Hard hats and soft places in the heart
Gulf Coast mission trip brings Holy Cross students closer to each other and Christ

By John Shaughnessy

The eighth-grade students waited in a gate area at Indianapolis International Airport, anxious to begin a journey that would test them as individuals and as a group. The seven boys and one girl knew they would soon become part of a special tradition that has been established in recent years at Holy Cross Central School in Indianapolis.

During the past several springs, the eighth-grade classes at Holy Cross have made mission trips to Mexico to help people and communities in need—an interesting approach, especially considering the backgrounds of many of the children at the school.

“The majority of our children come from lower-income families,” says Ruth Tinsley, the principal of Holy Cross School. “And many of them have had some pretty rough childhoods. We take them to areas where there are people in more need than they are, to show them that they can help someone.”

This year’s mission outreach became even more of a challenge than usual. First, because of the drug-related violence in Mexico this year, the trip needed a new destination. So the focus turned to Mississippi and an area still struggling with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina nearly four years later.

Then there was the other daunting reality that even the students recognized. As they waited to board the plane on this day in early May, they knew they hadn’t always been a class that had embraced the idea of a strong work ethic, and they knew they hadn’t always been a group that had looked out for each other.

It was a combination that worried Tinsley and some of the students—and that was before the giant bugs, the tough living conditions and the heartbreaking stories that would be part of their week of volunteering.

Absolutely gut-wrenching

When the Holy Cross group of students and adults arrived in Mississippi on May 4, they were immediately tested by hot, humid weather and a “smelly, dirty warehouse”—Tinsley’s description—that would become their home for most of the week.

They were also tested the next morning by a man named Tiny, their host. “His stories of the hurricane were absolutely gut-wrenching,” Tinsley wrote in a journal that she kept during the trip. “He spoke of coming back to find the bodies of some friends and neighbors, who hadn’t left, hanging in trees. The water had come in at over 40 feet in some areas, sweeping everything away. He spoke of construction companies who came in and took families for all of their insurance money for repairs, and left without completing the work they had promised.”

It was a personal lesson in the physical and emotional devastation that Hurricane Katrina had caused in Louisiana and Mississippi in late August of 2005, claiming more than 1,300 lives.

Above, students and adults from Holy Cross Central School in Indianapolis pose in front of a sign that reflects the source of their mission trip in May to help people still struggling from the 2005 storm that killed more than 1,800 people.

Left, putting their faith into action, Cody Webb, J.D. Casper, Dustin Emery and Curtis Henley work together at a Mississippi home damaged by Hurricane Katrina. The four boys were among the eighth-grade students from Holy Cross Central School in Indianapolis who made a mission trip in May to help people still struggling from the 2005 storm that killed more than 1,800 people.

U.S. Dominican theologian named secretary of worship congregation

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI has named U.S. Dominican Father J. Augustine DiNoia an archbishop and secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments.

“I am happy the pope has entrusted to me an area that he considers so important,” the archbishop-designate told Catholic News Service on June 16, shortly after the Vatican announced his new assignment.

“Tinsley’s depiction of the hurricane was absolutely gut-wrenching,” Tinsley wrote in a journal that she kept during the trip. “He spoke of coming back to find the bodies of some friends and neighbors, who hadn’t left, hanging in trees. The water had come in at over 40 feet in some areas, sweeping everything away. He spoke of construction companies who came in and took families for all of their insurance money for repairs, and left without completing the work they had promised.”

It was a personal lesson in the physical and emotional devastation that Hurricane Katrina had caused in Louisiana and Mississippi in late August of 2005, claiming more than 1,300 lives.

If you want to make a deeper commitment to serving the archdiocese...”

Fr. J. Augustine DiNoia

As the new executive director of stewardship and development for the archdiocese, David Milroy knows the questions that face the Church during the current challenging economic times.

He also believes the answers to those questions and challenges will continue to be found in the generous spirit of Catholics who don’t measure their lives by their financial status.

“Despite the current tough economic environment, a lot of people are wrestling with what it means to be a follower of Christ in the most prosperous society in history,” said Milroy, a member of St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus. “I’m convinced that being good stewards of all that we’ve been entrusted with is at the heart of the answer to that question.”

