Retreat helps teens have fun while learning about the priesthood

By Sean Gallagher

MORGAN COUNTY—For four days, the joyful shouts and laughter of 52 teenage boys echoed in the wooded hills and on the waterways of Bradford Woods in Morgan County. At other times, the peaceful silence of the scenic setting invited the young participants at the second annual Bishop Bruté Days vocations retreat to listen attentively to presentations on the faith and enter more deeply into prayer during Mass and eucharistic adoration.

The retreat, designed for teenage boys open to the possibility that God is calling them to the priesthood, was held from June 13-16 at Indiana University’s outdoor center. It was sponsored by Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary at Marian College in Indianapolis.

Colin Robertson, a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Shelby County who will be a freshman next fall at Waldron High School, was one of 16 participants at the first retreat in 2006. When he arrived this year, he was met by 51 other teenagers.

"Because there are more people here on the retreat, I'm getting what I feel to be a more full experience," Colin said on the retreat’s second day. “I'm getting to interact with new people. I get to see what they do at their parish.”

Father Robert Robeson, the seminary’s rector, was pleased with the growth of the retreat’s numbers. “It's overwhelming with this many kids, but it's been great,” he said. “Some of them really feel like they want..." See RETREAT, page 2

St. Malachy parishioners break ground for new church

By Mary Ann Wyand

BROWNSBURG—A wee bit of Ireland, a sprinkling of the “old sod,” provided a symbolic and historic foundation for the site of the new St. Malachy Church during a June 24 groundbreaking ceremony at a Hendricks County farm donated to the parish.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein helped Father Daniel Staublin, St. Malachy’s pastor for 11 years, break ground for the $8.5 million church as Father Peter Gallagher, associate pastor, and several hundred parishioners applauded the beginning of Phase I of the building project.

The parish was founded by Irish immigrants in 1869 on Green Street in Brownsburg.

Preparing to break ground for the new St. Malachy Church in Brownsburg on June 24 are, from left, Michael Eagan, lead architect, Entheos Architects; Kevin Stuckwisch, liturgical consultant, Entheos Architects; Richard Judd, building committee chairman; Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein; Father Daniel Staublin, pastor; Mark Kramer, Pastoral Council chairman; Rob Damler, planning committee chairman; and Paul Toddy, senior project manager, Meyer Najem.

See ST. MALACHY, page 13
Patrick Zabriskie joined Syberg in the fun. "It's a blast, and the kids love it. It's a great opportunity for getting sacristan boys involved and for providing fun stuff. They compliment each other," he said. "But I also get a good amount of fun stuff. They compliment each other."

"It's a blast and the kids love it. It's a great way to bond," said Syberg, a member of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood who just completed his first year at the college seminary.

Patrick Zabriskie joined Syberg in the fun. "It's a blast, and the kids love it. It's a great opportunity for getting sacristan boys involved and for providing fun stuff. They compliment each other," he said. "But I also get a good amount of fun stuff. They compliment each other."

Patrick is an example of a young person in the archdiocese who is benefiting from complementing vocations awareness programs. His participation in Bishop Bruté Days followed a class on vocations for middle school students at St. Pius X School. Patrick is also enrolled at Bishop Chatard, where a student organization, SERV (Students Encouraging Religious Vocations), keeps the call to the priesthood and religious life fresh in fellow students’ minds.

"The first step in improving the priest deficit is being open to it, saying I’m open to being a priest and not rejecting it when you’re 15," Patrick said. "I think the idea that none of us are really rejecting that idea is very good. It leaves a much stronger possibility for becoming a priest than if you reject the idea when you’re a little kid."

Recently ordained Father Rick Nagel told the teenagers how, when he was their age, he was incredible when a priest said he had the gifts for the priesthood. He went on to say that God eventually led him to recognize his call and embrace it with joy.

On July 3, Father Nagel will begin his ministry as associate pastor of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish. He will also become the archdiocese’s associate vocations director.

It was with an eye toward that ministry that he commented enthusiastically on the success of Bishop Bruté Days.

"It reminds me of Jeremiah 29:11: ‘I will give you a future and a hope.’" Father Nagel said. "And there they are.

"You can just see that God has gracied us once again in this archdiocese. I think the prayers of the people are bringing forth those vocations.”

Father Nagel was one of nine diocesan priests who assisted with the retreat by giving presentations on the faith, celebrating Mass, hearing confessions or leading adoration and Benediction services.

Another was Father Michael Fritsch, pastor of St. John the Apostle Parish in Bloomington.

"It’s wonderful. It’s invigorating," said the retreat. "It’s like a recharge because you see [the boys'] energy and their zeal."

Colin Robertson showed that energy as he spoke about future Bishop Bruté Days.

"If there are any boys age 13 to 18 that have not been here, I would encourage them to come because this retreat is just plain awesome!"

(For more information on the archdiocese’s Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary, log on to www.archindy.org/bshs."

Correction

In the June 22 edition of The Criterion, the story about the archdiocese receiving a $1.8 million 21st Century Community Learning Center grant failed to include St. Philip Neri School in the list of schools that make up the archdiocesan Catholic Urban School Consortium.†
Pasotti named interim director at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House

By Mary Ann Wyand

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis begins a new chapter in the history of its archdiocesan ministry on July 1 with the appointment of Sandy Pasotti as interim director.

Pasotti, a member of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis, has served as guest services manager at Fatima Retreat House for three and a half years.

Her appointment was announced on June 14 by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and Charles Gardner, executive director for spiritual life and worship for the archdiocese.

Gardner said Pasotti will provide firm leadership for the ministry and work with the advisory board during the search for the new executive director.

She will be responsible for supervising eight full-time and 12 part-time staff members and overseeing a variety of one-day and weekend retreats as well as programs supported by outside groups.

Pasotti said retreat programs are already planned for the remainder of 2007 and spring of 2008 so the ministry will continue smoothly during the transition.

She succeeds Rick Wagner, who has served as executive director of the retreat house since March 2004.

Wagner recently accepted a position as principal of St. Theodore Guérin High School in Noblesville, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese.

During his time as director, Wagner said, the staff worked hard to expand programs and attractions to attract new people of all ages to the retreat center as well as welcome faithful returning groups.

"We want to continue in that direction and build on that to add new programs always trying to meet people where they are in their faith life and offer programs that will appeal to many different groups. I hope people don’t notice the change too much. We’re a team and … we all do our part to help keep Fatima a living and growing place."

For more information about retreats and other programs at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, call 317-845-7681 or check the Web site at www.archindy.org/fruitms.

St. Pius X parishioner Sandy Pasotti, guest services manager at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, has been named interim director of the retreat house by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein. Her appointment is effective on July 1. Rick Wagner, the current director, also a St. Pius X parishioner, recently accepted a position as principal of St. Theodore Guerin High School in Noblesville, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese.

