



The

Criterion

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Evangelization Supplement

Learn 25 ways to evangelize, page 14. See our annual supplement, pages 13-16.

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'Go with Jesus'

Triathlete and mother of four runs to share her faith with others

By John Shaughnessy

Like most people who have dreams, Laura Phillips draws hope and strength from a favorite source of inspiration.

The message guides her as she tries to follow her goal of being the best mother possible to her four young children.

It also inspired the 36-year-old woman as she completed a grueling endurance event last year—swimming 2.4 miles followed by cycling 112 miles then running 26.2 miles, the three parts of the Louisville Ironman Triathlon.

The words of inspiration also guide her in her latest dream—the “Go with Jesus” program she started at St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, a Saturday morning program that combines running with Scripture reading and faith reflection.

“There’s a passage in Hebrews 12:1-2 that I love,” she explains as she sits at her kitchen table. “It says, ‘Persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.’”

Phillips believes the passage serves her well as a parent, a runner and a Catholic who is always willing to share her faith with others.

“My brother-in-law calls me an evangelical Catholic,” she says with a laugh. “He says I’m always praising God and talking to people about it. He’s not used to hearing Catholics talk about their faith.”

Just try to stop Phillips from sharing her faith or finding different ways to spread her love of God.

“She has a lot of energy, a lot of love for life and a lot of love for her faith,” says Father Paul Etienne, the pastor of St. Simon

See RUN, page 19



Photo by John Shaughnessy



Submitted photos

Laura Phillips, right, laces up her 3-year-old daughter Kate's shoes as they prepare for a run around their Indianapolis neighborhood.

The Phillips family relaxes at home. The family includes, from left, Jack, Sam, Will (sitting on his father's lap), Chris, Kate (sitting on her mother's lap), Laura and Abby, their dog.

Pope expresses deep sadness over cyclone's destruction in Myanmar

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI expressed deep sadness and “heartfelt sympathy” after hearing news of

“the tragic aftermath” of Cyclone Nargis, which killed tens of thousands in Myanmar.

News agencies reported on May 6 that more than 22,000 people had been killed and

41,000 were missing after the cyclone's heavy rains and winds of up to 120 mph swept over southern Myanmar on May 3.

The cyclone damaged at least three major cities, including Yangon, the capital of Myanmar and its largest city.

In a telegram sent on behalf of the pope by the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Pope Benedict said he was praying for the victims and their families, and called for “divine strength and comfort upon the homeless and all who are suffering.”

A copy of the telegram, addressed to Archbishop Paul Zingtung Grawng of Mandalay, president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Myanmar, was released by the Vatican on May 6.

The pope said he was “confident that the international community will respond with generous and effective relief to the needs” of those affected by the cyclone.

As of May 5, Catholic aid agencies were assessing the humanitarian situation in the country.

Caritas Internationalis, a confederation of 162 Catholic relief, development and social service organizations, said in a statement on May 5 that it was gathering information in Myanmar and was concerned about the humanitarian crisis.

“There is an urgent need” for aid workers to get “to the affected areas so that we can assess the damage, [and] start to provide food, shelter, clean water and medical assistance,” said Dolores Halpin-Bachmann, Caritas emergency response

See CYCLONE, page 12



Pope Benedict XVI

Spirit of Service winners committed to helping others

By Mike Krokos

The constant smile on Helio Castroneves' face and his energetic personality puts anyone in the presence of the two-time Indianapolis 500 champion and 2007 ABC “Dancing with the Stars” winner at ease.

He happily poses for photos and jokes about his newfound stardom as a world-class dancer.

“Before the show [‘Dancing with the Stars’], I was a driver that could dance. Now, I’m a dancer that can drive,” he joked.

But to hear Castroneves share his story, getting to where he is today didn't come easily.

There were the frustrations that came from learning a new language and culture when he moved to the United States in 1996 to pursue his dream of becoming a

world-class race car driver.

On the race track, things initially were challenging in the States, too.

“Everything was going wrong. I hurt my ribs. It really affected my performance in the race car. I was crashing a lot. ... It was all negative,” Castroneves said. “It got to where I was depressed.

“To me, it was the key point of my career.” Castroneves said he got to the point where he thought he wasn't meant to be a race car driver.

He called his mother and talked about coming home to Brazil, but it was her faith that helped bring perspective to Castroneves' struggles and kept him grounded in his Catholic upbringing.

“My son, have faith,” she told him. “God's love is like the ocean. We can see the

See SERVICE, page 20



Photo by Richard Clark

Two-time Indianapolis 500 champion and 2007 “Dancing with the Stars” champion Helio Castroneves speaks at the Spirit of Service Awards Dinner on April 30.

Meet our future deacons



Permanent Deacons

Archdiocese of Indianapolis
FIRST ORDINATION CLASS

On June 28, history will be made at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis when 25 men from central and southern Indiana will become the first permanent deacons ordained for the

Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

This week's issue of *The Criterion* continues a series of profiles of these men, which will be published in the weeks leading up to that important day. †

Age: **63**

Spouse: **Chris**

Home Parish: **St. Michael Parish in Greenfield**

Occupation: **Retired Attorney**



Wayne Davis

Who are the important role models in your life of faith?

My father, Odie T. Davis, now deceased, was a Baptist minister who modeled for me the importance of charity and Christian leadership. I was also influenced by Father Albert Lauer, now deceased, who was a priest of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and founder of Our Lady of Presentation Communities and Ministries—commonly known as Presentation Ministries, a canonical lay association. He was the publisher and author of *One Bread, One Body*, a daily devotional booklet on the readings for Mass.

What are your favorite Scripture verses, prayers and devotions?

My favorite Scripture verses include John 15:5: "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." I also like James 2:17: "So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead." My favorite prayers and devotions include the rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, eucharistic adoration and the Prayer of St. Francis.

Why do you feel that God is calling you to become a deacon?

I first began to sense that I may have a call to the permanent diaconate when I started leading various small faith-sharing groups and communities, engaging in Bible studies and serving on Christ Renews His Parish teams. The sense of fulfillment that I experienced in ministering to others and in assisting them to encounter Christ and his Church caused me to think that God may be calling me to some formal ministerial role.

How will being ordained a deacon have an impact on your life and family?

I anticipate that it will open up new avenues for my wife and me as a couple. We have taught Bible studies together for several years, and I think we will be able to work together in many areas of my ministry of the word and charity in ways not previously available to us. We will celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary a few weeks after my ordination, and I believe that God may call us to share our sacramental married life with others who are preparing for or living out this sacrament. †

Age: **59**

Spouse: **Chris**

Home Parish: **St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington**

Occupation: **Judge**

Marc Kellams



Who are the important role models in your life of faith?

My grandmother persevered through adversity and had an unwavering love of God. Her life had a tremendous impact on my faith. My spiritual director, retired Father Donald Schmidlin, has played an essential role in mentoring me and supporting me through the process of formation. So many others have been living examples of faith, and have affected my journey in search of a deeper and more fulfilling relationship with God.

What are your favorite Scripture verses, prayers and devotions?

The Liturgy of the Hours is a mainstay of my life and connects me on a daily basis with the faithful throughout the world.

Why do you feel that God is calling you to become a deacon?

I am not sure I will ever have a complete answer to this question, but I do know that in my heart I feel called to do so. I have long volunteered my time in service to others, and believe that becoming a deacon will enhance my ability to do so. I have also had

significant support in this decision from my friends, family and spiritual advisers, which I consider a clear indication of his will for me to be of greater service.

How will being ordained a deacon have an impact on your life and family?

My children are grown and, although I remain very involved in their lives and in the lives of my grandchildren, I do have more time than I did when they were growing up. In many ways, the prospect of ordination has re-ordered my priorities so that I can focus on fulfilling this ministry of service. I will remain conscious of balancing my obligations so that I will be available for my wife and children.

How do you hope to serve through your life and ministry as a deacon?

I have a special affinity to the elderly and the sick, and coordinate the Eucharistic Outreach and Hospital Ministry programs in our parish. I also intend to offer myself in any way that I can be of service, and am open to possible callings in ways that I do not now anticipate. †

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'Go vocations!'

'Run for Vocations' team inspires thousands of prayers

By Sean Gallagher

Ninety people in a crowd of 35,000 is like a drop of water in the ocean.

That's what the "Run for Vocations" team was during the One America 500 Festival Mini-Marathon race on May 3 on the streets of Indianapolis.

Despite being overwhelmed by so many other runners, the spirits of the team members were high before, during and after the race because they knew that thousands of prayers—prayers for vocations—were being offered for them.

Father Rick Nagel, archdiocesan associate vocations director, the team's organizer, said people from across America pledged on the team's weblog to pray 402 rosaries, 33 Masses, 30 holy hours, 711 Our Fathers, 1,647 Hail Marys,

326 Glory Be's and 219 Chaplets of Divine Mercy.

"It's God's good work," Father Nagel said. "As I was looking at all of those prayer pledges, I was very struck and kind of got emotional about it. I thought about how the Holy Spirit has moved hearts to not only be a part of this, but [also] to really commit themselves to prayer for vocations."

To view the prayer pledges, log on to www.archindy.org/vocations and click on "Send in your prayer pledges."

Prayer was an important element for the team on the evening before the race.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein was the primary celebrant during a Mass for vocations at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis before the dinner at the parish.

"We run this race [of life] only once," Archbishop Buechlein said during his homily. "We are called to seek the kingdom of God because that's our goal. That is our final home. It's the end of the race. We may stumble or fall. ... But on the way, with faith, we have the courage to struggle, get up and go on to reach our goal."

Fifteen priests, some of them members of the "Run for Vocations" team, concelebrated the Mass.

Archbishop Buechlein valued the team's efforts to promote vocations so much that he made an exception to his considerable reduction in public appearances in recent months due to the cancer treatments he has

Photos by Sean Gallagher



Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein celebrates Mass on May 2 at St. John the Evangelist Church in downtown Indianapolis for members of the "Run for Vocations" team that participated in the One America 500 Festival Mini-Marathon on May 3.



Members of Bishop Chatard High School's vocations promotion club SERV (Students Encouraging Religious Vocations) hand out specially made bottled water to "Run for Vocations" team members at the May 2 pre-race pasta dinner at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis.

been receiving for Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Trent Engbers, a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington and team member, came to the Mass and said he appreciated how exercise and prayer were coming together for vocations.

"You're running and you're praying and you're training," said Engbers, 31, who ran in the race with his wife, Kim.

"It's kind of a capstone experience to bring it all together with people," he said, "and to participate in the Mass and celebrate the Eucharist as a unified effort to support vocations."

After the Mass, members of the team loaded up on carbohydrates during a pre-race pasta supper hosted by the Serra Club of Indianapolis. Members of Bishop Chatard High School's vocations promotion club SERV (Students Encouraging Religious Vocations) also volunteered at the Mass and supper.

The team members all wore special blue and white shirts printed with the message "Vocation ... Everyone has one. What's yours?" In a circle around this phrase on the back of the shirts was a list of vocations—

See VOCATIONS, page 19

Corrections

Catechumens and candidates from Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Terre Haute are Cora Cheesman, Stella Cheesman, Keni May Dickens, Sara Kickens, Steven Johnson, Julie Jo Morlan, Kathy Shepard, James Shepard, Scott Shepard and Kenneth Slater (catechumens), and Toni Lynn Cheesman and David Cheesman (candidates). Several names were omitted from the archdiocesan list published in the April 11 issue of *The Criterion*.

Mortality statistics for breast cancer patients reported in a story about Dr. J. Matthew Sleeth's environmental activism in the May 2 issue of *The Criterion* differed from information posted on various Web sites. Approximately 40,970 women were expected to die from breast cancer during 2006, according to BreastCancer.org, which also reported that every three minutes a woman in the U.S. is diagnosed with breast cancer—an increase of from one in 20 women in 1960 to one in eight women in 2007. †

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Editorial



John Demerly, 34, back to camera, a member of the archdiocese's "Run for Vocations" team, wears his team's running shirt during a pre-Mini-Marathon pasta supper on May 2 at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. Demerly is a member of St. Susanna Parish in Plainfield.

'Run for vocations' was a powerful witness of faith

Several thousand and still counting.

That's the current estimate of how many prayers were pledged for the 90 individuals who comprised the "Run for Vocations" team that participated in the One America 500 Festival Mini-Marathon in Indianapolis on May 3.

From reciting the rosary to praying Hail Marys, from offering the holy sacrifice of Mass to praying Our Fathers, hundreds of people from all across the country made commitments to pray for vocations.

The prayer pledges came from as far away as Los Angeles. Prayers were also offered from Denver; Austin, Texas; and Arkansas.

To read prayer pledges for the team, log on to www.archindy.org/vocations and click on "Send in your prayer pledges."

If the power of prayer was ever in doubt in this endeavor, the messages received on the team's weblog affirmed that people across the United States—and people traveling halfway across the world—were honored to answer the call to offer their petitions for vocations.

A spirit worth emulating

They usually minister quietly, giving of themselves selflessly with little or no fanfare.

It could be serving as a catechist, bringing Communion to the homebound, being a voice working for justice and equality in our community or serving as a good steward both locally and globally.

When it comes to volunteerism, visit any parish in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and you will invariably find people who are stepping up to the plate and offering their hands and hearts daily to serve others.

This week's front-page story on the annual Spirit of Service Awards Dinner, which raised \$245,000 for Catholic Charities Indianapolis, justifiably puts several humble archdiocesan servant-leaders in the spotlight.

Though they deflect the praise they receive for sharing their gifts

One weblog visitor who is planning a pilgrimage to the Holy Land later this year said he will leave his prayer request for vocations at the Western Wall of the Temple in Jerusalem.

Kudos to Father Rick Nagel, archdiocesan associate director of vocations, for initiating this simple idea which ended as a powerful witness of faith.

As the simple yet compelling message shared on the running shirts worn by Father Nagel's team during the Mini-Marathon stated, "Vocation. . . . Everyone has one. What's yours?"

For the hundreds who answered Father Nagel's call, their vocation indeed includes praying for others.

By simply offering their petitions, they have touched the lives of countless others.

When it comes to nurturing more vocations or any other challenge that we face in life, may we always remember what one team member said: "The power of prayer is immense."

—Mike Krokos

with others, each honoree reflects the words that the late Pope John Paul II once shared: "It is not enough to discover Christ—you must bring him to others!"

Bringing Jesus to others is indeed what these servant-leaders have done in their parishes and community for years.

Sadly, the work never ends at Catholic Charities and its agencies throughout the archdiocese. In fact, the needs of the less fortunate continue to grow. If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities in your area, visit Catholic Charities' Web site at www.archindy.org/cc.

We congratulate all the people recognized at the 2008 Spirit of Service Awards Dinner, and pray that others may follow their lead in putting their hands and hearts into action.

—Mike Krokos

Faith & Precedent/Douglas W. Kmiec

Hug Mom—in person or in your heart on May 11

It's been three years now since we lost Mom, and while Mother's Day prompts



these memories, in truth my thoughts of Mom are with me—joyfully—every day.

One never knows exactly what to say to a friend who has suffered the loss of a loved one, especially a mother, but from my own experience I can honestly affirm that God fills the world when a mother dies with thousands of precious reminders of her presence in song and place and word.