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein appointed Milroy to the new position on June 9, naming him as the successor to Joseph Therber, who last year became president of Father Thomas Seccina Memorial High School in Indianapolis.

“David is a very gifted leader with great organizational skills and a deep commitment to the Church,” the archbishop said in announcing the appointment.

The archbishop also cited Milroy’s extensive contributions as a volunteer to the archdiocese’s stewardship and development efforts in the past 10 years.

“He is president of the Catholic Community Foundation, a past president and current member of the archdiocesan finance council, and a past co-chair of the Legacy for Our Mission campaign,” the archbishop noted. “In addition, David and his wife, Tessa, are past co-chairs of the United Catholic Appeal.”

Those experiences have left two major impressions on Milroy, impressions that led him to make a deeper commitment to serving the archdiocese. “As I went around the archdiocese meeting with people, two things jumped out for me,” Milroy said. “First, I have a deep appreciation for the pastoral leadership of our priests. They have so many demands on them. One of my goals is for us to be of increasing support to them at the local level, to make the job of
And Tony’s stories struck a chord with the eighth-grade students from Holy Cross School on the trip—J.D. Casper, Kyla Davidson, Curtis Herlein, Anthony Salcedo, Dustin Emery, Will Vant Woud, Austin McClaire and Cody Webb.

The lesson especially sank in as they started work on a house owned by a woman named Audrey. As the heat soared and black bugs swarmed around them, they removed the flooring from a Audrey’s house and added a bleach solution to every creased part of it to kill any mold.

“Audrey lost everything,” Kyla said. “She still owns the house, and it’s completely destroyed. She was very thankful for what we were doing.”

Curtis noted, “I saw what people lost. I thought I didn’t have anything good here in Indianapolis. But when I saw that they didn’t have even living left, it reminded me I have more than some people.”

That day was the beginning of a transformation—not just for Audrey’s house but for the eighth-grade students.

“You would have been so impressed with the work these students completed,” Tinsley wrote in her journal on May 3. “They worked without complaint and worked hard. Many hands can make short work of a project, and that’s just what happened.”

“They were working as a team,” Cody said. “When people were doing with painting their section, they would come and help another section.”

Austin added, “We definitely bonded. We were all nice to each other. We all shared our things, we helped each other out, and we never really had any problems that night.”

As they drew closer to each other, they also realized they were part of an amazing American effort to reach out to fellow Americans in need.

“They had a guestbook where we stayed,” Will said. “If you could write your name and where you were from. I was looking through it. There were at least 50 pages of names. And a lot of people had come back multiple times.”

A ribbon found a collection of hard hats that had been left behind by previous volunteers.

“My faith is so important to me—my relationship to the Lord and the Church,” said the father of three. “My faith is always growing. Becoming a Catholic Christian is a full-time process of conversion. Every day you wake up, you try to think of what the Lord is calling you to do—how your faith is reflected in your life.”

On June 22, the 51-year-old Milroy will begin this latest chapter in his life after working the past three years as the president of Flatrock Capital Management in Columbia.

I have been fortunate to have a rewarding career that I enjoyed,” he said. “Being a professional investor has been rewarding and fun. But I felt I was being called to give this a try.”

Milroy commended both Therer and interim executive director Kent Coffin for making the Office of Stewardship and Development “enormously successful” during their times of leadership. He hopes to do the same.

“My experience was a big part of a Catholic education.

They went into the trip as boys and a girl. They came back as young men and a young lady. They really grew in that experience.”

The eighth-grade students at Holy Cross School graduated on June 3. They left the school with memories of a trip of a lifetime. They left the school believing in one of the most important parts of a Catholic education.

“We made a difference,” Kyla said.

Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in a sabbatical. Effective July 1, 2009 of all the people I met. In the Legacy for Our Mission continued from page 1
Vatican doing great cutting fossil fuel use, says U.S. energy expert

VArcANIC CITY (CNS)—Vatican engineers are doing an impressive job trying to cut Vatican City’s dependency on fossil fuels by tapping into renewable energy resources and finding ways to cut energy consumption, said a visiting U.S. expert on energy efficiency.

Mark Hopkins, director of the United Nations Foundation’s energy policy program, said that, prior to his June 12 visit to Vatican City, he had no idea the tiny city-state was involved in so many “significant projects” aimed at reducing its own carbon footprint.