During his time as director, Wagner said the staff worked hard to expand programs and attractions to attract new people of all ages to the retreat center as well as welcome faithful returning groups.

"We want to continue in that direction and build on that to add new programs always trying to meet people where they are in their faith life and offer programs that will appeal to many different groups. I hope people don’t notice the change too much. We’re a team and … we all do our part to help keep Fatima a living and growing place."

For more information about retreats and other programs at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, call 317-845-7681 or check the Web site at www.archindy.org/fruitms.

Independence Day 2007

Did you ever stop to think how remarkable it was that Catholics supported the Revolutionary War and the birth of the colonies from England? As we approach this year’s observance of Independence Day next Wednesday, July 4, perhaps we can find some time to think about that.

Catholics living in the colonies demonstrated a remarkable patriotism despite the hostility that most residents displayed toward their faith. For example: In 1774, the British Parliament passed the Quebec Act, which guaranteed freedom of Catholics in Canada to “enjoy the free exercise of the religion of the Church of Rome.”

This act outraged the members of our Continental Congress. It sent a letter to Great Britain expressing “our astonishment that a British Parliament should ever consent to establish in that country [Canada] a religion that has deluged your island with blood, and dispersed impiety, bigotry, persecution, murder, and rebellion through every part of the world.” That’s what Americans at the time thought about the Catholic Church.

At the same time that expressed such bigotry toward Catholicism in its letter to Great Britain, the Continental Congress wrote to Canada, “We are all too well-acquainted with the liberty of sentiment distinguishing your nation to imagine that difference of religion will prejudice you against your own unity with us.”

It then, in March of 1776, appointed a commission to go to Canada to try to gain Canadians’ support for the planned split from England. The commission consisted of Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Chase, Charles Carroll of Carrollton (a Catholic and the wealthiest man in the colonies) and Father John Carroll (who would later become the first American Catholic bishop).

Naturally, the commission had no hope of success because Canadians were well aware of the true feelings of the people to their south concerning Catholicism. But why would such prominent Catholics as the Carrolls consent to be part of the mission? Because they both thought that the hostility of the colonists to the Catholic faith was foreign to the American character, and with the spread of correct knowledge about the Catholic Church, Catholicism would eventually come to be regarded in its true light.

Besides, in a few months from the time of that mission, that same Continental Congress would pass the Declaration of Independence, which we celebrate with our holiday, and that document couldn’t have been more Catholic. It said that “all men are created equal,” and that’s what the Catholic Church taught.

It said that we possess inalienable rights flowing directly from the Creator, and that’s what the Catholic Church taught.

Two centuries before Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration, St. Robert Bellarmine wrote, “Secular or civil power is instituted by men; it is in the people, unless they bestow it on a prince. It depends on the consent of the multitude to ordain over themselves a king, or consul, or other magistrates, and if there be a lawful cause, the multitude may change the kingdom into an aristocracy or democracy.” That principle was echoed in the Declaration of Independence.

Throughout American history, Catholics have demonstrated their patriotism again and again. President George Washington, in a letter to (by then) Archbishop John Carroll, said, “I presume that your fellow citizens will not forget the patriotic part which [Catholicism] took in the accomplishment of their Revolution, and the establishment of your Government.”

A hundred years after Archbishop Carroll’s time, we had another great archbishop—Cardinal James Gibbons of Baltimore. In 1916, former President Theodore Roosevelt said to him: “Taking your life as a whole, I think that you now occupy the position of being the most respected and venerated and useful citizen of our country.”

President William Howard Taft praised the cardinal’s “single-minded patriotism and love of country on the one hand and sincere devotion to his Church on the other.”

Cardinal Gibbons repaid to President Taft: “You were pleased to mention my pride in being an American citizen. It is the proudest earthly title I possess.” — John F. Fink

Letters to the Editor

Best priests are those who show love of Christ, not fear of Christ

I agree with the letter writer in the June 15 issue of The Criterion who said we need better homilies. But I believe they should not be homilies of fear. The Church needs to bring the love of Christ to people. Through the teaching and example of Jesus. Spreading fear, damning people and in-your-face preaching, in my opinion, does not effectively teach the right message.

We need homilies that are engaging, lively and relate to our everyday lives. People forget what the homily is about because the priest hasn’t been able to reach a person’s everyday life experience. Priests should focus and spend more time on homily techniques and preparing their homilies. The best priests are those who show the love of Christ, not a fear of Christ.

Patrick Kelly
Indianapolis

Letters Policy

Letters from readers are published in The Criterion as part of the newspaper’s commitment to “the responsible exchange of information.” The newspaper welcomes letters from as many people and representing as many viewpoints as possible. Letters should be inofrmal, relevant, well-expressed and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

The editors reserve the right to select the letters that will be published and to edit letters from readers as necessary based on space limitations, pastoral sensitivity and the necessity of accurate spelling and grammar. In order to encourage opinions from a variety of readers, frequently published authors ordinarily are limited to one letter every three months. Concise letters (usually less than 300 words) are preferred.

Letters must be signed, but for serious reasons, names may be withheld.

Send letters to “Letters to the Editor,” The Criterion, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1717. Readers with access to e-mail may send letters to criterion@archindy.org

Be Our Guest/Rev. Donald Lacy

Mary: The key to Christian unity in our day and time

The Blessed Virgin will not be denied her special and unique place.

The struggles, prejudices and fights over where she belongs in the Christian religion cover virtually 2,000 years.

Having been a part of this dialogue for most of my 50 years of ministry, I have witnessed better understanding taking place. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, difficult doors have opened and fresh healing winds have been blowing.

It has become obvious to some of us that she is a key to Christian unity in our day and time for a number of reasons. I wish to cite seven of them.

First, the past is filled with Protestants and Catholics relating to one another solely on the basis of stereotypes, devoid of real flesh and blood. We have missed the fact that, from the beginning, the Christian faith was and is linked to the historical Jesus and his mother, Mary? In recent years, many are finally getting better acquainted with the one woman and mother whose influence is universal and hardly measurable.

Second, the Second Vatican Council’s teaching specifically indicates Mary’s primary place in the faith is to bring others to her son Jesus and to be a goddess to be worshipped. It is very difficult for many Protestants to accept this because of long-standing biases which said “Catholic worship Mary.” Progress is being made here as minds and hearts experience the fundamental belief of her place as a means to an end, and not an end within itself.

Third, a few of us have persisted for decades in the face of not only disinterest but outright vociferous opposition that included threats. For some years, organizations embracing various viewpoints, such as the Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary, have met in small groups.