My mom loved Mother's Day, but then she had a child's glee for any holiday, some of which I am convinced she just made up. Holidays replete with her wonderful dinners, board games, long walks and laughter restored the little community of the home.

You never really had to say anything for Mom to know everything. She knew my mind and disposition as I climbed the front steps. There was no hiding your feelings—happy or sad, worried or confident—because she noticed and knew what to say to lift any burden you carried to her door.

Mom wasn't all talk either. She knew how to get things done, often in far more practical and direct ways than her son, although she would permit me to think that education she worked with me to obtain contributed more than it did.

I don't ever remember seeing my mother depressed or angry. Oh yes, there were those occasions, but I don't remember them. God apparently doesn't permit it. One suspects the Moms' Union in heaven under

the stewardship of dear mother Mary saw to this happy bit of situational Alzheimer's.

I do remember hearing Mom and Dad occasionally, well, sparring, usually over something trivial like whether Dad really agreed to go to that church meeting with her or who forgot the directions for a car trip or who advised taking the last, wrong turn. Yet, the subtext of any such petty annoyance was unquestioned love.

Mom loved her children with perfect equality, understanding better than any court that equality seldom means the same since there is a uniqueness of spirit that needs constant nourishment. In doling out the good things in life, whether they be ice cream or pie, if there was not enough, you can bet that Mom would find reason just then to diet or to proclaim disinterest in even her favorite treat.

Someone once defined a sweater as that which keeps a daughter warm when Mom is cold. Well said. There were no daughters for our mom, but then, as my wife of 35 years touchingly recalls, "Mom always treated me as her special daughter."

Mom died during Holy Week—it was her time. Mom loved God completely, understood him simply, and by accepting his will without resistance taught her children to do the same.

The English novelist Thackeray once said: "Mother is the name for God on the lips and in the hearts of little children." Older ones too, and we remember well.

Hug your mom today—in person or in your heart. Trust me, she will know either way.

(Douglas W. Kmiec, a professor at the Pepperdine University School of Law in Malibu, Calif., writes for Catholic News Service.) †



Myths and facts about immigration

(Editor's Note: This is the first in a seven-part series of immigration reform articles prepared by the Indiana Catholic Conference. Capsule forms have been prepared for use in parish bulletins. Diocesan newspapers throughout the state have agreed to publish the series in its longer form.)

Perceived myth: Immigrants take jobs and opportunities away from Americans.

Known fact: The largest wave of immigration to the U.S. since the

early 1900s coincided with our lowest national unemployment rate and fastest economic growth. Immigrant entrepreneurs also create jobs for U.S. and foreign workers.

While there has been no comprehensive study done of immigrant-owned businesses, there are countless examples: In Silicon Valley, companies started by Chinese and Indian immigrants generated more than \$19.5 billion in sales and nearly 73,000 jobs in 2000. (Source: *Immigration and Unemployment: New Evidence*, Alexis de Tocqueville Institution) †

Aren't immigrants taking jobs from U.S. workers? Why do businesses hire them?

During the 1990s, half of all new workers were foreign-born, filling gaps left by native-born workers in both the high- and low-skill ends of the spectrum.

Immigrants fill jobs in key sectors, start their own businesses and contribute to a thriving economy. The net benefit of immigration to the U.S. is nearly \$10 billion annually.

As Alan Greenspan points out, 70 percent of immigrants arrive in prime working age. That means we haven't spent a penny on their education, yet they are transplanted into our workforce and will contribute \$500 billion toward our Social Security system over the next 20 years.

The U.S. Department of Labor projects that by 2010, the U.S. will have created

22 million new jobs—9 million more jobs than new (native-born) workers entering the job market. This gap will increase after 2010 as the "baby boomers" reach retirement age and leave the labor force.

Today, our immigration laws do not reflect this demographic and economic reality. Our immigration laws should be reconciled with the economic laws of supply and demand.

Immigration reform would address a range of workforce realities—legalizing a workforce that is here to stay, providing more legal visas for workers to come in the future, and providing for the temporary employment of foreign workers who help American employers in sectors of the economy that provide seasonal jobs. †

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



SEEKING THE FACE OF THE LORD

BUSCANDO LA CARA DEL SEÑOR

Celebrating motherhood as a beautiful vocation

The observance of Mother's Day is a good thing, not for secular commercialism, rather because mothers are easily taken for granted.

Mother's Day has spiritual potential because it offers the opportunity to celebrate motherhood as a beautiful vocation.

Unfortunately, motherhood is under siege in our secular culture. Serial divorce determined by such "values" as convenience or the quest for less demanding responsibilities leave so many mothers alone to raise children without the help of good fathers.

Self-sacrifice is not highly valued by many folks. No one knows the number of single mothers who are manipulated and abused. Too many mothers struggle to provide a wholesome life for their children alone and do so courageously.

On the other hand, Mother's Day provides the opportunity to celebrate the beauty of motherhood, and to lift up this beauty as a primary social and spiritual value.

Is there any more generous love than that of a mother? We should celebrate the countless joys that mothers bring to family life, and mothers who truly enjoy their families. The love a mother gives and the love a mother receives cannot really be quantified, and most mothers generally don't expect it to be so.

At the same time, who can count the number of sacrifices of motherhood that largely go unseen and unnoticed? How

much heartbreak might a mother suffer as she empathizes with her children through the years from infancy through adulthood?

So many acts of mothering are unseen and often unappreciated. And it doesn't stop there. I hear from a lot of grandmothers who are anxious for the spiritual or moral or physical well-being of their adult children and their grandchildren. Maternal love is ongoing, and for this we thank God and them.

In his book *God and the World*, Pope Benedict XVI wrote: "Pain is part of being human. Anyone who really wanted to get rid of suffering would have to get rid of love before anything else because there can be no love without suffering because it always demands an element of self-sacrifice" (pp. 322-323). I suspect no one knows the truth of this better than our mothers.

I honor five "mothers" in my life. Of course, there is Mom first and foremost. Then there are Blessed Mother Mary, Mother Theodore Guérin, Mother Teresa of Calcutta and Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini. As I offer intercessory prayers daily for the hundreds of you who accept my invitation to send me your petitions, I also place your requests before these five mothers. (I also place them before St. Joseph and my Dad.)

When I remember vignettes of my relationship to Mom, at the moment I think of two occasions: when I had a tonsillectomy as a child and when I had knee surgery back in high school.

Both times when I woke up from the

anesthetic, she was sitting patiently, waiting for me with ice chips to slake my thirst. It meant a lot.

Friends and colleagues of mine spoke of Mom's serenity and simple wisdom.

One of my last memories is a holy card she sent me for Valentine's Day months before she died. All she could write was my name with a shaky pen. I keep the card in my prayer book. The message was from St. Augustine: "There are no burdens too great for a loving heart."

Needless to say, there are many things I could say about Blessed Mother Mary. Her protection of my vocation goes back many, many years.

While a young seminarian and monk at Saint Meinrad, I prayed to her every night, most often before her shrine as Our Lady of Einsiedeln in the Abbey Church. Her unflinching protection continues.

St. Mother Theodore was part of my devotion from grade school onward—under the tutelage of the Sisters of Providence. Being present for her beatification and canonization in Rome dramatically renewed my longstanding devotion to her intercession. I often think of the countless spiritual children who owe their early faith to her and her daughter nuns.

Blessed Mother Teresa touched my heart

with two sayings. The first was, "Bishop, pray that I don't spoil God's work." And, she said, "Bishop, when you put the drop of water in the chalice at Mass, pray that I be dissolved in Christ." I have made her prayers mine.

Mother Francis Xavier Cabrini has long been an intercessor for my priestly ministry and mission. When I was named bishop of Memphis, I went to her shrine in Chicago and laid my new ministry before her motherly care.

We pray thankfully for our mothers, for the grace of patience, serenity, joy and holiness. We pray for "mothers" who are unable to bear children. We pray that our deceased mothers may rest in God, rejoicing in their motherhood. †

Do you have an intention for Archbishop Buechlein's prayer list? You may mail it to him at:

Archbishop Buechlein's
Prayer List
Archdiocese of Indianapolis
1400 N. Meridian St.
P.O. Box 1410
Indianapolis, IN 46202-1410

Archbishop Buechlein's intention for vocations for May

Seminarians: that they will be faithful to prayer and study, and persevere in their desire to serve God and the Church as priests.

La celebración de la maternidad como una hermosa vocación

La celebración del Día de las Madres es algo positivo, no por el comercialismo secular que suscita, sino porque, con frecuencia, no se les da su justo valor a las madres.

El Día de las Madres tiene un potencial espiritual porque brinda la oportunidad de celebrar la maternidad como una hermosa vocación.

Desafortunadamente la maternidad se ve amenazada en nuestra cultura seglar. Los divorcios en serie, determinados por "valores" tales como la conveniencia o la búsqueda de responsabilidades menos exigentes, dejan a muchas madres solas para criar hijos sin la ayuda de un buen padre.

Muchas personas no valoran el autosacrificio. Nadie sabe por seguro cuántas madres solteras son manipuladas y abusadas. Hay demasiadas madres que luchan para poder proporcionar a sus hijos una vida íntegra y lo hacen solas y con valentía.

Por otro lado, el Día de las Madres ofrece la oportunidad para celebrar la belleza de la maternidad y para ensalzar dicha belleza como un valor fundamentalmente social y espiritual.

¿Existe acaso un amor más generoso que el de una madre? Debemos celebrar las incontables alegrías que las madres derraman en la vida familiar y a aquellas madres que verdaderamente disfrutan de sus familias. El amor que brindan las madres y el amor que reciben realmente no se puede cuantificar y la mayoría de las madres no esperan esto.

Al mismo tiempo, ¿quién puede enumerar los sacrificios que conlleva la maternidad y que pasan generalmente desapercibidos e inadvertidos? ¿Cuántas penas sufre una madre al identificarse con

los sentimientos de sus hijos a lo largo de los años, desde la infancia hasta la adultez?

Hay muchos actos inherentes a la maternidad que pasan desapercibidos y con frecuencia no se valoran. Y ahí no termina todo. Muchas abuelas me expresan su preocupación por el bienestar espiritual, moral o físico de sus hijos adultos y sus nietos. El amor materno es incesante y por ello le damos gracias a Dios y a ellas.

En su libro titulado *Dios y el Mundo* el Papa Benedicto XVI escribió: "El dolor forma parte de la condición humana. Todo aquel que verdaderamente deseara deshacerse del sufrimiento tendría que deshacerse del amor antes que nada pues no puede existir amor sin sufrimiento ya que éste siempre exige un elemento de autosacrificio" (pp. 322-323). Sospecho que nadie conoce tan a fondo la verdad de esta frase como nuestras madres.

En mi vida honro a cinco "madres." Por supuesto, primero que nada está mamá. Luego están la Santa Madre María, la Santa Madre Theodore Guérin, la Beata Madre Teresa de Calcuta y la Madre Frances Xavier Cabrini. Cuando ofrezco las oraciones diarias de intercesión por los cientos de ustedes que aceptan mi invitación de enviarme sus peticiones, también coloco sus plegarias ante estas cinco madres. (También las coloco ante San José y mi papá.)

Cuando recuerdo puntos resaltantes de mi relación con mamá, de momento pienso en dos ocasiones: cuando tuve una tonsilectomía de pequeño y cuando me operaron de las rodillas durante la secundaria.

En ambas ocasiones, cuando me desperté de la anestesia ella estaba allí, sentada pacientemente, esperándome con trocitos de

hielo para calmar mi sed. Eso significaba mucho para mí.

Mis amigos y colegas hablaban de la serenidad y sencilla sabiduría de mamá.

Uno de mis últimos recuerdos es una estampa religiosa que me envié para el Día de San Valentín, meses antes de que muriera. Lo único que pudo escribir fue mi nombre con un pulso tembloroso. Conservo esta estampa en mi libro de oraciones. El mensaje era de San Agustín: "No existen cargas demasiado grandes para un corazón amoroso."

Obviamente, hay muchas cosas que podría decir sobre la Santa Madre María. Su protección a mi vocación data de muchos, muchos años.

Cuando aún era un joven seminarista y monje en Saint Meinrad, le rezaba todas las noches, generalmente ante su santuario como Nuestra Señora de Einsiedeln en la iglesia de la abadía. Su protección infalible aún continúa.

La Santa Madre Theodore formó parte de mi devoción desde la escuela secundaria en adelante, bajo la tutela de las Hermanas de la Providencia. El estar presente para su beatificación y canonización en Roma renovó drásticamente mi antigua devoción por su intercesión. Con frecuencia pienso en los innumerables hijos espirituales que le deben su fe a una tierna edad a ella y a sus hijas religiosas.

La Beata Madre Teresa tocó mi corazón con dos frases: La primera fue: "Obispo,

rece para que yo no estropee la obra de Dios." Y, dijo: "Obispo, cuando coloque la gota de agua en el cáliz durante la Misa, rece para que yo me disuelva en Cristo." Yo he acogido como mías sus oraciones.

La Madre Francis Xavier Cabrini ha sido durante mucho tiempo intercesora por mi ministerio sacerdotal y mi misión. Cuando fui nombrado obispo de Memphis visité su santuario en Chicago y coloqué mi nuevo ministerio bajo su cuidado maternal.

Rezo con agradecimiento por nuestras madres, por la gracia de la paciencia, la serenidad, la alegría y la santidad. Rezamos por las "madres" que no pueden concebir hijos. Rezamos para que nuestras madres fallecidas puedan descansar en Dios, regocijándose en su maternidad. †

¿Tiene una intención que desee incluir en la lista de oración del Arzobispo Buechlein? Puede enviar su correspondencia a:

Lista de oración del Arzobispo
Buechlein
Arquidiócesis de Indianapolis
1400 N. Meridian St.
P.O. Box 1410
Indianapolis, IN 46202-1410

Traducido por: Daniela Guanipa,
Language Training Center, Indianapolis.

La intención de vocaciones del Arzobispo Buechlein para mayo

Seminaristas: ¡Que ellos sean fieles a la oración y estudien, y continúen en su deseo de servir a Dios y la Iglesia como sacerdotes!

Events Calendar

May 9-June 3

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, library, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. **Icon exhibit.** Information: 800-682-0988 or e-mail news@saintmeinrad.edu.

May 10

St. Joseph Church, 312 E. High St., Corydon. **Pentecost Day of Reflection.** Passionist Father Bernie Weber, presenter, light lunch, no charge. Information: 812-738-2742.

St. Roch Parish, Family Center, 3603 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **"Single Seniors" meeting.** 1 p.m., age 50 and over. Information: 317-784-1102.

May 11

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana (CCRCI), **Pentecost Mass of Renewal.** 2:30 p.m., wear red clothing. Information: 317-592-1992 or e-mail ccrci@inholyspirit.org.

St. Barnabas Parish, House of Joseph, 523 Fabyan Road,

Indianapolis. **Evening for Divorced/Separated and Widowed Singles of the Indianapolis South Deanery.** 6:15-8 p.m. Information: 317-919-8186 or e-mail indykress@yahoo.com.

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. Monte Cassino Pilgrimage, **"Mary's Maternal Journey of Faith,"** Benedictine Brother Zachary Wilberding, 2 p.m. Information: 800-682-0988 or e-mail news@saintmeinrad.edu.