“It’s impressive they’re actually doing what some people only talk about and [they] are doing it in a significant way,” Hopkins told Catholic News Service on June 12.

He said “conceivably, Vatican City could become the first state to be powered by renewable” energy and become the first carbon-neutral nation in the world, partly as a result of its plans to build a large solar farm on property it owns on the outskirts of Rome.

Such a status would put “the Church in a great moral position” from which to encourage other nations and individuals to do more in promoting and using clean energy, he said.

The U.S. Embassy to the Vatican invited Hopkins to Rome to speak to journalists about his 35 years of experience in promoting energy efficiency, as well as his current work with the United Nations Foundation, which seeks to find solutions to the world’s most urgent problems.

He was the second person invited by the embassy to speak to journalists about energy efficiency efforts that will have an even greater impact on saving energy, he said. †

He encouraged the Catholic Church to become more vocal about its efforts in environmental advocacy.

One major project now under way at the Vatican is an attempt by the engineers to map exactly where Vatican energy consumption is going, he said.

“On average, in most buildings, about 35 percent of the energy is being wasted; either the building is not operating the right way or is not using advanced technologies,” such as high-efficiency lighting, heating or cooling fixtures, he said.

If it turns out one particular building consumes a disproportionate amount of energy, often it means something is wrong that can easily be fixed, resulting in huge savings, he said.

Improved energy efficiency can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60 percent, he said. Further emissions reductions can be obtained through the use of renewable forms of energy.

Increased energy efficiency also happens to be much less costly than high-efficiency lighting, heating or cooling fixtures, he said.

One major project now under way at the Vatican is an attempt by the engineers to map exactly where Vatican energy consumption is going, he said.

“On average, in most buildings, about 35 percent of the energy is being wasted; either the building is not operating the right way or is not using advanced technologies,” such as high-efficiency lighting, heating or cooling fixtures, he said.

If it turns out one particular building consumes a disproportionate amount of energy, often it means something is wrong that can easily be fixed, resulting in huge savings, he said.

Improved energy efficiency can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60 percent, he said. Further emissions reductions can be obtained through the use of renewable forms of energy.

Increased energy efficiency also happens to be much less costly than high-efficiency lighting, heating or cooling fixtures, he said.

One example, he said, would be to issue a challenge or nationwide commitment to cut energy costs by 15 percent over the next five years.

If you are planning your wedding between July 1, 2009 and February 1, 2010, we invite you to submit the information for an announcement on the form below.

In the United States, call toll-free 1-800-336-6176 or visit www.beahappymom.com.

Deadline

All announcements and photos must be received by 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2009. ([they] are doing it in a significant way,” Hopkins told Catholic News Service on June 12.

He said “conceivably, Vatican City could become the first state to be powered by renewable” energy and become the first carbon-neutral nation in the world, partly as a result of its plans to build a large solar farm on property it owns on the outskirts of Rome.

Such a status would put “the Church in a great moral position” from which to encourage other nations and individuals to do more in promoting and using clean energy, he said.

The U.S. Embassy to the Vatican invited Hopkins to Rome to speak to journalists about his 35 years of experience in promoting energy efficiency, as well as his current work with the United Nations Foundation, which seeks to find solutions to the world’s most urgent problems.

He was the second person invited by the embassy to speak to journalists about energy efficiency efforts that will have an even greater impact on saving energy, he said. †

He encouraged the Catholic Church to become more vocal about its efforts in environmental advocacy.

One major project now under way at the Vatican is an attempt by the engineers to map exactly where Vatican energy consumption is going, he said.

“On average, in most buildings, about 35 percent of the energy is being wasted; either the building is not operating the right way or is not using advanced technologies,” such as high-efficiency lighting, heating or cooling fixtures, he said.

If it turns out one particular building consumes a disproportionate amount of energy, often it means something is wrong that can easily be fixed, resulting in huge savings, he said.

Improved energy efficiency can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60 percent, he said. Further emissions reductions can be obtained through the use of renewable forms of energy.

Increased energy efficiency also happens to be much less costly than high-efficiency lighting, heating or cooling fixtures, he said.

One example, he said, would be to issue a challenge or nationwide commitment to cut energy costs by 15 percent over the next five years.

While high-cost projects like solar panels and wind-power farms are “great and fabulous, to me their real value is in the picture— it’s visible,” he said.