“Catholics worship Mary.” Progress is being made here as minds and hearts experience the fundamental belief of her place as a means to an end, and not an end within itself.

The editors reserve the right to select the letters that will be published and to edit but very committed numbers on a semi-annual basis. In the fall of 2006, the meeting was held at North United Methodist Church in Indianapolis.

Fourth, a closer reading of Luke 1:26-38 gives biblical credence for Mary, special, even miraculous place in the faith. It even helps to see why the “Hail, Mary” is so important to our Catholic tradition. Additionally, the Second Vatican Council phrase “Mother of God” certainly implies that if Jesus is God in the flesh—as Pope John Paul II repeatedly stated—Mary is his mother, the title is accurate.

Fifth, a re-reading of Church history finds both Calvin and Luther, as well as many moderns, blowing the magnif- icence of her singular place. John Wesley, even though no friend of the papacy, had an intriguing word to say in his “Letter to a Roman Catholic” in 1749. In regard to Jesus, he said, “born of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who, as well after as before she brought him forth, continued a pure and unpolluted virgin.”

Sixth, in an age of being caught between “anything goes” in sexual activity and traditional discipline, we discover the Blessed Virgin Mary offers poverty, chastity and obedience. To lives and a series of relationships and marriages resulting in brokenness that ensues into future generations, she offers an ideal of faithfulness. She pulls it all together for imperfect and sinful people to regain ideals mostly lost in today’s world.

Seventh, perhaps most importantly, she models a healthy and healing feminism that moves professing Christians to a powerful spiritual reality. Her power comes from her holiness as an uncompromised woman and devoted mother who invites us to unite under the banner of Jesus Christ in repentant joy and ongoing relevance.

She invites men and women, clergy and laity, to join hands so that the world will believe.

(Rev. Donald Lacy is a retired United Methodist Church minister who lives in Muncie, Ind.)
Eucharist, like Virgin Mary, guides us to our heavenly home

Como lo hizo el Señor, el libro de la Revelación nos reitera la idea de que, aunque en la vida cotidiana, debemos luchar contra el bien y el mal, estos teques y oponentes no podrán detenernos en la búsqueda de la verdad. En el libro de Éxtasis, el Señor nos dice que, aunque a veces tendremos que luchar contra otros, la verdadera batalla será contra nosotros mismos. Y siempre que podamos, debemos luchar contra nuestra propia debilidad, nuestra propia omnipresencia, nuestra propia ignorancia y nuestras propias desgracias. Y, como lo hizo el Señor, el libro de la Revelación nos reitera la idea de que, aunque en la vida cotidiana, debemos luchar contra el bien y el mal, estos teques y oponentes no podrán detenernos en la búsqueda de la verdad. En el libro de Éxtasis, el Señor nos dice que, aunque a veces tendremos que luchar contra otros, la verdadera batalla será contra nosotros mismos. Y siempre que podamos, debemos luchar contra nuestra propia debilidad, nuestra propia omnipresencia, nuestra propia ignorancia y nuestras propias desgracias. Y, como lo hizo el Señor, el libro de la Revelación nos reitera la idea de que, aunque en la vida cotidiana, debemos luchar contra el bien y el mal, estos teques y oponentes no podrán detenernos en la búsqueda de la verdad. En el libro de Éxtasis, el Señor nos dice que, aunque a veces tendremos que luchar contra otros, la verdadera batalla será contra nosotros mismos. Y siempre que podamos, debemos luchar contra nuestra propia debilidad, nuestra propia omnipresencia, nuestra propia ignorancia y nuestras propias desgracias. Y, como lo hizo el Señor, el libro de la Revelación nos reitera la idea de que, aunque en la vida cotidiana, debemos luchar contra el bien y el mal, estos teques y oponentes no podrán detenernos en la búsqueda de la verdad. En el libro de Éxtasis, el Señor nos dice que, aunque a veces tendremos que luchar contra otros, la verdadera batalla será contra nosotros mismos. Y siempre que podamos, debemos luchar contra nuestra propia debilidad, nuestra propia omnipresencia, nuestra propia ignorancia y nuestras propias desgracias.
**Events Calendar**

**June 29-30**
St. Augustine Home for the Aged, 2345 W. 36th St., Indianapolis. Little Sisters of the Poor, rummage sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Information: 317-872-6420.

**July 1**
MBVS and Divine Mercy Centre, Reville, located at 925 South, 8 mile east of 421 South and 12 miles south of Versailles. Confession, 1 p.m., followed by holy hour, Mass 2 p.m., groups of 10 pray the new Marian Way, 1 p.m., Father Eusebio Buurinkel, celebrant. Information: 812-689-3551.

**July 3**

www.inholyspirit.org or e-mail ccre@inholyspirit.org

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**July 5-7**
University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind. Catholic Divorce Ministry Conference. Information: 906-482-0494 or mpatton@nnd.edu.

**July 6-8**
St. Lawrence Parish, 542 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg. Parish festival, food, music, rides, Fri. 6 p.m.-midnight, pork chop dinner, Sat. 7 p.m.-midnight, German dinner, Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., chicken dinner. Information: 812-537-3992.

**July 7**
St. Roch Parish, Family Center, 3500 S. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis. Single Seniors, meeting, 50 and over. Information: 317-784-1102.

**July 8**
Harmony County Fairgrounds, 541 Capital Ave., Corydon. St. Joseph Parish, parish picnic, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., chicken dinner, quilts. Information: 812-738-2742.

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**Regular Events**

**June 29-July 1**
Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat, abortion re-orientation, confidential weekend retreat for women and men, sponsored by archdiocesan Office for Pro-Life Ministry. All calls are confidential. Information: 317-831-2892, 317-236-1521 or 800-382-8086, ext. 1521.


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**July 13-15**
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5335 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Catholic Youth Organization “Grasshopper Day Camp,” one-week day camp for boys and girls entering kindergarten through third-grade. Information: www.campuniphonomas.com

**July 20-22**

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**VIP’s**

John W. and Judy (Hiser) Schoenrup, members of St. Joseph Parish in Indianapolis. The couple was married on June 29, 1957, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Southport. The couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 29.

They have six children: Patty Gibson, Jeanine Hernandez, Carol Mitchell, Katie Pille, Susan Weber and Larry Moran. They have one granddaughter and one great-grandchild.

David and Jeanne (Moorman) Moran, members of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 29.

The couple was married on June 29, 1957, at St. Joseph Church in Shelbyville. They have one child, John Schoenrup, and two grandchildren.

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**Clothes donations**

St. Lawrence parishioner Dan Drzewiecki of Indianapolis gives donations of men’s clothing to Marge Hittle, co-director of the Catholic Charities Indianapolis Crisis Office, on June 25 at the Xavier Building, 1435 N. Illinois St., in Indianapolis. More than 1,000 pieces of men’s clothing were collected.