MKVS, Divine Mercy and Glorious Cross Center, Rexville, located on 925 South, .8 mile east of 421 South and 12 miles south of Versailles. Confession, 1 p.m., **Mass.** 2 p.m., on third Sunday holy hour and pitch-in, groups of 10 pray the new Marian Way, 1 p.m., Father Elmer Burwinkel, celebrant. Information: 812-689-3551.

May 12

St. Francis Hospital, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., Indianapolis. Workshop for women with cancer, **"Look Good, Feel**

Better," noon-2 p.m. Registration: 317-782-4422.

May 13

Plum Creek Country Club, 12401 Lynnwood Blvd., Carmel, Ind. (Diocese of Lafayette). Right to Life of Indianapolis, ninth annual **Respect Life Golf Tournament,** 10:30 a.m. registration, \$150 per player. Online registration: www.rtlindy.org.

St. Paul Hermitage, 501 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. **Ave Maria Guild,** meeting, 12:30 p.m. Information: 317-881-5818.

St. Francis Hospital, Community Relations, Carson Square office, 3145 E. Thompson Road, Indianapolis. **"Freedom from Smoking"** program, \$50 per person. Registration: 317-782-7999.

May 14

St. Rita Parish, 1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave., Indianapolis. 11th annual **"Sister to Sister Celebration,"** Gospel Concert, 6 p.m. Information: 317-632-9349.

May 15

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery, Mausoleum Chapel, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. **Monthly Mass,** 2 p.m. Information: 317-574-8898 or www.catholiccemeteries.cc.

St. Rita Parish, 1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave., Indianapolis. 11th annual **"Sister to Sister Celebration," "Women in the Bible" program,** 6:30 p.m. Information: 317-632-9349.

May 16

St. Rita Parish, 1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave., Indianapolis. 11th annual **"Sister to Sister Celebration," youth night,** 6 p.m. Information: 317-632-9349.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, 4598 Oak Ridge Road, Carmel, Ind. (Diocese of Lafayette). Couple to Couple League of Greater Indianapolis, **Natural Family Planning (NFP) class,** 7-9 p.m. Information: 317-848-4486.

St. Francis Hospital, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., Indianapolis.

Couple to Couple League of Greater Indianapolis, **Natural Family Planning (NFP) class,** 7-9 p.m. Information: 317-462-2246.

May 17

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. Helpers of God's Precious Infants **Pro-Life Mass,** Father Scott Nobble, celebrant, 8:30 a.m., followed by rosary outside abortion clinic and Benediction at church. Information: Archdiocesan Office for Pro-Life Ministry, 317-236-1569 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1569.

St. Rita Parish, 1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave., Indianapolis. 11th annual **"Sister to Sister Celebration," prayer breakfast,** 9 a.m. Information: 317-632-9349.

St. Anthony Parish, 337 N. Warman Ave., Indianapolis. Workshop, **"God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage,"** 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. followed by Mass, \$75 per couple or \$50 for individuals. Information: 502-241-6462 or

e-mail paulaanndurbin@aol.com. St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1723 I St., Bedford. Celebrating 100 years of Catholic education at St. Vincent de Paul School, Mass, 5 p.m., Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, celebrant, dinner and gala following Mass. Information: 812-275-6539 or e-mail parish@svsbedford.org.

May 18

St. Rita Parish, 1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Ave., Indianapolis. 11th annual **"Sister to Sister Celebration," Mass,** 10 a.m. Information: 317-632-9349.

Holy Cross Parish, Kelley Gymnasium, 125 N. Oriental St., Indianapolis. 12th annual **Health Fair,** 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Information: 317-637-2620, ext. 406, or e-mail jerlenbaugh@holycrossindy.org.

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. Monte Cassino Pilgrimage, **"Mary's Heart Song,"** Benedictine Father Jeremy King, 2 p.m. Information: 800-682-0988 or e-mail news@saintmeinrad.edu. †

Retreats and Programs

May 9-10

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **"The Blessings of Motherhood,"** Benedictine Sister Paula Hagen, presenter, \$75 per person. Information: 317-545-7681 or

www.archindy.org/fatima.

May 9-11

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. **"The Journey, the Battle and the Marriage: The Three Great Metaphors of the Spiritual Life,"** Benedictine Brother Christian Raab, presenter. Information: 800-581-6905 or e-mail MZoeller@saintmeinrad.edu.

May 11

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **"Mother's Day Mass and Brunch,"** Mass, 10 a.m., breakfast, \$15 per person, children 5 and under no charge. Information: 317-545-7681 or www.archindy.org/fatima.

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. **"Evensong,"** 4-5 p.m. Information: 812-933-6437 or e-mail center@oldenburgosf.com.

May 16-18

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **"Tobit Weekend,"** marriage preparation program for engaged couples. Information: 317-545-7681 or www.archindy.org/fatima.

Mount St. Francis Center for Spirituality, 101 St. Anthony Drive, Mount St. Francis. **"Women's Retreat with Sister Margarita,"** Information: 812-923-8817. †



Traditional Latin Mass

Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter Father Michael Magiera, associate pastor of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis, elevates a host during a solemn high celebration of the traditional Latin Mass on April 29 at St. John the Apostle Church in Bloomington. A choir from the Indiana University School of Music sang during the liturgy.

Stewardship summit to be held at Marian College

The Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship in Indianapolis will host its 2008 Catholic Stewardship, Strengths and Engagement Summit on May 15-16 at the Mother Theresa Hackelmeier Memorial Library Auditorium on the campus of Marian College.

Speakers include:

- Albert Winseman, global practices leader for faith communities for The Gallup Organization, author of *Growing an Engaged Church* and co-author of *Living Your Strengths*,
- Joseph Cavanaugh, an associate partner with The Gallup Organization's faith practice,
- Msgr. William Hanson, pastor of St. Gerard Majella Parish in Port Jefferson Station, N.Y.

The summit will focus on the strengths and engagement approach to stewardship, which is Christ-centered and roots stewardship of time and talent in the Catholic spirituality of stewardship. It aims to help parishes increase member participation and service to others.

Father Daniel Mahan is the executive director of the Marian College Center for Catholic Stewardship.

For more information about the summit, contact Jean Zander, associate director of the Marian College Center for Catholic Spirituality, at 317-955-6152 or at jzander@marian.edu.

To register, log on to www.catholicstrengths.com and click on the link for "Online Registration." †



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God blesses us when we lovingly care for our aging parents

By Mary Eileen Andreasen

Caring for our aging parents brings a big bundle of worries to our daily lives. It adds weight to our already heavy days.

What if they fall? What did the doctor say? Should they be driving? Would they benefit from assisted living?

Overnight, it seems that we became the caregivers, and they became dependent on us and on others. Somehow they slipped quietly from protecting us to needing our protection.

Beyond the time and energy that we expend on their daily care, we witness firsthand the frailty of the human condition in its terrifying weakness. It's alarming because we realize that their situation will become our future, too.

Like all things, there is great blessing in sacrifice, and God is never to be outdone in generosity.

Situations such as these are God's canvas. His artistry is apparent.

Stubborn old men can bless and embrace their sons. Warring siblings can be reunited and reconciled. Tender moments occur in daily life.

We can witness a beautiful strength in our parents as they teach us some final, profound lessons.

We realize that death can be peaceful and even healing. We finally grow up even as we anguish that we don't have the time required to adequately care for our aging parents.

The frailty and dependence of our parents can reveal startling truths about us.

Am I generous enough? Can I serve them without resentment? Can I ignore old wounds? How much time and energy will this cost me?

When we ask these hard questions in prayer, God drenches us with his grace. He reassures his people in the lifeboat and whispers, "Be not afraid." After all, he is the one whom the winds and the seas obey.

My children rarely visited any people who live in nursing homes until my mother-in-law became a resident. Now they walk into the health care facility nonchalantly and greet other elders on their way to her room. They're reasonably comfortable in this setting.

How did this happen? Where did they learn to treat her with such tenderness? Who softened their hearts and gave them courage?

It was God, the divine cardiologist,

forming new hearts in them.

One thing is for sure, everyone in the leaky lifeboat is in a new place and learning a new role. Adult children must learn to be steady advocates for their parents.

Our parents also need control. This is a most delicate dance. It's their life, certainly, but we must remember the old adage of "safety first," ask the important questions and try to determine the best answers.

Are our elderly parents safe enough in their own homes? Where and how do they want to live their lives? How can we maximize their comfort and security? What are their health concerns? What are their medications? Who are their doctors? What home care agencies and living options are in the vicinity?

Not only do we need to know the facts, we also need to deeply understand the spiritual needs of our aging parents.

Do they have enough social interaction and prayerful companionship? When family members are not visiting them, is anyone around who can help them? Are they tormented by the demons of old age, frightened by loneliness and isolation? Do they feel that God still loves them?

Our culture is far too dismissive of the elderly, and not inclined to understand their deepest desires or their need simply to be valued by others.

Elders need unconditional love and respect for their wisdom, not indifference from other people.

They need to know that they have made a gentle difference in the world and that they are important in the lives of their children.

Nursing home staff members and health care professionals can't meet this most vital need for them. Only family

CNS photo/Bill Wilman



Elderly people need unconditional love and respect for their wisdom, not indifference. They need to know that they have made a gentle difference in the world and that they are important in the lives of their children. We can witness a beautiful strength in our parents as they teach us some final, profound lessons. We realize that death can be peaceful and even healing. We finally grow up even as we anguish that we don't have the time required to adequately care for our aging parents.

members and loved ones can do this.

The deepest desire of the elderly is to be surrounded by those they love.

Where is the faithful community that loves this person, whether it is family members, friends or parishioners?

George Eliot said, "I like not only to be loved, but to be told I am loved; the realm of silence is large enough beyond the grave."

In the end, when death knocks, will those

special loved ones be present for our elderly loved ones?

Our elders wonder, "When I die, who will care?"

Caring for aging parents isn't for children. It's a responsibility for adults. We should not shrink from this cup, but instead drink deeply then surrender our lives and precious time, praying our way through the experience.

The deepest desire of the elderly is to be surrounded by those they love.

Discussion Point

Pray with elderly, help do chores

This Week's Question

What are some ways that people can help a family where an aging parent lives with an adult child?

"The biggest help to me would be someone coming in and giving me time to do things I wanted to do, sometimes coming to say the rosary with me. There is support just in the presence of someone who loves you enough to love your parent, too." (Diane Heye, Kenmore, Wash.)

"In my culture in Mexico, older people always live with their family. Here you can help by taking the older person out or helping [the adult child] care for them if they are very sick." (Gabriela Campos de Marcor, Tucson, Ariz.)

"Notice what's going on and offer to help, for example, [by] doing the grocery shopping or sitting

with the older person for an evening just to take [the] pressure off." (Jerry Joyce, Euclid, Ohio)

"When caring for someone, there may not be time for the simple things that need to get done so you can offer to help with yard work, cook a meal [or] clean the house. Even more important is to offer the caregiver a regular time that you could come and watch the elderly person, perhaps [for] two hours once a week." (Mary Owens, Tampa, Fla.)

Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: What does eucharistic adoration mean to you?

To respond for possible publication, send an e-mail to cgreene@catholicnews.com or write to *Faith Alive!* at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. †



CNS photo/Helle Wilman, Catholic Post

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

Biblical women: Sapphira, Tabitha and Lydia

(Thirty-ninth in a series)

Don't lie to St. Peter! According to Chapter 5 of the Acts of the Apostles,



Sapphira did, and look what happened to her. The early Church held everything in common, much like a religious order does today. Acts says that those who owned property or houses would sell them and lay

the proceeds of the sale at the feet of the Apostles. Then the proceeds were distributed to each member according to need.

Sapphira and her husband, Ananias, decided not to do that. After they sold a piece of property, they kept some of the proceeds for themselves. Ananias, who wasn't with Sapphira at the time, put the remainder at the feet of the Apostles.

Peter wasn't dumb. He said to Ananias, "Why has Satan filled your heart so that you lied to the Holy Spirit and retained part of the price of the land? ... You have lied not

to human beings, but to God" (Acts 5:3-4).

When Ananias heard those words, he fell down dead. Men came in, carried him out and buried him.

Three hours later, Sapphira came in, unaware of what had happened. Peter said to her, "Tell me, did you sell the land for this amount?" (Acts 5:8)

She answered, "Yes, for that amount" (Acts 5:8).

"Listen," Peter said, "the footsteps of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out" (Acts 5:9).

Sapphira also fell down dead. They buried her next to her husband.

Another woman, though, expressed the right attitude toward material possessions. Her name was Tabitha in Aramaic, or Dorcas in Greek (both words meant "gazelle").

Chapter 9 of Acts says that she lived in Joppa (near modern Tel Aviv). She was completely occupied with good deeds and almsgiving, particularly known for the tunics and cloaks that she made for others. But she fell sick and died.

Peter was in Lydda, near Joppa, at the time so two men went to tell him about

Tabitha's death. Peter went to Joppa and was taken to an upstairs room, where widows were weeping. Peter sent them out of the room, knelt by Tabitha and prayed then said, "Tabitha, rise up" (Acts 9:40).

She opened her eyes, saw Peter and sat up. Peter helped her to her feet and took her to the mourning widows. Naturally, this miracle became widely known throughout Joppa, resulting in numerous conversions. Peter then remained in Joppa for a long time with a man named Simon, a tanner.

Lydia was another woman in Acts, Chapter 16. Paul met her when he went to Philippi in Macedonia. One day, he went along a river where women had gathered, probably doing their laundry. Lydia, described as "a dealer in purple cloth, from the city of Thyatira, a worshiper of God" (Acts 16:14), was among them.

After listening to Paul, she and her household were baptized. Then she invited Paul to stay at her home, and Paul did so.

Later, after Paul and Silas were released from prison in Philippi, they returned to Lydia's home, where Christians were assembled. †

Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewes

Mirror, mirror on the wall, am I my mother after all?

Where would we be without mothers, I ask you?

Of course, we have to have a mother, but the way some Mommie Dearest stories



picture mothers, we might wish that we didn't need them.

Even if moms aren't that evil, they may just be cool or inattentive or too self-centered to care enough about their kids.

We hear about domineering, controlling mothers like FDR's mother, Sarah Roosevelt. She adored her only darling boy, but made his wife, Eleanor's, life hell. She picked out their furnishings and wallpaper, not to mention their house, interfered with the discipline of her grandchildren, and lived close by in more ways than one.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, we have the kind of moms who live their lives as they wish with family as an afterthought.

Personally, I'm sick of reading memoirs by the children of such people, describing the many times they moved to fulfill a parent's dream, the food they scrounged for themselves and the makeshift shelter, or lack of it, that made

up everyday living.

Revelations about bad mothers is kind of a modern phenomenon, I think. In past times, motherhood was sacred enough to produce universal praise.

Of course, it was also sacred enough to make such a thing as abortion unthinkable. Perhaps the modern badmouthing of moms is a corollary to the unimportance of human life in our culture. You think?

As I said in the first column I wrote in this newspaper, sentimental motherhood never appealed to me. So there must be a more honest description of that condition than either Mommie Dearest or sickly sweet Mother McCree. In fact, having had a mom and been a mom, I know there is.

