funding are being explored to allow Great Spirits Camp to continue providing urban children with a mosaic of education, exercise and entertainment.

(Laura Moore teaches journalism and English at New Palestine High School and is a member of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis.)