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**Angles’ Corner Catholic Gift Shop**

**Bring in this ad for 20% OFF any one in stock item at either store location! (expires July 15)**

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**June 30-July 14**
SAS Sale

Largest SAS Sale EVER!

**Free Time**

Time Out for men

**Getaway Huarache**

**June 30-July 14**

SAS Sale

Largest SAS Sale EVER!

**Free Time**

Time Out for men

All Men’s and Women’s SAS Shoes, Purses and Sandals.

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**ECKSTEIN SHOE 600 MAIN ST., SHOE STORE BEECH GROVE, IN 317-786-7084**

Cardinal praises Bush for vetoing embryonic stem-cell bill

WASHINGTON (CNS)—President George W. Bush on June 20 vetoed a bill to expand federal funding for medical research on human embryonic stem cells, saying it “would compel American taxpayers, for the first time in our history, to support the deliberate destruction of human embryos.”

Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, praised the veto.

“This bill would not actually enhance stem-cell research, but divert federal funds from legitimate research toward avenues requiring the destruction of innocent human life,” he said. “The cause of science is not enhanced but diminished when it loses its moral compass.”

In conjunction with the veto, Bush issued an executive order calling on federal agencies to strengthen the nation’s commitment to research on pluripotent stem cells.

Adult stem cells from a variety of sources, including bone marrow, the placenta and umbilical-cord blood, have led to successful treatments for a number of diseases. Adult stem cells are called pluripotent because they have the power to turn into many of the 200-plus types of differentiated cells found in the body. Embryonic stem cells are called omnipotent because they can turn into any of those differentiated cells.

Cardinal Rigali welcomed the executive order. “Adult stem cells continue to produce new clinical advances on a regular basis, most recently showing benefits for patients with juvenile diabetes,” he said. He said a recent research breakthrough has shown that ordinary adult cells can be reprogrammed to become pluripotent stem cells, showing that “science not only raises new ethical questions but at times can help address them.”

Tragically, some embryonic stem-cell advocates in Congress have dismissed such advances or even greeted them with suspicion, as though medical progress were less genuine or praiseworthy when it respects human life, the cardinal said.

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Denver said that the Church always supports scientific research “that genuinely serves the human person.”

“Stem cells harvested from adults or umbilical cords pose no moral problems and have great value for medical research,” he said, but the “killing of human embryos is never justified, even for the advancement of scientific research.”

The vetoed bill was titled the Stem-Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007. It passed in the Senate on April 11 by a 63-34 vote and in the House on June 7 by a vote of 247-176. Neither vote reflected the two-thirds majority that would be needed to override a veto.

Democratic leadership had made the bill a top priority when the Democrats gained control of Congress this year. It would have ended the Bush administration’s six-year-old policy limiting federal funding of human embryonic stem-cell research to projects that relied only on colonies of embryonic stem cells created before Aug. 9, 2001, the date that policy was announced.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York, a contender for the Democratic presidential nomination next year, accused Bush of putting “ideology before science, politics before the needs of our families.”

White House press spokesman Tony Snow responded, “This actually is putting science before ideology. There are many people who believe that you have to force taxpayers into making a choice of destroying people who believe that you have to force taxpayers into making a choice of destroying human life—destroying an embryo in order to proceed with embryonic stem-cell research. That would be an ideological position. ‘The president does not believe it’s appropriate to put an end to human life for research purposes,’” he said.

“That’s a line he will not cross.”

In his veto message to the Senate, Bush said since 2001 his administration “has made more than $130 million available for research on stem-cell lines derived from embryos that had already been destroyed. We have also provided more than $3 billion for research on all forms of stem cells, including those from adult and other nonembryonic sources.”

The president’s new executive order directs the Department of Health and Human Services and the National Institutes of Health to ensure that any human pluripotent stem-cell lines produced in ways that do not create, destroy or harm human embryos will be eligible for federal funding.

It expands the NIH’s Human Embryonic Stem Cell Registry to include all types of ethically produced human pluripotent stem cells as well, and renames the registry the Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Registry.

It encourages scientists to work with the NIH to add ethically produced stem-cell lines to the registry.
By John Shaughnessy

Sometimes a season unfolds in the way that every high school team dreams.

A blend of talent, hard work, togetherness, grit and even luck leads to the magic of a state championship.

At other times, a season unfolds in a way that deviates a team, leaving players struggling to make sense of, to make something good from, a tragedy.

A beloved coach dies unexpectedly, a coach who always reminded his players to have fun while they pursued their dreams, a coach who also tried to show them that even when life doesn’t turn out the way you hoped or planned, you still need to make the most of it.

Either experience can create searing, lifetime memories. Then there are those rare seasons when both experiences converge, when heartbreak, hope and happiness ride together on the same memorable journey.

So it was for the 2007 softball team at Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis.

When the team won the Indiana High School Athletic Association Class 2A state softball championship on June 9, the players rushed together—hugging, jumping, screaming, smiling, dancing—including one player who dashed toward the celebration holding a small stuffed bear.

The bear represented the team’s season-long symbol of the players, consider the story that head coach Tom Moorman shares about his close friend. The father of three had been in the hospital for surgery to remove a tumor from his intestine, a tumor that turned out to be benign. During the operation, doctors also removed his gallbladder and appendix. Everything seemed to go well. He was scheduled to go home on the day a blood clot killed him.

“It was really hard,” Emily says. “They opened up sessions for us at school so we could talk about it. We were so close to him.”

Even after his death, he continued to be part of their close-knit team.

The players wore his initials—J.E.—on their wristbands and the sleeves of their shirts this season. They prayed to him for us at school so we could talk about it. We were so close to him.”

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House

Save these dates!
November 20, 2007 & April 11–13, 2008
Matthew Kelly returns to OLF!

We are pleased to announce the return of Matthew Kelly for two events:
An evening presentation in November and another weekend retreat in April!

Look for more details on both programs in the near future!

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

— ❤ —

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House
An examination of conscience helps us admit our faults

By Fr. John W. Crossin, O.S.F.S.

We usually make an examination of conscience before sacramental confession. In fact, we could examine our consciences whenever we look seriously at our life’s direction—

A day of prayer or a yearly retreat is ideal for this deeper reflection.

Such an examination requires humility, which is a critical component. We must see ourselves as we really are with strengths and weaknesses, virtues and vices, sins and acts of charity.

Humility is a virtue in that it is difficult to practice consistently. Yet this virtue is most characteristic of Jesus. He urged us to take the last place at table. He humbled himself, accepting death on a cross.

Some of us have trouble acknowledging our strengths. Paradoxically, our gifts can be hard to accept. We just don’t see the gifts that God has given us or we imagine having others.