More often than now in the Church, we used to hear about taking the Virgin Mary as a model for motherhood, and I still think that is a great idea because, first and always, Mary was about love.

She loved God enough to take on a scary assignment that mystified and terrified her, namely to be the mother of God. There were no precedents for that. It involved alienating her husband-to-be, embarrassment and possible punishment by her society, fears of inadequacy for such a task, and on and on. But she accepted and put herself in God's hands.

Mary was patient. When Jesus remained

behind in the temple and they thought he was lost, she didn't panic. They just looked until they found him and then, instead of yelling or threatening punishment as we might do, she merely asked him why he stayed. She treated him with loving respect even though he was a child.

Mary was kind and generous, teaching these qualities to her child through example. Even when Jesus was an adult, she gently urged him to provide more wine at the Cana wedding feast to save the newlyweds embarrassment. It may not have been his time yet, but she prevailed as mothers do when their children recognize love in their mother's requests.

Mary accepted what life brought with continuing faith in God's Providence. She followed her son through his public ministry, probably marveling at his miraculous healings, his charisma, his insights into the will of God. And, when he died a horrible death apparently in disgrace, she stood nearby in loving support.

Mary was not selfish and she wasn't a wimp. Rather, she was a mother we would all hope to be like.

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

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

A tribute to all mothers—anytime and anywhere

As if *Criterion* readers don't already know, this is Mother's Day weekend!



My "Faithful Lines" column is not only a tribute to mothers currently in our lives, but also to mothers of the future and all mothers who have gone before us.

Recently, my sister and her husband shared photographs of their

first great-grandchild—a beautiful boy born in February.

His smiles and the changes in his expressions in the pictures made me want to cuddle him, but that's not possible since he lives in another state.

This naturally prompted me to recall the love and wonder and joy that I felt when I was pregnant then delivering and caring for our three daughters. I also was thrilled by the births of our two grandsons.

There have been times during those years when I might have been open to adopting additional children, and I have also

contemplated the possibility of "mothering" foster children.

With all my heart, I compliment those married couples who have opened their hearts and homes to other people's children under many different circumstances and often from many countries. I have known single men and women who also do this very well.

I also know women who have placed their babies for adoption, and I wrote the following poem as a tribute to them.

It originally appeared in a book titled *If I Had My Life to Live Over I Would Pick More Daisies*.

The Sacrifice

A child is growing somewhere
in this weary world,
an innocent unwary
of emotions shattered,
a child whose life around
mute hearts is curled,
who'll never know how much
his being mattered.
Lovingly, she chose to yield

at birth the son
she bore with courage
in her unwed prime.
Clearly, she saw
paternal lack of worth
as parent or as spouse:
poor paradigm.
Reality pressed close
and she perceived
how only hope
was left to give her son,
that good intent would not
their needs relieve:
the sacrificial web
was firmly spun.
Adoptive keepers now
assume his care
and fill his time
with wonders far removed
from lineal love
that evermore still dares
to grow—a selfless love
already proved.

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

Twenty Something/

Christina Capecchi

All that glitters:
Chasing glamour,
inviting beauty

I have been watching "Dancing with the Stars" on ABC with an interest that verges on addiction. I enjoy the dancing, but it is the costume and make-up magic that draw me in.



The tricks are wide ranging: spray-on tanner, fake eyelashes, body glitter, ornate costumes. Swirled together, they create aesthetic fireworks.

During breaks, I grab my weights and do tricep curls, huffing into toned conformity. Wedding and swimsuit seasons have arrived, and I'm not quite ready.

It seems nearly impossible for a young adult—even a grounded, faith-filled one—to resist bouts of beauty yearning and seeking. The pursuit can be a rollercoaster, ascending to arrogance, dipping to despondency, jerking you back and forth.

And yet, my understanding of beauty is deepening and, as a result, the rollercoaster is leveling off. The catalyst is a book by the late, great Catholic thinker John O'Donohue called *Beauty: The Invisible Embrace*.

In the book's introduction, O'Donohue makes a profound distinction, writing, "It has become a habit of our times to mistake glamour for beauty."

Though glamour can be alluring, it is fickle and hollow, fool's gold next to beauty.

Most of what the media presents as beauty—the images we mimic with calisthenics and cosmetics—is actually glamour. It can be applied and achieved because it is superficial.

"Beauty," on the other hand, "cannot be forced."

This simple sentence brought me great relief. If we cannot manufacture beauty, then we need not chase it with such vigor. Sit-ups, teeth-whitening strips, high-volume mascara—they may achieve glamour, but they do not lead to beauty.

Rather, beauty is marked by "its ability to surprise," O'Donohue writes. "With swift, sheer grace, it is like a divine breath that blows the heart open." It is not plucked or tweezed, scrubbed or squeezed. It arrives on a gentle breeze of the Holy Spirit.

Here's another reassuring insight: Beauty is not a limited commodity to be coveted and clawed at, as reality TV and beauty pageants often imply. It is infinite, and it multiplies when celebrated and shared.

"When we say from our heart to someone: 'You are beautiful,' it is more than a statement or platitude, it is a recognition and invocation of the dignity, grandeur and grace of their spirit," O'Donohue writes.

It is a prayer.

And prayer polishes the soul, which surfaces outwardly. "Ultimately, it is the soul that makes the face beautiful."

That may sound suspiciously like what your mom always said, but it's true. And I've got it on good authority, verified by Miss America 2001, Angela Baraquio.

"To me, a beautiful person is kind, loving, generous, humble, respectful, honest, considerate, self-assured and speaks from the heart," Angie told me. "The funny thing is, the more beautiful you are on the inside, the more beautiful you become on the outside because beauty really comes from within."

In Angie's crowning moment, her inner and outer beauty converged. Here was a young woman who had honored her Catholic principles and gut instincts along the path to the pageant. She consulted her priest. She supported other contestants. She prayed backstage. She embraced her personal style, eschewing the big hair and sequined dresses in lieu of a parted chignon and an unadorned satin dress so simple that it shocked some of the contestants.

But when she walked onstage, she caught the light and shimmered.

(Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. E-mail her at christinacap@gmail.com.) †

Feast of Pentecost/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, May 11, 2008

- Acts 2:1-11
- 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13
- John 20:19-23

Pentecost, the feast celebrated this weekend, is the greatest day of the Church's



year save for Easter and Christmas. It is interesting in this sense. It is the only ancient Jewish feast still observed by the Church.

In the beginning, Christians almost invariably were of Jewish origins. However, quite early in

Christian history, the Apostles took the Gospels far and wide. As a result of these missionary efforts, many people came into the Church who did not have Jewish backgrounds.

At that time, a series of political upheavals created great stresses in traditional Judaism. All these developments meant that the attention that once would have been paid to Jewish feasts, just as the Lord observed these feasts, faded and eventually ended altogether. Pentecost is the lone exception.

For Jews, Pentecost celebrates the divine bringing together of them as a people. In this act of God, more than just ethnic or genetic unity was created. They were unified as a people in their mission to be true to God and to profess God before all the nations.

Christians see Pentecost as their holy day, recalling the moment when God the Holy Spirit vivified the Apostles. Receiving strength and power from the Holy Spirit, the Apostles then went forward to proclaim salvation in Christ to the entire world.

This first reading recalls this event and its aftermath. Under the leadership of Peter, the Apostles were united. They were emboldened. They never relented from their mission of declaring Jesus as Lord and Savior. According to tradition, all but one of the Apostles died as martyrs.

For the second reading, the Church presents a passage from First Corinthians.

Absolute faith in Christ as God and as Savior is key. It also is vital. Without grace,

humans are confused and liable to even a fatal misstep.

St. John's Gospel is the source of the last reading, a Resurrection narrative.

The Risen Lord appears before the Apostles. As God, possessing the Holy Spirit, Jesus gives the Apostles the power to forgive sins, which was extraordinary because only God can forgive sins.

Reflection

For weeks during this season, the Church has rejoiced in the Resurrection. It has excitedly proclaimed that Jesus is Lord and that Jesus lives!

As this season has progressed, the Church, through the readings at Mass, has called us to realize what effect that the Resurrection has upon us and upon human history.

The salvation achieved by Christ on Calvary will never end. It is for all time and for all people. It will be accomplished through the Lord's disciples in every consecutive age.

While true conversion requires a completely free and uncompromised individual decision, Christians are bound together in the Church because they share their identity with Christ and the grace of the Spirit.

Thus, they bear together the mission to bring God's mercy and wisdom to the world. Christians, however zealous, cannot be ships passing each other silently in the night.

Rather, as Acts reveals, they are part of the community still gathered around the Apostles under the leadership of Peter, and still looking to the Apostles for guidance and direction.

The Church offers itself. It is the gathering of true believers, who rely upon the Apostles for their knowledge of the Savior. Through the Apostles, the community links itself to the Savior, to the Father and to the Spirit.

On this feast, the Church teaches a very contemporary lesson. In 2008, as 20 centuries ago, it is the Apostolic Church, the community created by God to bring divine mercy to weary and wandering humans. As was the case in Jerusalem so long ago, it loves all, serves all and speaks of hope to all. Quite visibly, it still gathers around the Apostles, with Peter at the center. †

My Journey to God

Signs of God's Hands in Spring

Beneath an azure blue and washed cloudless sky is seen a canopy and carpet of verdant green vibrant in a crisp spring morning for all to see

The signs of God's hands are seen everywhere birds resound their mating calls tree leaves are small and immature allowing sunlight to apply its life force small plants push upward through winter matted soil

The signs of God's hands are seen everywhere only yesterday the ground was barren and frozen small animals emerge from winter habitats waterways begin to murmur and gurgle snow melt and winter rains provide a force

The signs of God's hands are seen everywhere marshes come alive with escalating

activity beneath the water life forms are energized the fields are smiling and woods are alive with blossoms an aura of quiet peaceful roaring in the wood

The signs of God's hands are seen everywhere in the spring rains that promise baptism and renewal In the peacefulness of the spring woods as cloistered solitude with the insects beginning their chorus of song sound the bursting buds and flower heads turned to the face of God

Beneath an azure blue and washed cloudless sky a green sea of tranquility and perfect peace beckons to all who heed and listen attentively

By Thomas J. Rillo

(Thomas J. Rillo is a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington and a Benedictine oblate of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad. He said inspiration for this poem came from observations made during a walk in the springtime.)

Daily Readings

Monday, May 12

Nereus, martyr
Achilleus, martyr
Pancras, martyr
James 1:1-11
Psalm 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76
Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday, May 13

Our Lady of Fatima
James 1:12-18
Psalm 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19
Mark 8:14-21

Wednesday, May 14

Matthias, Apostle
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26
Psalm 113:1-8
John 15:9-17

Thursday, May 15

Isidore
James 2:1-9
Psalm 34:2-7
Mark 8:27-33

Friday, May 16

James 2:14-24, 26
Psalm 112:1-6
Mark 8:34-9:1

Saturday, May 17

James 3:1-10
Psalm 12:2-5, 7-8
Mark 9:2-13

Sunday, May 18

The Most Holy Trinity
Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9
(Response) Daniel 3:52-55
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
John 3:16-18

Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen

Excommunication and interdict are Church sanctions for violations

Q Recently, you wrote that divorced and remarried Catholics are not excommunicated.



What does excommunication mean today?

I understand that this punishment was much more common in the past.

Also, our diocesan newspaper reported that a parish was

placed under interdict.

What is that? (Missouri)

A Excommunication and interdict are two of the sanctions, or as you say punishments, which Christian communities traditionally apply to those who seriously violate the Christian or Catholic rule of life.

In practice, for the average Catholic they are both basically the same.

In either case, the individual is forbidden any liturgical ministry at Mass or any other public ministry of the Church, and may not receive or celebrate any of the sacraments. Other consequences refer mostly to those who hold some public office in the Church.

The occasional need for Christians to isolate serious offenders from participation in community activities dates back to biblical times. The Gospels and letters of the New Testament document several situations in which offenders should be expelled from their community. (See, for example, 1 Cor 5.)

Excommunications and other sanctions were more significant and painful—and far more frequent—in past centuries when the Church and at least some civil governments were more intimately joined than they are now. In those circumstances, laws regarding sanctions were more complicated and severe than they are today.

Some excommunications are automatic (“*latae sententiae*”) while some (“*ferendae sententiae*”) take effect only when the sanction is formally applied by a proper Church authority.

The Church's present *Code of Canon Law* provides automatic excommunication for only seven serious offenses:

- desecration of the Blessed Sacrament,
- doing physical violence to the pope,
- absolving an accomplice in sin,
- a bishop ordaining another bishop without a mandate from the pope,
- direct violation of the seal of

confession,

- procuring a successful abortion,
- and rejection of the Catholic faith through apostasy, heresy or schism.

While our present laws on the matter are much simplified, this area of Church legislation remains quite complex because the Church wishes them to apply in only the most serious cases, and only when absolutely necessary for the common good of the Catholic faithful.

Many circumstances, such as the age of the individual and fear or ignorance concerning the sanction at the time of the action, affect whether or not an excommunication is actually incurred.

For example, no automatic excommunication applies to individuals who are under age 16. (See Canons #97, #1323 and #1324.)

It is essential to note that invoking such severe punishments, whether in the New Testament itself or in Church law, is always intended for the good of the community as well as for the direction and healing of the one who has sinned against that community.

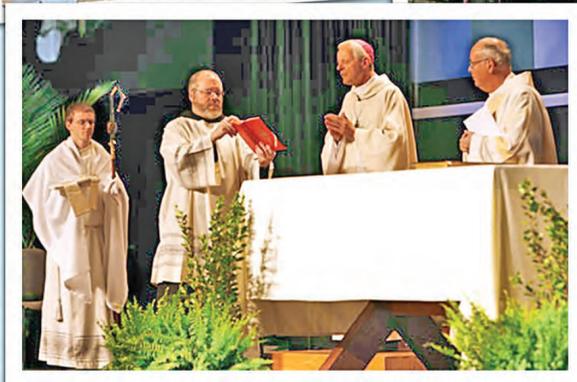
Thus, no excommunication or interdict is permanent and irrevocable. It always includes the invitation to repentance and return, and holds out the promise of forgiveness from God and the community of the faithful, the Church.

Q In the Apostles' Creed, we say that Jesus descended into hell. Why would he, a perfect person, go to hell even for a short time? (Illinois)

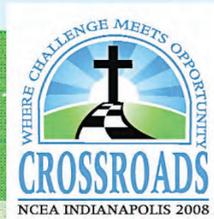
A That word in English does not mean the hell of the damned. From the old Teutonic word “*hela*,” it is from a Latin (or Greek or Hebrew) word which means the “lower regions” where ancients believed that people would go after death without implication of reward or punishment.

Use of the word in the creed may be unfortunate, but it has been traditional for so long that it will hardly be changed now.

(A free brochure in English or Spanish, answering questions that Catholics ask about baptism practices and sponsors, is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 3315, Peoria, IL 61612. Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address or by e-mail in care of jjdietzen@aol.com.) †



THANKS FOR MAKING NCEA A SUCCESS!



Meeting the Challenge at the Crossroads: NCEA Indy 2008



May 2008

Dear Partners in NCEA Indy 2008:

"Crossroads: Where Challenge Meets Opportunity" was the theme when approximately 7,000 Catholic educators met in Indianapolis March 25-28 for the 105th annual Convention of the National Catholic Educational Association and the National Association of Parish Catechetical Directors Convocation. It was the first time the Archdiocese of Indianapolis hosted this important gathering and by all accounts our guests had a wonderful experience.

Many thanks to the hundreds of you (students, parents, educators, clergy, musicians, catechetical leaders, corporate sponsors and others too numerous to mention) who all helped make NCEA Indy 2008 successful. Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and all of us in the Office of Catholic Education are most grateful and realize that it is your work that generated the positive responses from participants.

I specifically want to recognize our local committees including the executive team and the management team for NCEA Indy 2008, along with their many subcommittees. Through their work and with the generous support of our corporate sponsors we were able to host receptions at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the Indianapolis Museum of Art, a party for teachers, and the very successful Sacred Sounds Concert featuring the musical gifts of our students. These local organizers also created the welcoming environment for our participants and planned inspiring liturgies that helped remind us of our mission to spread the Gospel.

The Criterion staff worked with us to publish a great convention supplement with wonderful stories about our schools and parishes and we are grateful for them in assisting us in that endeavor. The supplement, provided to all convention participants through the benevolence of RCL/Benziger, may be accessed at www.archindy.org/ncea/, where you can also find follow-up stories and pictures from the event.

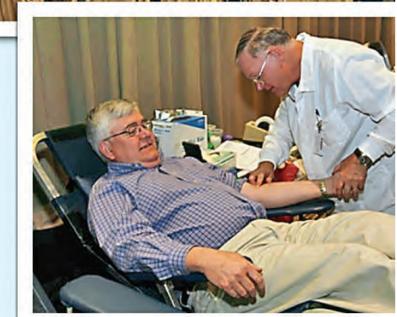
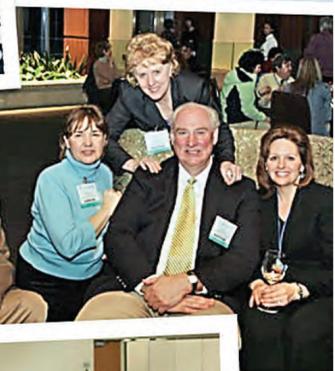
The Indianapolis Convention and Visitors Association staff was also generous in donating their time and expertise, as were the Catholic colleges of the Midwest. Through these partnerships, the archdiocese was able to host a wonderful convention and lay the foundation for further relationships that will benefit our students and schools.

Convention visitors attend the annual NCEA/NPCD event for spiritual and educational development. I believe our own St. Theodora Guérin, a foundress of Catholic education and faith formation in Indiana, would be proud that we made this opportunity possible for thousands to continue this tradition here in her mission territory.

May God bless all of you for your contributions to the success of NCEA Indy 2008!

Mickey Lentz

Annette "Mickey" Lentz
Executive Director,
Catholic Education and Faith Formation
Archdiocese of Indianapolis
Meeting the Challenge at the Crossroads: NCEA Indy 2008



CCF president exhorts Bishop Chatard seniors to give back

By Sean Gallagher

With less than a month before they graduate from high school, the seniors of Bishop Chatard High School in the Indianapolis North Deanery got some advice to last a lifetime from Jim Schellinger, president of the board of trustees of the archdiocese's Catholic Community Foundation.

Schellinger, a Democratic gubernatorial candidate and member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis, exhorted his young listeners on April 30 to realize how special they are, remain true to their values, and remember to give back to their Church and the broader community.

Since most of the seniors at Bishop Chatard will likely go to and graduate from college, Schellinger emphasized how special they are by telling them that, on average, only 1 percent of the world's population gets to do that.

"Now, if you don't think you're special, think about

those statistics," he said.

Schellinger also said that the legacy we leave when we die in large part comes about through remaining true to our values.

"One hundred years from now, [there will be] all new people," he said. "None of us will probably be here to talk about it. So make sure that you leave your mark, and you leave the world better than when you found it."

Photo by Sean Gallagher



Jim Schellinger, president of the board of trustees of the archdiocese's Catholic Community Foundation, speaks about stewardship to members of the senior class at Bishop Chatard High School in the Indianapolis North Deanery on April 30.

He told the Chatard seniors that they leave their mark on the world by being good stewards and by giving back to others.

Schellinger explained that the importance of giving back to the community was instilled in him by his parents. He said it's so important to him now that he sees his gubernatorial campaign as "an extension of giving back."

He said the importance of stewardship really hit home for him when, as a young adult, he became a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish and the pastor gave him envelopes to put in the Sunday collection.

"But it's more than just giving money back," said Schellinger. "It's about giving time and giving your talent because you have so much to give back. ... Make sure that you understand the importance of giving back because when you give back, guys, it will come full circle back to you so many times and as so many blessings in other ways."

Chatard senior Suzy Nasser, a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Indianapolis, said she was glad that Schellinger took time to speak to her and her classmates, who are part of an age group that she said sometimes doesn't pay much attention to current events.

"Everybody is too busy watching MTV and VH1 at the age of 18," Suzy said. "No one turns on the news. [So] it's kind of cool that he came in during our school hours to [talk] to us." †

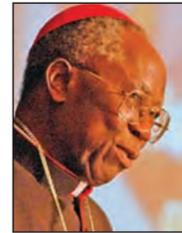
Vatican official challenges colleges to be 'unambiguously Catholic'

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP, Mich. (CNS)—You can't have a college or university that "happens to be" Catholic; the institution's Catholic identity ought to unmistakably permeate every discipline, and its graduates ought to be willing to stand up for the Church.

This was part of the message delivered by Cardinal Francis Arinze, who spoke at a fundraising dinner on April 16 for the SS. Peter & Paul Educational Foundation. The Nigerian cardinal is the head of the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, and former president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue.

During his speech at the Inn at St. John's banquet center in Plymouth Township, he outlined what the Catholic faith community ought to expect of their institutions of higher learning.

"Not only should it be a community of scholars and students, representing different branches of human knowledge," Cardinal Arinze told the gathering of about 200 people, "but at the same time, it should be an academic institution in which Catholicism is vitally present and operative." †



Cardinal Francis Arinze

CYCLONE

continued from page 1

team leader, in the statement. "Myanmar is a poor country and will most likely need international help to respond to a disaster on this scale."

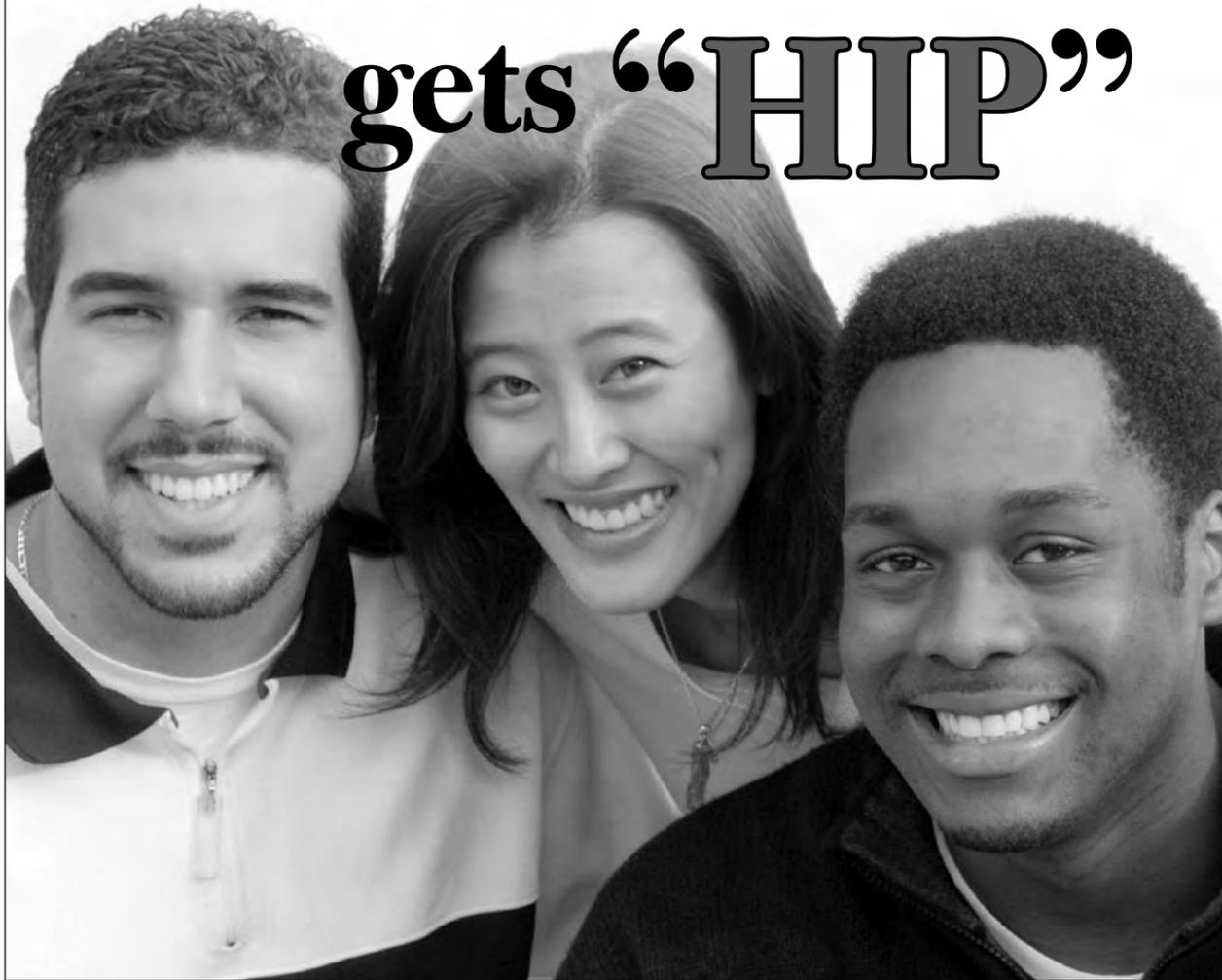
Halpin-Bachmann added that Caritas had "only been receiving sketchy reports, but they're enough to make us concerned about the humanitarian situation."

Elizabeth Griffin, communications director for the U.S. bishops' Catholic Relief Services, said the Baltimore-based agency was ready to respond to those affected by the cyclone, but "we have not received an official request."

Eleonore Fournier-Tombs, communications officer for the Canadian Catholic aid organization Development and Peace, told Catholic News Service on May 5 that it was evaluating the situation to create an appropriate action plan.

About 1 percent of the population of junta-ruled Myanmar is Catholic. A great majority of its citizens are Buddhist. †

St. Vincent Health gets "HIP"



For more than 127 years, St. Vincent Health has been serving as a voice for the voiceless. With 17 ministries serving 45 counties we have an opportunity to amplify the voices of those most in need. This includes the more than 561,000 Hoosiers who are living without health insurance. Of this group, approximately 62% are working-age adults with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

Throughout Cover the Uninsured Week 2008 – April 27 - May 3 – St. Vincent Health will be addressing this issue by serving as official enrollment centers for Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels' Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP). HIP is designed to offer basic health coverage to qualified Hoosiers who do not have access to employer-sponsored health insurance.

To learn more about HIP, please call (317) 338-CARE or (888) 338-2273.

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Friendship with Christ: The goal of evangelization

By John Valenti

The Church's vision for evangelization was summarized well by Pope Paul VI:



John Valenti

"The task of evangelizing all people constitutes an essential mission and our deepest identity; the Church exists in order to evangelize" ("On Evangelization in the Modern World").

Evangelization is the incorporation of new members into the Church and ongoing faith formation. It is an entrance into a friendship with Christ which humanizes mankind and the world.

According to a recent survey released by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, Catholics account for nearly one-quarter of U.S. adults. Nevertheless, former Catholics outnumber Catholic converts by roughly four to one, and approximately one in 10 adults are former Catholics. Overall, one-third of those who were raised Catholic have left the Church.

Some speculate that Catholics have left the Church because of poor religious instruction. That is one explanation. But if our adult Catholics suffer from religious illiteracy, another question is "Why should anyone be interested in religion or anything else which does not effectively communicate the positive aspects of participation?"

Bishop Robert Vasa of the Diocese of Baker, Ore., stated, "Without an evangelized heart, without falling in love with Christ—which is really what it means to be evangelized—the practice of the faith redounds to duty and obligation. There is only a slim possibility of persevering in the practice of a faith that is viewed primarily or exclusively this way."

Auxiliary Bishop Salvatore Cordileone of the Diocese of San Diego echoed the sentiments: "The need for better catechesis and ongoing adult formation is widely acknowledged. To keep our people in the Church, their Catholic identity must result from deep love for and cultural connection with their faith tradition. ... If they don't, and if they are unhooked from this deep-seated Catholic identity, then it is not surprising if they go elsewhere to find it."

Some helpful questions we might ask of ourselves and our parishes are:

- Is lifelong adult faith formation at the core of your planning and resources?
- Are catechetical efforts placed within the context of evangelizing the baptized?
- Are programs centered on conversion to Christ and our Catholic faith?
- Does your parish promote evangelization and adult formation through renewal programs and hospitality?
- Does the parish reach out to inactive Catholics and newcomers of various ethnicities?
- Do you encourage training and leadership development for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and other adult faith coordinators?

The work of evangelization and adult faith formation is never done. Both require a lifelong process of ongoing faith development. We also need Catholics to evangelize and animate our Catholic faith. The challenge is to make adult faith formation and evangelization a priority.

(John Valenti is the associate director for evangelization and catechesis for the archdiocese's Office of Catholic Education.) †

Photo by Mary Ann Wyand



Tyler James, a Special Religious Education participant at St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, holds his baptismal candle as Father Daniel Staublin, pastor of St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg, watches with Tyler's parents, Dr. Nettie Viera and Richard James, during the archdiocesan SPRED Mass on April 27 at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis.

'A direct line to God'

SPRED program catechizes people with developmental disabilities

By Mary Ann Wyand

Ten-year-old Tyler James was excited about his baptism during the archdiocesan Special Religious Education program Mass on April 27 at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis.

Tyler participates in the SPRED Group at St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis, and his parents, Dr. Nettie Viera and Richard James, were hopeful that he would understand the meaning of the sacrament.

Smiling, Tyler asked questions as Father Daniel Staublin guided him through the rite of baptism. He was curious about the baptismal font, held very still when the holy water was poured on his head, joyfully accepted the lit candle that represents the light of Christ, and said "thank you" to the priest.

His parents were overjoyed that their son, who has developmental disabilities, was able to be received into the Church.

As pastor of St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg, Father Staublin enjoys participating in the archdiocesan SPRED ministry of faith sharing and symbolic catechesis, which prepares people with special needs to receive the sacraments of

baptism, reconciliation and the Eucharist.

During his homily at the SPRED Mass, Father Staublin reminded everyone that Jesus will always be with us.

"No matter where we wander, Jesus is always in the crowd, always with us," Father Staublin said. "He sent his Spirit to be with us. So every time we might feel like we're a little lost or

a little alone or we're not sure where we are, all we have to do is look through the eyes of faith and that Spirit of God will show itself, usually in other people. Maybe it's our Mom or Dad or brothers or sisters or the people we live with. God is always there, and it is that Spirit that we receive in baptism, ... that Spirit and presence of God that is always with us. So we don't have to be afraid. We don't have to be alone."