A word of encouragement from a friend can help us begin to realize our talents. I have been amazed that a few positive words from me have sent friends off to study for a degree or to accept a new position.

To me, their talents were obvious and their lack of awareness of their gifts was surprising.

More often, we have trouble acknowledging our faults. It can be hard to accept our sins. It is even harder to ask for forgiveness.

The relativism in American culture teaches people that there is no right or wrong. Thus, popular culture tells us, we cannot sin, we are rarely mistaken and moral principles are just a matter of opinion.

To respond for possible publication, send an e-mail to cg@faithalive.com or write to

Faith Alive!

The Catholic University of America, the late Cardinal Francis Stafford suggested using Jesus’ Metaphor on the Mount as an aid in examining one’s conscience.

Cardinal Stafford, who heads the Vatican court dealing with matters of conscience, said penitents should ask:

“Do I turn from pride, envy and ambition and follow Jesus’ way of humility? ... Do I spend a disproportionate amount of time in reading newspapers and journals, watching television and using the Internet in comparison with the time spent reading and meditating upon the sacred Scriptures? Have I been lacking in poverty of spirit and thus have been unable to hallow the name of God among men? Have I placed my happiness in the possession of external goods? ... Have I been lacking in mercy whereby I forgive the injuries of others?”

(Carole Norris Greene is associate editor of Faith Alive!) ¶

What happens if a pattern of negative behavior is to stop or change for the better?

First, become aware of the need to change ... and ask the Lord to help. ... Then [people] have to get the help they need to change. It might be as simple as going to confession or they might need to see a counselor or a spiritual director to help make the change and integrate it into their life.” (Joy Davis, New Orleans, La.)

The first step is the personal willingness to change, but even with the will to change you need true conversion of your heart [and] to trust that God will provide for you if you make such a change.” (Chris Ronis, Canyon, Texas)

“I remember learning in school about the ‘near occasion of sin’ and how we shouldn’t put ourselves near temptation. To change a negative behavior, like overeating, that would mean staying away from the kitchen.” (Pat Bedell, Akron, Ohio)

“Acknowledge [that] the behavior is negative. Honesty, diligence and knowledge of ... to make [the change] happen is required. Follow through because of desire [to improve].” (JoAnne Byrnes, Osage, Iowa)

“If you are trying to stop or change for the better, you need to put yourself under pressure. ... The Sunday Eucharist can be a major source of healing for our daily sins.”

The sacrament of reconciliation is a prime means where the Holy Spirit’s healing power is available through the ministry of the Church. I have seen and felt this power from both a priest-confessor and as a penitent.

Asking for the healing power of Christ in our daily prayers allows us to be converted more deeply to Christ. If, in examining our conscience, we become thankful for God’s gifts to us, we can share that grace in love for others.

(Oblate Father John W. Crossin is executive director of the Washington Theological Consortium in Washington, D.C.) ¶

This Week’s Question

What must happen if a pattern of negative behavior is to stop or change for the better?

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Ask God for help with problems

An upcoming edition asks: What would you tell an inquirer who asked how your ancient faith relates to your actual 21st-century life?

To respond for possible publication, send an e-mail to ggreen5@catholicnews.com or write to Faith Alive at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. ¶
The Old Testament's four books of fiction
(Eleventh in a series of columns)

There are four books of fiction in the Old Testament. The Book of Tobit is a historical novel set after the fall of the Kingdom of Israel but before its return in 721 B.C.

The characters are Tobias, Sarah, his wife, Tobias's father who has seven husbands, each of whom left him on their wedding night; and the archangel Raphael. The story concerns Tobias's travels from Ninevah to Media to get money that Tobit would use to pay for the service of 200 Hebrews to the Assyrians in the Kingdom of Israel.

Shirley Vogler Meister
Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewes
Faith and Family/Sean Gallagher

Perspectives

The land of the free and the home of the brave?

Both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, two of the founding fathers of our country, died on July 4, 1826. They were different men with different political and spiritual views. Jews went back to God on the very anniversary of the independence day they helped make possible. God has always seemed to me to be providential. I take it as a sign of God's grace that these two patriots went home together on the date that made them both eternally famous for creating a nation dedicated to Christian values. With all their differences in temperament and performance, in the end they will both be judged as instruments of God's will.

It may seem odd to think of the American experiment as being part of God's plan, but I do. There are certainly other democracies and human governments in this world, but ours is the first one expressly founded on principles of human dignity and freedom. As different as Adams and Jefferson worked together to make it so.

And they were different. Adams was a churchgoer, while Jefferson was a deist.

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

God created first the beasts and birds

Last month, while family members from northern Indiana visited here, our neighbor, Frank, came by to compliment our oldest chihuahua, Hannah. Frank, on the fine work he is doing with our landscaping. All the family agrees.

While Frank and I talked, I noticed something I hadn't noticed before. I saw a simple, single, purplish, columnine that unexpectedly emerged in the back of our property this spring. As we walked in that direction, something else unexpectedly appeared, scurrying toward us.

My first words on seeing the little critter were, "Oh, a beautiful, a polka dot, a caterpillar, scurrying toward us."

I called the store, looking for advice. Now, what has this to do with Catholic—"Monkey See, Monkey Do, Monkey Get in Trouble," I'm sure it was. And the other one is, "...being a unique individual and living in communion with others isn't so much a thorny contradiction as it is a paradox to be pondered, a mystery to be embraced."

Isn't that what it means to be an American, a country founded by rugged individualists? There is some irony here, though. For as much as we believe in different cultures, we also have a desire to fit in, to be like everyone else.

I realized that the company's national headquarters to report how pleased we are to the grocery store.

As we walked across the parking lot, Raphael jabbered quite a bit, and a bit loudly, as if he was trying to draw our attention. Then he said, "You're a loudmouth." Raphael's eyes passed a moment, looked me in the face and then said, "Not loudmouth ... Raphael!" And then Raphael went on to another topic. At the tender age of 2, Raphael is already starting to establish his own identity. And that's a good thing. This planet is filled with around 6 billion people, give or take 10 million or so.

Each one of those people, from each strand of their DNA to each quirk of their personality, is a one-of-a-kind creation of our amazing God. In my own humble home—population four, there are certainly differences. Raphael is different in many ways from his older brother, Michael. And, as the months young years roll along, I will be interesting to see how little Victor will set himself apart.

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Like St. Francis of Assisi, who taught that "...being a unique individual and living in communion with others isn't so much a thorny contradiction as it is a paradox to be pondered, a mystery to be embraced."