—Roni Wyld

Father George Plaster, pastor of St. Mark Parish, ministered to people with developmental disabilities at the former St. Vincent New Hope in Indianapolis for 10 years and celebrated Mass there weekly when he served as a hospital chaplain.

He said the SPRED Mass "brings back memories" because he got to see some old friends who used to live at New Hope.

See SPRED, page 15

'Our [SPRED] friends have such a deep faith. They are so honest and open and trusting. They know that God loves them. They will tell you that God loves you.'

Adult faith formation programs helps Catholics evangelize

By John Shaughnessy

Lynn Hansen remembers how desperate the woman was, how she longed to embrace a faith that could make a difference in her life.

As Hansen listened to the woman share her story and her struggles, the director of religious education at St. John the Apostle Parish in Bloomington saw the connection to her own search for faith—and how Catholics led Hansen to the Church and to the feeling that she had "finally made it home."

For Hansen, born into a Presbyterian family, there was a defining moment from her childhood when her mother was struggling for her life in a Catholic hospital.

"I was too young to go to my mom's room so I had to stay in the waiting room with my younger brother," she recalls. "There was a statue of St. Francis in the waiting room. This [religious] sister came over and asked me if I was OK. She asked if I knew who that statue was. She told me that St. Francis is watching over me and

See ADULT, page 15

Submitted photo



During an adult faith formation event on April 24 at St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus, Kathy Davis-Shanks, right, a pastoral associate at the parish, speaks with, from left, Greg Andrews, who was received into the full communion of the Church at the parish at the Easter Vigil; Isabel Hernandez, a member of the parish; and her husband, Enrique Hernandez, who was also received into the full communion of the Church during the Easter Vigil.

25 Ways to Evangelize



Prayer

- † Pray every day that God will inspire all members of the Church to proclaim the Gospel in their thoughts, words and deeds wherever they live and work.
- † Pray for courage, wisdom and opportunities to evangelize.
- † Pray in public when you are eating at a restaurant. Don't be shy to let people see you make the Sign of the Cross.
- † Pray with your children or grandchildren.
- † Pray for priests, deacons, religious and the lay faithful proclaiming the Gospel in "the missions," i.e., in lands where the Church does not yet exist.



Everyday Life

- † Ask God to help you accept your daily crosses willingly and with a smile. Approaching our ordinary annoyances in this way may very well make others turn their heads, raise their eyebrows and ask you why you're different.
- † Make your home for those who you welcome there a faith-filled place by displaying religious objects (crucifixes, pictures of the saints, etc.) in prominent locations.
- † Show sincere care for another person.
- † Be a bearer of Good News.
- † Do your best, with the grace that God provides, in your vocation and in your career.

Study and Renewal

- † Read the Bible every day.
- † Read the *U.S. Catechism for Adults*. Better yet, start a study group at your parish.
- † Learn more about your faith through programs at your parish, books, the Internet and Catholic radio or television.
- † Renew your faith by getting involved in Cursillo, going on a retreat or experiencing a Christ Renews His Parish weekend in your faith community.
- † Build up a home library of Catholic pamphlets, books, recordings, videos and DVDs, and share them with people who could benefit from them.



Works of Charity

- † Support missionaries with financial contributions.
- † Help a neighbor in need by bringing them meals when they are sick or are bringing home a new baby and help them with yard work or shoveling sidewalks and driveways.
- † Volunteer at a soup kitchen, homeless shelter, crisis pregnancy center or local chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.
- † Visit the sick or help with a jail ministry, "for I was ... ill and you cared for me, a prisoner and you visited me" (Mt 25:36).
- † "Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father" (Mt 5:16).

Speaking and Listening

- † After renewing your faith or learning more about it, be willing to speak about it when faith matters come up in conversations with friends, relatives or co-workers.
- † When appropriate, tell others a story about how your faith in Christ has made a real and positive difference in your life.
- † "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence" (1 Pt 3:15).
- † Listen attentively and compassionately to co-workers who talk with you about personal or family problems. If appropriate, offer to pray for them and/or with them.
- † If a friend, relative or co-worker tells you about something good that has happened in his or her life, say with simplicity and with a smile on your face, "Thanks be to God" or "Praise God."



SPRED

continued from page 13

“It was very heartwarming,” Father Plaster said of the liturgy attended by about 170 SPRED friends, family members, catechists and guests. “The people’s faith is very sincere,” he said. “It’s really an honor to be able to host this special liturgy. I believe those who are called to this ministry [as volunteer catechists] must receive many graces and blessings so they’re able to help people who are in need of special religious education.”

St. Mark parishioner Mike Risch, who has Down syndrome, enjoys participating in SPRED liturgies, retreats, faith-sharing groups and social activities. He helped with the Mass as a hospitality minister.

“It made me happy,” Risch said, to welcome people to his parish and watch as Tyler was baptized in the Catholic faith.

Looking at his small, gold crucifix pin on his tie, Risch said, “I like to wear it for Jesus.”

Twelve parishes in central and

southern Indiana host SPRED Groups.

St. Paul Parish in Tell City has offered this ministry for 30 years.

St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg and St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis began SPRED Groups 10 years ago.

St. Louis Parish in Batesville, St. Thomas More Parish in Mooresville and the Richmond Catholic Community also host SPRED Groups.

In Indianapolis, people with developmental disabilities may also participate in SPRED at St. Andrew the Apostle, St. Monica, Holy Spirit, St. Luke the Evangelist, St. Mark the Evangelist and St. Simon the Apostle parishes.

Roni Wyld, coordinator of the 10-year-old SPRED ministry for the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education, said the program provides faith sharing, symbolic catechesis and sacramental preparation for children from age 6 and adults.

“People with developmental disabilities have all different levels of abilities,” Wyld explained. “We celebrate our friends’ abilities. ... We pair them with [volunteer] companions and use symbolic catechesis. We start with symbols from everyday life and proceed from that. We meet with our friends at the parishes twice a month through the school year. We have a reading from the Gospels, share a faith message with every person and use motions with songs.”

During liturgies, she said, “we slow the Mass down a little bit so it’s easier for people to stay with us.”

Wyld said she feels the presence of the Holy Spirit in this beautiful, inclusive ministry for the multifaceted body of Christ.

“Our [SPRED] friends have such a deep faith,” she said. “They are so honest and open and trusting. They know that God loves them. They will tell you that God loves you. They will tell you that they love you. They bring you into their world of purity and holiness. It’s like a direct line to God.”

SPRED participants enjoy sharing their faith, Wyld said, and know how to



St. Monica parishioner and SPRED participant Linda Palmer of Indianapolis brings the offertory gifts to Father Daniel Staublin, principal celebrant, during the archdiocesan SPRED Mass on April 27 at St. Mark the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. Father George Plaster, pastor of St. Mark Parish, and Father Gerald Kirkhoff, pastor of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis, were concelebrants. Benedictine Sister Mary Emma Jochum, director of religious education at St. Paul Parish in Tell City, said Father Joseph Kern was responsible for starting the first SPRED ministry in the archdiocese at the Tell City parish 30 years ago. Roni Wyld, SPRED coordinator, watches Palmer.



St. Mark the Evangelist parishioner and SPRED participant Mike Risch of Indianapolis welcomes people to St. Mark Church on April 27 for the archdiocesan SPRED Mass. St. Mark parishioner and SPRED participant John McGee, left, also hands out liturgy guides.

evangelize others. They invite their friends with developmental disabilities to SPRED Group activities, and many of their guests later join the Church.

Wyld hopes more parishes will begin SPRED Groups to serve people of all ages with special religious education needs.

“We all have disabilities,” she said.

“Some of us just wear them on the outside.

Some of us have them on the inside. This is the family of God. This is the body of Christ. ... Every single person has a gift to share. It doesn’t matter about their ability or disability.”

St. Pius X parishioners Joe and Jan Stetzel of Indianapolis are grateful that their 36-year-old daughter, Jenny, is able to participate in the SPRED ministry.



St. Luke the Evangelist parishioner and SPRED participant Chris Foy, from left, dances with St. Monica parishioner and SPRED participant John Lorton, St. Pius X pastoral associate Beth Reitz, St. Monica parishioner and SPRED participant Jackie Wilson, and St. Monica parishioner and catechist Ken Blankenberger, all of Indianapolis, during the April 12 dinner dance at the Marten House in Indianapolis. The fundraiser benefited the archdiocesan Special Religious Education program.

“I think children and adults with special needs are so close to God anyway,” Jan Stetzel said, “but helping them understand and appreciate their faith is so important.”

(For information about the archdiocesan SPRED program, call Roni Wyld at 317-236-1448 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1448.) †

ADULT

continued from page 13

he’ll always watch over me.”

There were also the times as an adult when Catholics influenced her, from the devout faith of a dentist she worked for to the caring example of her neighbors who were Catholic.

“There was something drawing me constantly to becoming a Catholic,” Hansen, 53, recalls. “When I was 44, all the pieces fell into place. I think it was the Holy Spirit telling me it was time.”

Hansen shares her own story of becoming a Catholic to show the different ways that Catholics can help draw others to the faith. She notes that adult faith formation programs can be effective in evangelization.

“Obviously, the more one knows about a subject, the more comfortable and confident one will be in discussing that subject with others,” Hansen says. “What seems more important than comfort and perhaps even more important than confidence, however, is desire. I think a good adult faith formation program can pique interest and thus stimulate desire—the desire to know Jesus and the fullness of his truth as well as the desire to spread

the Good News.”

The leaders of adult faith formation programs in the archdiocese realize that process can take time.

“At first, people aren’t willing to open up, but once you get them to do it, it makes it easier to share their faith with others,” says Barbara Black, the pastoral associate at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Terre Haute and the director of religious education at St. Benedict Parish in Terre Haute.

Black has seen the power of small faith-sharing groups at Sacred Heart Parish in the past 10 years.

“Some of them had the courage to get up and give ‘witness’ talks to the community,” Black says.

“This Lent, we had retreats once a week. When we were getting near the end, they wanted to keep meeting because it was filling a need. We had one person who came who was not Catholic. One of the people took her under her wing and fostered her. We’re hoping she might come into the Church next year.”

Even as Catholics become more

‘I think a good adult faith formation program can pique interest and thus stimulate desire—the desire to know Jesus and the fullness of his truth as well as the desire to spread the Good News.’

—Lynn Hansen

comfortable in evangelizing, they shouldn’t press people to join the faith, say the leaders of these programs.

“Be positive and open-minded,” advises Kathy Davis-Shanks, a pastoral associate in charge of adult faith formation and pastoral care at St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus. “Be loving and kind because that

opens the door for a much better conversation. Actions speak volumes, too.”

Black and Hansen agree.

“Once you see them opening up, you have to help them, but give them time,” Black says. “A lot of it is just the work of the Holy Spirit. We offer what we can and trust the Spirit to do the rest.” Hansen recalls the space and the care that Catholics gave her as she tried to decide to join the faith.

“If it wasn’t right for me, they were still praying for me,” Hansen says.

She uses that same approach as she guides people involved in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults programs.

“I see a little bit of myself in them,” she

says. “I see the longing, the confusion, the hunger and the thirst, and the frustration. I tell them they’re on the right path. It’s normal to have questions, to be a little bit scared, a little bit confused. When I finally came into the Church, I finally made it home.”

She helped create the same feeling of home in the Church for the woman who is mentioned at the beginning of this story, the woman struggling to find a faith she could embrace.

“She spoke carefully at first, but was very open and honest about her past and her struggle,” Hansen says. “As truths were revealed to her and old ideas disproved, she began to blossom. Since she came into full communion with the Church, she has taken on a variety of tasks in and around the parish as well as evangelizing to all she encounters in her daily work. She truly let Jesus into her heart and soul. You can actually see him in her.”

For Hansen, it’s just continuing the work of others who led her to become a Catholic.

“It’s very life-giving to me,” she says. “That’s what we’re called to do. There are many ways to do that. You don’t have to go in the middle of town and preach. Invite them to church with you. Invite them to other functions. Don’t hide your faith. Just live it.” †

'Love in action'

All Catholics are called to evangelize in their everyday lives

By Leslie Lynch
Special to The Criterion



Leslie Lynch

Evangelization. The word, all by itself, provokes anxiety in many Catholics. We may conjure up images of going forth in pairs to knock on doors or hand out religious tracts on street corners. If this is our frame of reference, it is no surprise that many Catholics do not feel an urge to "evangelize."

Coming to terms

According to the *American Heritage Dictionary*, to evangelize means to spread the Gospel. Note that responsibility for conversion is not assigned to the evangelizer. But the expectation of action of some sort is. The evangelizer is simply the worker who labors to fulfill Christ's mission.

The good news, especially for those of us who are shy or introverted, is that the Catholic Church does not require a "soapbox" approach to evangelization.

The Church provides open arms, room for questions and searching, and a place of solace and comfort for those in pain. The Church takes seriously Jesus' challenge to feed the hungry, to care for those in need, without attaching a condition of

conversion.

The Church encourages us to follow the model of St. Francis of Assisi, who, when asked to demonstrate his preaching method, went about his daily business of interacting with others in a spirit of love and humility. When one of his followers expressed disappointment about his lack of "preaching," St. Francis said, "Go forth and preach the Gospel—and when necessary, use words."

Most of us are comfortable with this approach. We use our time, talents and treasure to serve our families, our parishes and our communities. We pitch in to help those who have experienced misfortune or tragedy. We volunteer at soup kitchens, as catechists, as lay ministers.

This is, indeed, "preaching the Gospel," and we each must examine our conscience daily to see what more we can do: a smile, a kind word, an angry retort reined in, engaging in a new—and possibly uncomfortable—act of charity, saying "yes" to the Holy Spirit's nudging to attend a retreat, living our vocation with fidelity and perseverance, forgiving those who have wronged us, and forgiving ourselves.

We are charged to continue our own conversion through an ongoing practice of evaluating our motives and actions, of examining our consciences.

Building a base of knowledge

Let's carry this a step further. This step may be uncomfortable for some of us.

Do we share our faith freely in our social situations outside our families and our parishes? Are we comfortable with speaking to non-Catholics or, for that matter, Catholics outside of Church settings, about matters of faith? Does



In this file photo, Holy Trinity parishioner Barbara Piere of Edinburgh helps Lilia Perez improve her English language skills during a class at the parish in 2004. A key part of evangelization is seeing the presence of God in others and acting in a loving way toward them.

peer pressure intimidate us, causing us to hesitate or keep our opinion private?

If so, perhaps an inadequate understanding of our own faith is a culprit. As adults, we are obliged to further our faith formation. Beyond weekly Mass, do we take advantage of parish programs such as Bible study, catechism study and faith-sharing groups? How about deanery programs or local retreat centers?

Myriads of programs are available, many at little or no cost. Our Church wants to minister to us, and that's an avenue of evangelization in its own right.

But if we don't ask, if we don't seek to deepen our understanding, we risk hampering our spiritual growth with youthful memories of our faith that may be immature or even skewed.

If we don't take responsibility for our continuing faith formation, we set ourselves up to fall victim to beliefs that the Church rejects as flawed. We need to know enough about our own faith to stand firm when faced with erroneous tenets.