So as my young sons grow up, I'm sure I will watch in wonder and amazement at all of our own distinct characteristics emerge. But, with the aid of God's grace, I also hope to guide them more and more into a deeper relationship with Jesus. And then the real awe will unfold when I see, like Frank, looking through a kaleidoscope, to start to ponder the face of Christ in each of my sons' uniquenesses.

God was a faithful and loving husband, without much money, cared nothing for personal power or social pretense. He was a lover of good art, style, luxury, and women, and in debt to the day he died because of his expensive tastes.

Esther was an orphaned Jewish girl who is encouraged by her uncle, Mordecai, to enter a beauty contest to become the wife of the king. She wins.

The evil Haman, the king's main advisor, tries to have all the Jews in the empire killed because of his dislike for Mordecai, who refused to bow to him. Haman was the king of the Persians when he was king of Babylon.

It's the story of how Judith overcomes the cowardice of her own people to defeat and kill an arrogant general, Holofernes. The purpose of the book was to show how the invisible hand of God rescued Israel through Judith. Naturally, the book is a favorite among women.

The Book of Esther reads as if it were an historical book, and the Jews established the feast of Purim to celebrate the deliverance of the Jews when they were threatened with extermination. The setting this time is Persia. Esther is an orphaned Jewish girl who is encouraged by her uncle, Mordecai, to enter a beauty contest to become the wife of the king. She wins.

The Book of Judith is also deliberately humorous as it tells stories of different political and social conflicts, each of which they helped make possible.

The other Founding Fathers were just as divided, holding different opinions about everything. They argued about the power of the federal government versus the states, about the importance of India and other civic responsibilities, and how to respond to overtures or attacks by foreign powers.

Every idea was debated, every decision was questionable because they were starting something entirely new in the way of governing without adhering to a mandatory and rigid hierarchical structure. They wanted to do God's will without the class system and other prejudicial baggage that existed in the countries from which they came. It's no surprise that George Washington refused to be addressed as "Your Majesty," a divinely inspired force for good in the world. But that is exactly what Father's hopes for our country in which every citizen had the chance to live life freely, but in a morally responsible way.

Of course, the new "Americans" hoped to succeed economically, but also thought of their country as a place where people could satisfy themselves by serving the common good. Because we're human, sometimes we've failed miserably to achieve this goal.

We can only hope we're still on the right track. Fellow Americans go to work, vote, and live in our country, our country in which every citizen had the chance to live life freely, but in a morally responsible way.

If one can only hope we're still on the right track. Fellow Americans go to work, vote, and live in our country, our country in which every citizen had the chance to live life freely, but in a morally responsible way.

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### Daily Readings

**Monday, July 2**

- Genesis 18:16-33
- Psalm 103:1-4, 8-11
- Matthew 8:18-22

**Tuesday, July 3**

- Thomas, Apostle
- Ephesians 2:19-22
- Psalm 117:1-2
- John 20:24-29

**Wednesday, July 4**

- Elizabeth of Portugal, religious
- Genesis 21:5, 8-20a
- Psalm 34:7-8, 19-22
- Matthew 8:28-34

**Thursday, July 5**

- Anthony Mary Zaccaria, priest
- Genesis 22:1b-19
- Psalm 115:1-6, 8-9
- Matthew 9:1-8

### Question Corner

**Fr. John Dietzen**

**Amnesty International to vote on support for abortion rights**

Q: I'm looking for the Catholic Church's view of Amnesty International. I know it was founded in 1961 and works to defend victims of political imprisonment, torture and the death sentence. Does the Church have an official position in favor of or against it? (Pennsylvania)

A: The Catholic Church has no official stand concerning Amnesty International. Catholics, however, including many bishops around the world, have vigorously supported it and worked with it through the years. It was, in fact, founded by a British Catholic layman, Peter Berenson, who was involved in adopting orphans from the Spanish civil war in the 1930s and bringing Jews who had fled Hitler's Germany to England.


Amnesty International, which now has more than 2.2 million members, is independent of any government or political party. A council composed of representatives from all national sections makes its major policy decisions. Until now, Catholics and other religious groups have been major Amnesty International supporters, financially and otherwise. The Vatican's Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace has worked often with Amnesty International, sharing its conviction that every human person enjoys the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights documents.

These include the 1950 United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child, which holds that "the child, by reason of his or her physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection before as well as after birth."

In 1985, the United Nations formally declared Amnesty International's mission: "to build a world in which every human being can enjoy the fullness of human rights and fundamental freedoms."

This commitment is what makes Amnesty International's work so critical. It is the world's watchdog for human rights. It monitors governments around the world for signs of human rights abuses and advocates for change. It also provides a forum for people around the world to share their experiences and connect with others who are fighting for the same causes.

The Catholic bishops of England and Wales write, "Such a policy change would, in the eyes of many, compromise Amnesty as a trusted advocate for human life. Furthermore, such a decision would almost certainly divide its membership and undermine the vital work for which it was founded and for which it is justly renowned."

Its diminishment as a credible moral authority would be a sad loss for the world. Amnesty International’s U.S. mailing address is 1514 14th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20010 and the Web site address is www.amnestyusa.org.

(Free brochure answering questions about Catholicism and the sacrament of penance is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 3135, Peoria, IL 61612. Order may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address or by e-mail in care of jdietzen@msn.com)
Seniors lead Cathedral High School to baseball title

By John Shaughnessy

After 11 seasons as the head baseball coach at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, Rich Andriole knows that each team has an opportunity to create its own special character.

He also knows how hard it is to win an Indiana High School Athletic Association state championship.

“The reality is there are a whole bunch of teams that set similar goals and, at the end of the year, only one team can say they achieved the ultimate goal,” Andriole says.

The 2007 Cathedral Irish baseball team attained their goal, beating Kokomo High School 7-2 in the IHSAA Class 4A state championship game at Victory Field in Indianapolis on June 16.

“These guys were incredibly competitive,” he says. “They stayed focused the whole season. Game in and game out, whether they were behind or ahead, they competed.”

The coach credits that approach to the team’s seven seniors: Anthony Agnew, Mark Branigan, Steve Darragh, Brent Lee, Dan Madia, Chris Parker and T. J. Stark.

“One of the special parts is the relationships that are formed, developed and bonded in a season,” Andriole says. “During a season, we spend more time together than we do with our families.”

He believes those bonds will last. So will the memories.

“There are a whole bunch of lifelong memories that will come out of this,” says Andriole, who also led the 2001 Cathedral baseball team to a state championship. “These players will carry these memories with them the rest of their lives. That’s special.

“You feel a sense of incredible achievement. It’s also humbling. You feel how lucky it is to experience this achievement.”

Senior Mark Branigan clutches the ISHAA Class 4A state championship trophy after Cathedral High School beat Kokomo 7-2 on June 16. Mark is the son of Roger and Barbara Branigan, who are members of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.