'Evangelization is a loving response to God's goodness to us, and we embrace it by way of respectful dialogue.'

Bloom where you are planted

Another way of looking at evangelization is the old adage to "bloom where you are planted."

God has given us gifts and passions, and has placed us in different circles of people where we have a singular sphere of influence. Our distinctive ways of interacting, our own view of the world—these cannot be duplicated and are gifts that we are called to use in God's service.

Even if we are in an environment where God is not apparent, we are charged to bring our witness, our light, our values into it. We may never know the end result of

our stone dropped into a still pond, but the ripples go on and on.

Evangelization calls each of us to look at others through the eyes of God, to see Jesus in those around us and to minister to the needs of those whose paths intersect ours—and to do so without judging them.

If we keep in mind that evangelization is God-focused and God-serving, it becomes much clearer and much easier to accomplish. We allow ourselves to be the tool he uses to touch others in a way we may never know or understand to allow God to touch that person's soul and ours.

Evangelization is a loving response to God's goodness to us, and we embrace it by way of respectful dialogue (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #856). We plant the seed, nurture it or harvest the fruit—whatever role God has given to us.

In any case, the Holy Spirit does the work and the person involved is the only one who can accept or reject the challenge of conversion. Keep in mind that the conversion sought by God in any given situation may well be our own!

Jesus challenges us to step out of our comfort zone. At times, this requires courage and sacrifice, but mostly it requires fidelity to God. Evangelization is at the core of the two great commandments of our faith—to love God with all our heart, soul and might, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. How, then, can we not share the Gospel?

Evangelization is simply another word for love—love in action.

(Leslie Lynch is a member of St. Mary Parish in Lanesville.) †

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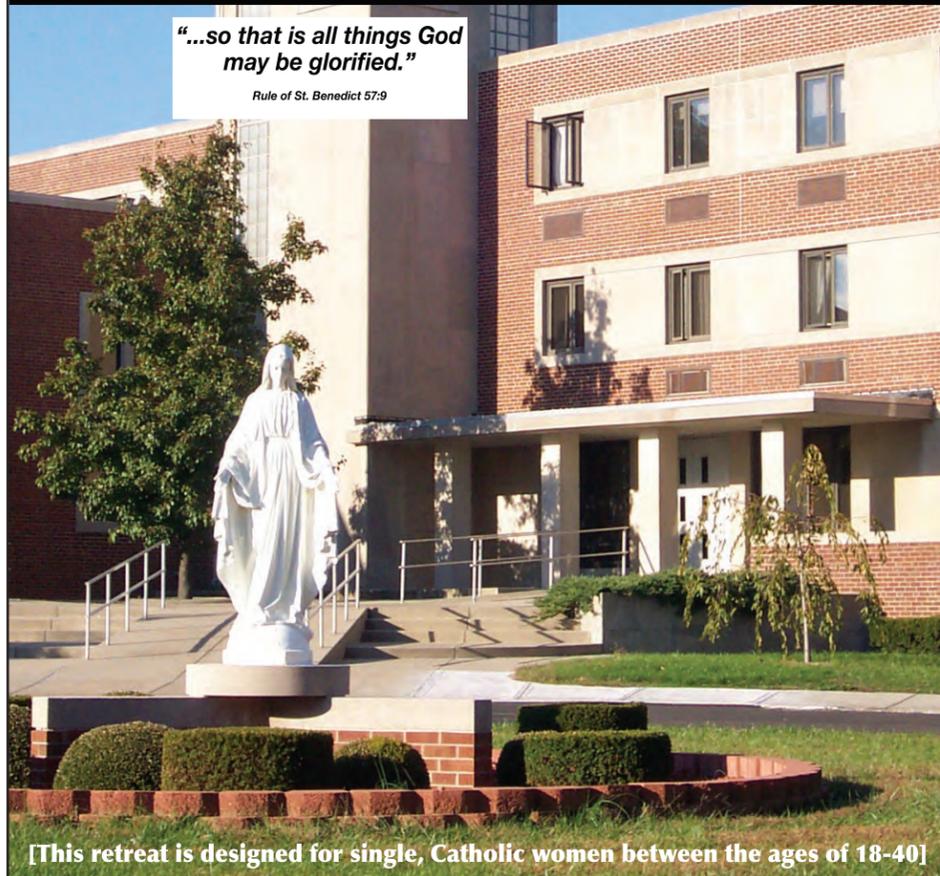
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[This retreat is designed for single, Catholic women between the ages of 18-40]



In this file photo, Our Lady of the Greenwood parishioners Brittany and Ariel Doucette and their 1-year-old daughter, Anastasia, of Indianapolis enjoy family time in their home in 2005. Often, we can share the Gospel most effectively with those people, such as friends and relatives, that God has placed in our lives.

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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 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.

BRICKER, Shirene Ann, 55, St. Pius X, Indianapolis, April 27. Mother of Jessica and Michael Bricker.

BRUDER, Henry L., 93, St. Michael the Archangel, Indianapolis, April 19. Husband of Milka (Matich) Bruder. Father of Barbara Iwema and Bob Bruder. Grandfather of two.

BRUMFIELD, Harvey N., Jr., 74, St. Paul, Tell City, March 25. Husband of Rose Brumfield. Father of Anita Owens and Daniel Brumfield. Brother of Marjorie and Marion Brumfield. Grandfather of one.

BUCHANAN, Josephine, 90, St. Jude, Indianapolis, April 15. Mother of Charlotte Houser and Debra Wood. Sister of Sarah Clements and Joseph DeLuca. Grandmother of nine. Great-grandmother of 26. Great-great-grandmother of one.

BURKHARDT, Mary, 87, St. Mark the Evangelist, Indianapolis, April 2. Mother of Terrie Kremer, Toni Manley, Barbara Smith, Chris and Steve Burkhardt. Grandmother of 16. Great-grandmother of five.

CARL, Rosemary L., 79, Holy Trinity, Indianapolis, April 14. Wife of Charles E. Carl Jr. Mother of Diana Taggart. Sister of Phyllis Cesnik. Grandmother of two.

CLARK, Daniel W., 42, St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville, April 23. Brother of Lisa Brown, Linda Daffron and John Clark.

CONNELLY, John T., 83, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, April 10. Husband of Ruth Connelly. Father of Christine Beechler, Pamela Hull, Marianne Kiefer, Carol LeMasters, Karen Waggoner, Darrin and David Connelly. Stepfather of Vicki Beatty, Sherri Gibbs, Julie Miller and Tammi Thompson. Grandfather of 26. Great-grandfather of 19.

CONNER, Sharon, 68, St. Paul, Tell City, April 17. Wife of Ronald Conner. Mother of Christi Carie, Shari Embry, Rhonda Thomas and Greg Conner. Sister of Debbie Foster, Barry, Gene, Joe, Mike and Tim Dickman. Grandmother of 10.

FELISKY, James Francis, 79, St. Gabriel the Archangel, Indianapolis, April 25. Husband of Rosalie M. (Tyler) Felisky. Father of Francine Figg, Jennifer Johnson, Deborah and James Felisky. Brother of Mildred Bedore, Irene Campbell, Betty Mahoney, Donald and George Felisky. Grandfather of nine.

GOFFINET, Preston M., 85, St. Paul, Tell City, April 12. Father of Robin Brennan, Sherron Pampalone, Julie Thompson, Susan, Brent, Mark and Neil Goffinet. Brother of Jean King, Rita Mitchell, Annette Owen and Rose Parker. Grandfather of several.

GUILLAUME, Imogene, 81, St. Paul, Tell City, April 5. Mother of Harold Devillez. Sister of Diane Devin, Martha Schaefer and Dallas Little.

HECKER, Thomas Daniel, 57, St. Paul, Sellersburg, April 14. Father of Kevin and Travis Hecker. Son of Dorothy Hecker. Brother of James Hecker, Harry and John Graham.

HORN, Ila M., 57, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, April 18. Sister of Christi Bickford, Lorlie Bryant, Sylvia Cushing and Marilyn Smith.

IVERSON, Margaret Jean, 86, St. Barnabas, Indianapolis, April 28. Mother of Candace Barros, Patti Clark and Robert Iverson II. Sister of Mary Lou Smith. Grandmother of eight. Great-grandmother of six.

KNOP, Eugene, Jr., 73, St. Christopher, Indianapolis, March 20. Husband of Karen Knop. Father of Amy Yates, Shelby, Alexander, Chris, Danny, Eric, Gene and Jerry Knop. Grandfather of 11.

MAUDE, Janice B., 90, St. Patrick, Indianapolis, April 24. Mother of Marie Bates, David, Dennis, George and Terry Maude. Sister of Annette Gates and William Bruce. Grandmother

of seven. Great-grandmother of four.

MAYER, Anna Marie, 85, St. Mary, North Vernon, April 22. Mother of Deborah Chase, Amy Kelley, Jill Wahlman, Bryce and Mike Mayer. Sister of Alice Bauer, Jessie Russell, Eleanor Slusser, Jim and Robert Simons. Grandmother of 14.

McMAHON, Ella Therese, infant, Our Lady of Lourdes, Indianapolis, April 22. Daughter of Mel McMahon and Eric Hodges. Granddaughter of Maurice and Carolyn Hodges and Roy and Lucy McMahon.

MOORE, Alexander M., 92, St. Luke the Evangelist, Indianapolis, April 25.

NEWHOUSE, Janet, 82, St. Mary, Rushville, April 26. Mother of Teresa Gorrell, Bill, John Jr., Phillip and Tony Newhouse. Sister of Beth Sheets. Grandmother of 11. Great-grandmother of nine.

NUNN, Mary Helen, 95, St. Barnabas, Indianapolis, April 24. Mother of Madonna Buchanan, Barbara Mennel and James Buchanan. Grandmother of 45. Great-grandmother of 28.

O'CONNOR, Lawrence, 86, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, April 20. Father of Agnes Adams, Patricia Bucksot and

Mary Day. Brother of Mary Lacey. Grandfather of nine. Great-grandfather of 11.

PARRISH, Steven, 55, Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Indianapolis, April 17. Father of Sara Durbin and Jessica Parrish. Son of Joan Gootee. Brother of Jennifer Boggess, Pamela Noblet, Janice Ramsey, Denise Smoot and Lori Young.

PATTERSON, Peggy, 68, Holy Family, Richmond, April 21. Wife of Logan Patterson. Mother of Denise Morris, Leslie Snowden, Teresa Thurston, Regina, Franklin, Jonathan and Patrick Patterson. Sister of Mary Ann Richards, Sheila Warren and James Little. Grandmother of 16. Great-grandmother of 13.

POWELL, Dorothy E., 65, St. Gabriel, Connersville, April 24. Wife of Lester Powell. Mother of Brad and Odell Isaacs Jr. Stepmother of Lester Powell Jr. Sister of Pat Creech. Grandmother of one.

PURDUM, Ruth, 71, Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Indianapolis, April 21. Mother of Craig Purdum. Sister of Janet Gorman, Margaret Jarvis and Thomas Cord Sr. Grandmother of two.

RILEY, Samuel H., Jr., 88, St. Joseph, Corydon, April 8. Husband of Mary (Mattingly)

Riley. Father of Gene, Mark and Samuel Riley. Brother of Louise Cavins and Lucille Hunter. Grandfather of four. Great-grandfather of six.

SPROUSE, Melvin Dean, 85, St. Michael the Archangel,

Indianapolis, April 19. Husband of Christina Sprouse. Father of Gloria Sheets, Sandra, John, Melvin and Rodney Sprouse Jr. Grandfather of 16. Great-grandfather of eight. †

Providence Sister Rosemary Eggermann was a teacher, secretary

Providence Sister Rosemary Eggermann, formerly Sister David Patrice, died on April 16 at Union Hospital in Terre Haute. She was 79.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on April 23 at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. Burial followed at the sisters' cemetery at the motherhouse.

Rosemary Louise Eggermann was born on July 29, 1928, in Chicago. She entered the congregation of the Sisters of Providence on Feb. 2, 1947, and professed first vows on Aug. 15, 1949, and final vows on Aug. 15, 1954.

Sister Rosemary earned a bachelor's degree in education at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and a certificate in addictions counseling at Triton College in River Grove, Ill.

During 61 years as a Sister of Providence, she ministered in education for 25 years at Catholic

schools in Indiana, Illinois, California and Washington, D.C.

In the archdiocese, Sister Rosemary taught at St. Thomas Aquinas School in Indianapolis from 1950-53.

She also taught at Catholic schools in the Evansville Diocese and Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese.

After retiring from teaching, Sister Rosemary served in staff positions for a variety of organizations, including ministering as records manager for the Providence high schools in Chicago that had been closed.

In 2005, Sister Rosemary moved to the motherhouse and began her prayer ministry full time with the senior sisters.

She is survived by a sister, Betty Dalke of St. Charles, Ill.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876. †

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Positions Available

Director of Capital Development

Bishop Chatard High School, the North Deanery Catholic high school of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, is seeking a Director of Capital Development to coordinate and implement the school's capital, annual and endowment fund-raising initiatives.

Applicants for this position must possess a bachelor's degree. Demonstrated fund-raising experience through the identification and solicitation of donors is preferred. The successful candidate will possess a positive, pro-active attitude and strong desire to work with school alumni, parents and supporters to advance the mission of Bishop Chatard High School.

Interested applicants are invited to e-mail or send a letter of interest and résumé to:

Elberta Caito, Bishop Chatard High School
5885 Crittenden Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46220
E-mail: ecaито@BishopChatard.org
Phone: (317) 251-1451 Ext. 2234

Deadline for submission is May 16, 2008.

Student Activities Coordinator

Bishop Chatard High School, the North Deanery Catholic high school of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, is seeking a Student Activities Coordinator to oversee all student clubs, organizations and activities not under the auspices of the Athletic Department or Campus Ministry.

Applicants for this position must possess a secondary education or religious education/youth ministry certification along with demonstrated experience in organizing youth activities. The successful candidate will possess a positive, pro-active attitude and a strong desire to work with students, faculty, administration and parents to enrich the overall experience of BCHS students.

Interested applicants are invited to e-mail or send a letter of interest and résumé to:

Elberta Caito, Bishop Chatard High School
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E-mail: ecaито@BishopChatard.org
Phone: (317) 251-1451, Ext. 2234

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The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis is seeking a full-time payroll specialist to work in a fast-paced, multi-tasked environment. Significant knowledge of payroll, excellent data entry skills (speed and accuracy), and customer service skills are essential. Please send cover letter, résumé, and list of references to:

Ed Isakson, Director-Human Resources
eisakson@archindy.org.

Athletic Assistant Position Bishop Chatard High School



Bishop Chatard High School, the North Deanery Catholic high school of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, is accepting applications for the position of Athletic Assistant in the school's Athletic Department. This position advances the mission of the school through clerical and administrative support to the school's interscholastic athletic programs. The ideal candidate should have office administrative experience; an undergraduate bachelor's degree; be strong and comfortable in a diverse multi-task environment; and have the ability to positively interact with our array of students, parents, colleagues and general public.

Interested candidates should submit cover letter, résumé/c.v., and 3 references to:

Mike Ford
Director of Athletics
Bishop Chatard HS
5885 Crittenden Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46220-2840
or by e-mail at mford@bishopchatard.org

Position description requests & questions may be directed to Mike Ford at 317-251-1451, ext. 2256.

Application deadline is Friday, May 16, 2008.

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Positions Available

Director of Business Operations

Bishop Chatard High School, the North Deanery Catholic high school of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, is seeking an experienced business manager to serve as its Director of Business Operations. Responsibilities of this position include property and risk management, payroll management and oversight of the accounting function, financial analysis for the sake of long-term planning, and preparing the annual budget. The person hired for this position will have excellent organizational skills, be able to work with a broad range of people and issues, have a firm foundation in reviewing and understanding financial data, and will have had success in serving in a similar capacity in previous employment.

Applicants for this position should possess a B.A. in business management or a related field. Interested applicants are invited to e-mail or send a letter of interest and résumé to:

Elberta Caito, Bishop Chatard High School
5885 N. Crittenden Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46220
E-mail: ecaито@bishopchatard.org
Phone (317)251-1451, Ext 2234

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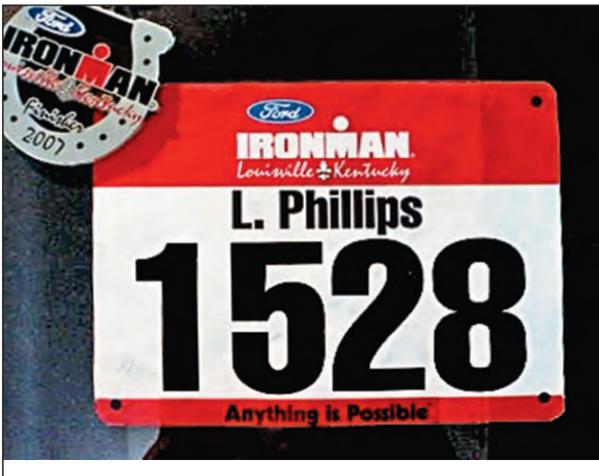
Parish. "She came to me a couple of months ago wanting to give people an opportunity to run and to read Scripture together before they run so they would have that faith-sharing together. So they have the Word of God on their mind as they run. I thought that was a pretty unique idea."

That's the essence of her "Go with Jesus" program, a program that combines Bible reflection, a prayer and then a walk or a run.

"It's my way of bringing the St. Simon community together physically and spiritually," she says. "It's taken me two years to get up the guts to do it. It's been good so far. Each week, we seem to add two people."

"I had a really good friend whose grandma always used to say 'Go with Jesus' when you left her house. In my mind, I don't think this is going to be about walking or running. It can be about any dream you have, and how you can go with Jesus with anything in your life."

Last year, Phillips had the dream of competing in the Ironman Triathlon in Louisville. That dream started after the birth of her fourth child, Kate, three years ago. At first, she wanted to do it to get her body back in shape. Then she wanted to do it as a way to share her faith.



The family has several mementos of Laura "Iron-Mom" Phillips' triathlon accomplishment.

"What attracts me to endurance sports is that this is a test," she says. "I know this is hokey, but God put me into this to be a role model. There's so many times in your life when you know you've been called to do something. And you know that Jesus will pull you through."

She finished the competition in 14 hours and nine minutes, far ahead of her goal of 15 hours. As usual, there was a higher purpose that drove her to succeed, too.

One of the reasons she competed in the triathlon was to raise money for an Indianapolis-area non-profit organization called Creating Hope. The organization was started by a wife and mother who was diagnosed with cancer. While in the hospital for treatments, the woman used her love of watercolor painting to help her cope while she was separated from her husband and children. The woman eventually died, but the effort continues to help cancer patients by providing them with creative outlets.

"She was about my age when she died," Phillips says. "It's such a small foundation, but it really does touch people."

That sense of caring marks her approach to life, says her husband, Chris Phillips.

"She's inspirational because she leads by example," Chris says. "She's just a true spiritual leader. For Laura, it's not about her, it's about helping others. Our family motto is 'respect.' Laura obviously passes that along to our children."

Her children have also received her joy for life. As she competed in the triathlon, she was cheered by her four children: Jack, 9; Sam, 7; Will, 5; and Kate, 3. They rang cow bells for her and yelled, "Go, Mom, go."

"What would you do if you knew you would not fail?" Laura Phillips asks.

It's the question that Phillips asked herself when she decided to compete in the triathlon.

"I hope that my kids are learning from me that whatever they dream, they can accomplish with hard work," she says. "I hope they have learned to dream without fear and to know that anything is possible. There are so many people who have dreams of doing something. God will hold you up to do what you want to do."

For her, that includes being the best mother she can be, starting with sharing her faith with her children.

"I want to demonstrate my faith to my kids so they



Laura Phillips rides her bicycle during the 2007 Louisville Ironman Triathlon.

know that any time they call for help from their mom or God, they're going to get that help," she says. "My husband and I are both involved in our faith community. We want our kids to see that we are blessed, and we can help to bless the lives of others."

She has found another way to share that belief at St. Simon Parish. Besides the "Go with Jesus" program, she also helps with the "Healthy Kids" physical activity program at the school. About 50 students have joined the program.

"I really do feel I'm a normal person who has been blessed," she says. "I hope I can pull more people along for the ride with me. That's part of going with Jesus. Where are we going with him? Well, wherever he sends us." †

VOCATIONS

continued from page 3

such as priesthood, religious life, marriage and sacred single life.

After the race, Father Nagel, who ran the Mini-Marathon for the first time, said a number of other runners commented on the vocations shirt as they passed him.

"I had people say as they'd run by, 'So what's your vocation?' And once, I said, 'I think it's to be a Catholic priest,'" Father Nagel recalled. "And he said, 'Good for you!'"

The shirt also provided help for one team member when it almost seemed like she couldn't keep running.

"The last mile was really grueling," said Agenia Hurrle, a member of St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis and young adult mother of three children under age 5.

"There was a man, and I don't know who he was," Hurrle recalled, "but he was on the side of the road, and he saw my cousin and I both wearing our shirts, and he said, 'Go vocations!' I was really excited, and I really needed that too because the last mile was really grueling."

Father Nagel said one of the team's goals—to build up a

culture of vocations in the archdiocese—has already been achieved by the team members and hundreds of people who made prayer pledges.

Hurrle said being part of the team helped her value vocations more, and made it easier for her to ask others to pray for vocations.

"I thought it was a wonderful experience," she said. "I'm really excited about the cause. I'm excited to do it again."

Father Nagel is excited about next year's Mini-Marathon, too. So are other team members, who have stepped up to coordinate runners from other dioceses in Indiana to participate in 2009.

(Registration for the One America 500 Festival Mini-Marathon is usually closed several months before the event. To register for the 2009 race, log on to www.500festival.com. To be a member of next year's "Run for Vocations" team, send an e-mail to Father Nagel at rnagel@archindy.org.) †

Photo by Sean Gallagher



Brian Hurrle, left, holds his daughter, Eva, while his son, Brent, and wife, Agenia, enjoy the pasta supper after the May 2 "Run for Vocations" Mass at St. John the Evangelist Parish in downtown Indianapolis. They are members of St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis. The pre-race pasta supper was hosted by the Serra Club of Indianapolis.

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Associate Director of the Pastoral Office for Education & Youth Catechesis



The Pastoral Office for Education and Youth Catechesis has a position opening for an Associate Director of the Pastoral Office for Education & Youth Catechesis. Areas of responsibility include curriculum and instruction, assessment, professional

development, and serving in place of the superintendent/director when necessary. Qualifications include: commitment to the mission of Catholic Education, advanced degree and experience in education administration, excellent writing and oral communication and highly effective interpersonal and public relations skills. Interested applicants should mail a letter of application and résumé by June 1, 2008 to:

Dr. Marie Williams, Director
Pastoral Office for Education & Youth Catechesis
2300 South Ninth Street
Lafayette, IN 47909-2400
or e-mail
mwilliams@dioceseoflafayette.org



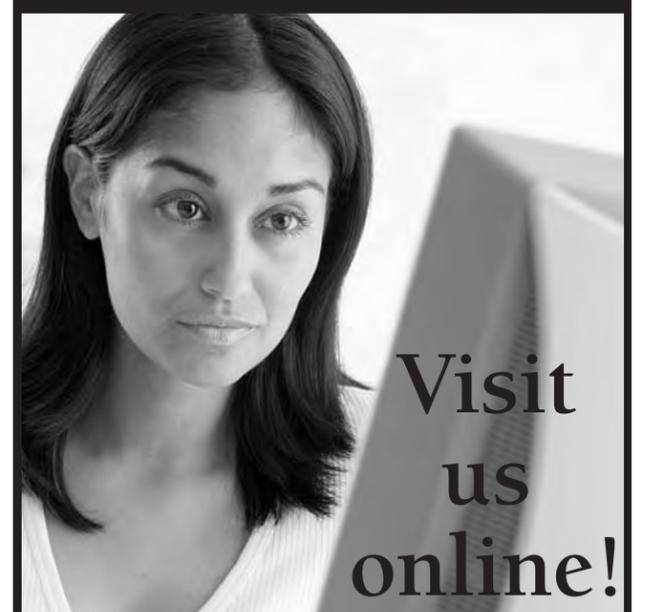
YOUTH MINISTER

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faith community so that they find in their parish a welcoming place of prayer, growth, learning and play. Candidate must be an active Catholic parishioner in good standing who has demonstrated strengths in the following areas: accountability, communication, decision making, innovation, initiative, leadership and teamwork. Minimum qualification would include a bachelor's degree in pastoral ministry, religious studies, theology, religious education, or another related field.

Certification in Youth Ministry or a comparable pastoral program and/or experience in youth ministry is a plus. A strong candidate would demonstrate an ongoing commitment to faith formation, both personal and professional. Salary will be commensurate with education and experience and includes a health care, life insurance, and retirement package. Please send a cover letter of explanation of one's vision of ministry to young people, along with a résumé by May 25, 2008, to:

Mr. Joe Hurr
Precious Blood Parish
4961 Salem Ave., Dayton OH 45416 or
jhurr@preciousbloodchurch.org



www.CriterionOnline.com

SERVICE

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beginning, but we cannot see the end.”

Castroneves, who was the keynote speaker at the annual Spirit of Service Awards Dinner on April 30 in Indianapolis, said hearing those words was comforting.

What was just as important in Castroneves' faith journey was having an audience with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican in 2004.

“That to me was the most important moment of my life, to be in such an incredible presence, in a room with such incredible energy, with a vibe, it was like a movie,” he said.

When he got the chance to personally meet the Holy Father, Castroneves said he went blank.

“I kissed his ring and said, ‘I’m honored to be here,’ and he blessed me. For that moment, ... to have my family—my mom, my sister, my dad—it was just so special,” he said.

Though Castroneves has gained fame in recent years, he still makes giving back to the community a priority.

Castroneves said the example his father set by helping him pursue his dream planted the seed for him to help others.

There are a lot of ways to give back to the community, Castroneves noted, including giving your time, which is what the race car driver decided to do.

Now a resident of Miami, Castroneves and his sister, Kati, decided three years ago to volunteer at the Miami Rescue Mission.

“They needed someone to listen and to play,” Castroneves said, “to laugh, and to take care of them.”

The rewards of volunteering there, he said, were “priceless.”

“At the end of the day ... when I say goodbye to those kids, to see their smiles on their faces, that was priceless,” he said. “Instead of just giving my time, I was receiving something that is very hard to get these days, that is true love.”

“They loved me because I was there, just spending time and listening to them.”

After that experience, Castroneves decided to join the YMCA in Miami to “help not just the kids, but everybody who needs a little bit of love.”

Love was at the heart of the annual Spirit of Service dinner, which this year raised \$245,000 to benefit Catholic Charities Indianapolis in its efforts to help the poor and vulnerable.

The dinner also honored this year's Spirit of Service winners, who like Castroneves are servant-leaders in their

Photo by Richard Clark



Award winners, seated from left, are Constance Merkel, Doris Parker, Prisca Arredondo, Josie George of the Hulman-George family, and Beatrice Davis. Standing, from left, are Mike Dilts of Shiel Sexton, Andy Shiel of Shiel Sexton, Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, Helio Castroneves, Jarrod Krisiloff of the Hulman-George family, and Theodore Davis.

community.

Prisca Arredondo has been an active volunteer at St. Mary Parish since her family moved from Mexico to Indianapolis 20 years ago. She serves as a lector and an extraordinary ministry of holy Communion, and devotes many hours to being a catechist for children and adults. She also coordinates the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults for Spanish-speaking members of the parish, visits the parish's shut-ins and does volunteer work for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Theodore and Beatrice Davis earned their award for unselfishly sharing their time, talent and treasure. Throughout their 40-year membership at Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis, they have participated in numerous volunteer activities, including serving as extraordinary ministers of holy Communion, running errands for shut-ins and visiting parish families grieving after the death of a loved one.

Constance Merkel was saluted for living the Gospel through her faith and pro-active leadership at St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis. In response to the 1985 U.S. bishops' pastoral *Economic Justice for All*, she started a social action committee at the parish, which continues to provide a blueprint for making a difference locally and globally. Her leadership is reflected in a variety of parish outreach projects.

A member of St. Lawrence Parish in Indianapolis, Doris S. Parker was recognized for her pioneering spirit and dedication to eliminating poverty, fighting racism and creating opportunities for people who weren't always given the dignity they deserve as children of God. She has served on the boards of directors of the Indianapolis Urban League, Community Action Against Poverty, the National Campaign for Human Development and the Central Indiana Council on Aging.

A special Community Service Award was given to the Hulman-George Family. For more than six generations, the Hulman-George family has served the community through charitable giving to Catholic organizations, universities and hospitals that benefit citizens of both Terre Haute and Indianapolis, including Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, Marian College, the Sisters of Our Lady of Mount Carmel,

Gibault Home for Boys and St. Elizabeth/Coleman Pregnancy and Adoption Services.

The Corporate Leadership Award was given to the Shiel Sexton Company Inc. Since its beginning in 1962, the company has helped build and develop many schools. It often provides “in-kind” donations for construction services as a way of helping schools and organizations. In 2007, Shiel Sexton donated \$200,000 to Providence Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis. The company also sponsors four students at Providence Cristo Rey through its corporate work-study program.

A sense of humility was evident in the award winners, who each made a videotaped acceptance speech that was shown to the audience as they received their awards.

Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, vicar general, saluted the award winners. He also encouraged those in attendance to continue showing compassion to the most vulnerable members of society.

“Never forget the people that you serve by your participation and your support of this event,” he said. “They are forever grateful.”

Catholic Charities Indianapolis helped more than 27,000 people through its 11 programs last year, said David Bethuram, executive director of Catholic Charities Indianapolis, and the numbers grow every day.

“We served families who couldn't afford a place to live, families and individuals who needed emergency assistance—food or help paying their rent or utilities,” Bethuram said.

“We provided young people with a safe learning environment after school and during the summer. We helped families with relationship problems, and people caught in cycles of homelessness and also abuse.”

It is when we uplift individuals and rally the community to minimize the hurdles that we are most focused on the core attempt of our work, Bethuram said.

“To carry out our mission, many hands are needed. It is through your continued support of Catholic Charities Indianapolis ... that we are able to address the serious needs of the poor and the hurting in our midst.” †

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