Driving Commandments

1. Do not kill.
2. See the road as a means of communion with people.
3. Be courteous, upright and prudent.
4. Be charitable and help neighbors in need.
5. Do not view cars as an expression of power.
6. Do not drive when not fit to do so.
7. Support families of accident victims.
8. Be forgiving of those who have done wrong.
9. On the road, protect the more vulnerable party.
10. Feel responsible toward others.

Edited from “Guidelines for the Pastoral Care of the Road,” a document from the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Travelers

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Senior Mark Branigan clutches the ISHAA Class 4A state championship trophy after Cathedral High School beat Kokomo 7-2 on June 16. Mark is the son of Roger and Barbara Branigan, who are members of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.
Rest in peace

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 on archdiocese are listed elsewhere in The Criterion. Order priests and religious sisters and brothers are included here, unless they are natives of the archdio-

cess or have other connections to it; those are separate obituaries on this page.)


CHACON, Patricia Jo. 79, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, June 3. Mother of John Chacon. Sister of Margaret Miller.

CLARK, Joyce (Dilger), 72, St. Mary, New Albany, June 4. Sister of Adrine Romo, Lois Stephany and Norbert Dilger.


CRAVENS, Patricia Jane, 90, Christ the King, Indianapolis, June 7. Mother of Janine Buchanan, Barbara Franke, Carol Traballo and Stephen Cravens. Sister of Pam Calabria. Great-grandmother of nine. Great-grandmother of four. (correction)


KNEZ, Anne L., 78, St. Rita, Indianapolis, June 4. Mother of Bobby King Sr. Sister of Elsie Lee Buchman, Dorothy Campbell, John and Willy King. Grandmother of four.


ROBBINS, Barbara, 65, St. Gabriel the Archangel, Indianapolis, June 11. Mother of Susan Goodchild, Gail Lindney, Stephanie Stafford and Bill Herz. Great-grandmother of five.


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Franciscan Sister Carol Ann Sundersman served on council

Franciscan Sister Carol Ann Sundersman, formerly Sister Mary Carmel, died on June 9 at St. Clare Hall, the health care facility for the Congregation of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, in Oldenburg. She died on her 72nd birthday.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on June 13 at the motherhouse chapel. Burial followed at the sisters’ cemetery.

Born on June 9, 1935, in Cincinnati, Ohio, she entered the Oldenburg Franciscan community on Sept. 8, 1953, and professed her final vows on Aug. 12, 1959.

From 1996 to 1994, Sister Carol Ann served as a member of the General Council Leadership Team for the Franciscan congregation.

During the past 13 years, she served as a member of the sisters’ formation team.

Sister Carol Ann ministered at Catholic grade schools staffed by the Franciscan sisters from 1955 to 1994.

In the archdiocese, Sister Carol Ann served at St. Christopher School in Indianapolis, St. Monica School in Indianapolis, St. Lawrence School in Lawrenceburg and Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in New Albany.

She also taught at a Catholic grade school in Cincinnati.

Surviving are a brother, Robert Sunderman, of Cincinnati as well as several nieces and nephews.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of St. Francis, P.O. Box 100, Oldenburg, IN 47036.
Pastoral Associate
St. Gabriel the Archangel Church in Louisville, KY is looking for a Pastoral Associate to work in our vibrant community. Primary responsibilities for this position include coordination of RCIA, and adult formation. This is a full-time position, with benefits. An undergraduate degree in pastoral studies is required, but a graduate degree is preferred. Three references required. Please direct all inquiries by July 20th, to:
Reverend John J. Stoltz, Pastor
St. Gabriel the Archangel
5525 Bardstown Road
Louisville, KY 40291
email: jstoltz@stgabriel.net

Chief Operating Officer
The Catholic Diocese of Evansville seeks qualified candidates for the full-time position of Chief Operating Officer. The Chief Operating Officer directs the Diocesan Business and operational areas including Accounting, Treasury, Office of Stewardship and Development, Information Technology, Human Resources, as well as facilities and administrative functions. The successful candidate will be committed to enthusiastically support the mission and needs of the Catholic Church within the diocese of Evansville as identified by the Bishop, possess an advanced degree, and a minimum of five years in an executive-level position, preferable within a Catholic environment, demonstrating progressively demanding responsibilities. This person will possess strong organizational, writing, oral, and presentation communication skills. The candidate will also exhibit excellent organizational and analytical skills, and be a results-oriented self-starter. This position requires a willingness to work a flexible schedule. If interested, submit letter of interest, resume, three references, and salary history to:
Hope Manser, Search Coordinator, NACPA
100 E. 8th St.
Cincinnati, OH, 45202
or email to hmanser@nacpaco.org
Deadline: 7/18/07

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or email to hmanser@nacpaco.org
Deadline: 7/18/07
ST. MALACHY

St. Malachy’s new worship space will seat 1,500 people and will be the largest church in the archdiocese when it is dedicated in November 2008 at 9833 E. County Road 750 North.

Lifelong St. Malachy parishioner Marie (Quinn) Bersot of Brownsburg donated 40 acres of land that she and her late husband, George, farmed for 46 years so the rapidly growing Indianapolis West Deanery parish community can expand the church and later build a larger school.

“It’s a great privilege to be with you as we celebrate a new moment in the history of this parish community,” Archbishop Buechlein told St. Malachy parishioners at the start of Mass on the feast of the birth of St. John the Baptist.

“It is remarkable the growth that has happened here in your community,” the archbishop said. “I was here 40 years ago as a new priest to replace the pastor for a week-end that he was away. … And now, of course, you’re a great, large parish community. [Your] faith has stood you well, but you still have a mission … a mission to move this community as best we can with deep faith to a new place. It will be wonderful to bless that site after Mass today.”

During his homily, Archbishop Buechlein explained that “Father Dan [Staublin] reminded me that nine years ago on this day we were on a pilgrimage in the Holy Land and we visited the birthplace of John the Baptist.”

“Like that great prophet, he said, every Catholic is called to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others. John’s mission was to prepare the way for Christ,” Archbishop Buechlein said. “His mission was to point out Jesus the Christ to the world. Sisters and brothers, that is our mission as well.”

Remember that “everything flows from prayer,” the archbishop said. “Today we pray by God’s grace we might help give definition to the face of Jesus among us. Your new parish church, for which we break ground in a little while, will be a new home … for your collective mission as a people of faith in this community. It’s a great act of faith we make today as we move out to bless the new property.”

As Archbishop Buechlein prepared to break ground on the site of the archdiocese’s newest church, he said he is “conscious of the fact, on an occasion like this, that we stand on the shoulders of those who first came to this part of Indiana and brought the faith.”

“Today and every day we are the shoulders for future generations, for our children and our children’s children,” he said. “This will be a great gift to offer to them and they will carry it forward. So let’s pray for those who built in the past, let’s pray for those who will help us build now and let’s pray for all those who come to make this their church home in the future.”

Michael Eagan, a partner with Enteos Architects in Indianapolis and principal architect for the expansion project, said the brick and masonry church will feature a 70-foot-tall cupola above the altar to let sunlight illuminate the sanctuary and pews arranged in a circular design.

He said the design will “gather the congregation around the altar so people feel like they are at the [Lord’s] table.”

Phase I of the project is expected to take 16 to 18 months, Father Staublin said. Plans for this expansion began with a feasibility study in 1999 and St. Malachy’s membership continued to grow rapidly.

Phase II involves the construction of a larger school, parish office and rectory at the new site, he said. “We will begin the campaign to raise that money in 2009. Monies from the sale of the current site will go into this phase.”

The school and parish office will remain at the current location until building funds are available, he said. For the past several years, school enrollment has been at or near capacity.

After the new church is dedicated next year, Father Staublin said, the current church building at 326 N. Green St. will be used as a chapel for school Masses.

“We explored the option of expanding on our current site in those early planning stages,” he said, “but we couldn’t acquire enough adjacent land around us so that precipitated the need to move [the parish].”

“It’s a privilege … to be with this community at this time,” Father Staublin said. “Prior to when the parish was founded in 1869, the parishioners would go to St. John Church in Indianapolis. . . . Occasionally, a priest would come out to Hendricks County and say Mass for the Irish farmers that lived out here. One of the homes that he would visit, the Quinn family’s farm, was on the site that we’re moving to … so we’re going home. St. Malachy [Parish] is going back to where it started, where one of the first Masses was celebrated in Hendricks County, with our new church. It’s providential.”

During a telephone interview on June 25, Marie Bersot said she is excited about the new property. “It’s providential.”

Masses was celebrated in Hendricks County, where it started, where one of the first parishes was established.

That church, which will be dedicated in November 2008 at 9833 E. County Road 750 North in Brownsburg, is still home to the Bersot family’s property.

“I was baptized there,” Bersot said of the old brick church. “I was confirmed there, and I got married there.”

During Mass one Sunday, she recalled, Father Dan [Staublin] asked somebody to donate 20 acres for the church. “I said, ‘I had been thinking about it so I donated the land. They’re sure growing and will keep growing, too.’”

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Youth Minister

St. Luke, a north side Indianapolis parish, is seeking a youth minister to implement and oversee parish middle school and high school programs, beginning August 15, 2007.

This is a full-time position with benefits. Applicants should have a love for the Catholic faith, be committed to Archdiocesan youth ministry guidelines, possess organizational skills, be self-motivated and have the ability to work together with youth, families, catechists and parish staff.

Direct inquiries and résumés by July 6, 2007 to:

VM Search Committee
St. Luke Catholic Church
7575 Holliday Drive East
Indianapolis, IN 46260

Advertise in The Criterion. Call 236-1572.
WASHINGTON (CNS)—The faith of candidates and of voters may play an important role in the 2008 presidential election, according to two new public opinion surveys.

The Sacred Heart University Polling Institute, based in Fairfield, Conn., found that 60.7 percent of Americans believe a presidential candidate should be “a religious person,” while 39.3 percent do not.

Asked whether their own religious beliefs influence their vote, respondents were evenly split—48.4 percent said their own faith always or sometimes guides their views, while 41.6 percent said it seldom or never guides their views. The remaining 3.2 percent were unsure.

A separate survey released in Washington by Gallup Poll News Service found that 66 percent of Republicans, 57 percent of Democrats and 48 percent of independents said religion was “very important” in their own lives. Only 10 percent of Republicans, 17 percent of Democrats and 22 percent of independents said it was “not very important.”

Both the Sacred Heart and Gallup polls were made public on June 14. The margin of error was plus or minus 3 percentage points for the Sacred Heart survey and 2 percentage points for Gallup.

A little more than a quarter of the respondents to the Sacred Heart poll, or 27.8 percent, said they were “fairy religious” and 17 percent said they were “not very religious.”

These figures have remained more or less steady over the past five years, ranging from a high of 65 percent in September 2002 to a low of 55 percent in May 2005.

There were considerable differences, however, when race was factored in along with party affiliation. "Blacks defy this pattern, they are both highly religious and highly likely to identify as Democrat," said a Sacred Heart survey analyst.

The Sacred Heart survey also asked respondents to name “the issues they were most concerned about.” With multiple answers allowed, 51.2 percent cited the war in Iraq, 23.2 percent the price of gasoline, 12.3 percent the cost of and access to health care, 10.5 percent “immigration policy/illegal aliens,” and 8.4 percent the poor economy. The rest of the answers were divided among more than four dozen issues.

The leading Republican presidential candidates in the Sacred Heart poll were former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani (38.6 percent), former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney (19.3 percent), U.S. Sen. John McCain of Arizona (17.9 percent) and former Sen. Fred Thompson of Tennessee (9 percent).

Among Democrats, respondents ranked Sen. Hillary Clinton of New York first, with 54 percent, followed by Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois (20.5 percent), former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina (12.1 percent) and former Vice President Al Gore (5.4 percent).

Neither Gore nor Thompson has formally declared himself a candidate for president.

The Gallup survey, conducted on May 10-13, found that on average 56 percent of Americans considered themselves “very religious,” 26 percent said they were “fairly religious” and 17 percent said they were “not very religious.”

Women were more likely than men to identify as Democrats.

Among all other racial groups, 83 percent of Democrats and 77 percent of independents said religion was very important to them. The sample size for respondents with party affiliations was too small to provide meaningful data.

In another, she said.

The results are helping St. Gabriel address a list of needs of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

The Legacy for Our Mission campaign has generated a renewed sense of stewardship, according to the pastor, Father Stanley Herber, who has served St. Gabriel and the greater Connersville community since 1995.

"The campaign has renewed our willingness to volunteer time and talent," Father Herber said. "It went very smoothly. The parish seems so much more alive."

Powers, who co-chaired the campaign with parishioner Mark Boehmer, said sacrifices of time and volunteer spirit have energized the 800-family parish.

The Legacy for Our Mission campaign, is guided by the principles of Christian stewardship and addresses future ministry needs of the archdiocese. By contributing to Legacy for Our Mission, you are helping your parish address its most urgent capital, operating and ministry needs as well as the shared ministries and home missions of the archdiocesan community.

Please visit the new online home of the Legacy for Our Mission campaign at www.archindy.org/legacy. It can also be accessed at www.LegacyforOurMission.org.