Unfortunately, that is not the case with "energy efficiency and visualizing people not using energy—it’s a little hard to get people pumped up about that one," he said with a laugh.

So groups or communities like the Church could exploit a media-magnet project like solar energy and use it as a symbol of a larger commitment toward efficiency efforts that will have an even greater impact on saving energy, he said.
The 2009-10 Year for Priests

It starts today, and it continues for the next 365 days. June 19, 2009, to June 19, 2010, has been designated the Year for Priests by Pope Benedict XVI. It will recognize the variety of pastoral work performed by priests and the witness of their lives, said Cardinal Claudio Hummes, prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy.

Addressing an Italian bishop on May 28, Pope Benedict said the year should help priests “rediscover the grace and goal of priestly ministry.”

The Holy Father has chosen to begin the Year for Priests on the feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, a day of sanctification of all priests. The pope also designated St. John Vianney as the universal patron of all priests on the 150th anniversary of the saint’s death. The saint, who is known as the doctor of vocations and the Cure of Ars, is the patron of parish priests.

What can we do during the next year? Pray for our parish priests and all priests throughout the world. Pray, as the Holy Father said, that “those who serve as priests will rediscern the grace and goal of priestly ministry.”

Pray, as St. John Vianney said, that for each and every priest, “The priesthood is the love of the heart.”

Just as important, make the time during the next 12 months to thank your parish priest or priests for their gift of ministry. Think about it: These are all things that we should be doing on a regular basis. Now, thanks to our Holy Father, we can use the next 365 days—and make it a regular practice in the future—to do just that.

—Mike Krokos

Letters to the Editor

Plan is example of government taking over our lives

This letter is in reference to the June 5 editorial in The Criterion titled “Let’s back off: Democrats plan to reduce abortions.”

Who knows what the Pregnant Women Support Act will do? It’s one of those middle-of-the-road proposals which will end up being a boondoggle for a few people, and will be very ineffective and expensive.

Additionally, it will be just one more instance of the government taking over the lives of the close and the innocent.

Terry Boz
Greenville
Attending Mass is key to strengthening our relationship with God.
June 18-20  St. Bernadette Parish, 4383 E. Fletcher Ave., Indianapolis. “Summer Festival,” Thurs. 5-10 p.m., Fri. and Sat. 5-9 p.m., midnight, games, rides, food. Information: 317-356-5867.

June 19  Northside Knights of Columbus Hall, 2100 E. 51st St., Indianapolis. Catholic Business Exchange, Mass, breakfast and program, Denny Sponsel, president, and owner of RJE Business Interiors, speaker, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., $10 per person includes lunch, Information: 317-522-1526 or lifeinmind.org.


Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 520 Stevens St., Bedford. Parish picnic, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., information: 812-876-1974.

July 1-2  Holy Cross Parish, 8210 W. State Road 48, Bloomington. Traveling missionary image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 5 p.m.-midnight, food, music, games, turtle soup, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Information: 812-623-2962.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 6461 E. St. Nicholas Drive, Sunman. Parish picnic, “All you can eat” chicken and roast beef dinners, turtle soup, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Information: 812-663-4754.

August 2-3  Holy Cross Parish, 8210 W. State Road 48, Bloomington. Traveling missionary image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Stations of the Cross, 4 p.m. followed by Our Lady of the Sorrows rosary. Information: 812-924-4642, ext. 232.

Summer Food Service Program is offered at two sites in Indianapolis

The 21st Century Community Learning Center of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis has announced plans to participate in the Summer Food Service Program.

Free meals will be made available to all children 18 years of age and under and to persons over 18 years who are enrolled in a state-approved educational program for the mentally or physically disabled. Free meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability. There will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Any person who believes that he or she has been discriminated against in any USDA-related activity should write to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9401 or call 800-795-3272 or 202-720-6382.

The meals will be provided at the sites below beginning on July 6 and ending on July 24.

“Holy Angels School, 2022 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St., Indianapolis, IN 46208.”

“Holy Cross Central School, 125 N. Oriental St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.”

For further information, contact Ashley Holloway at 317-236-1280.

St. Augustine Guild gift

St. Augustine Guild members Kathleen Kunkel, left, and Nellie Mulheran, right, have donated a $36,000 check to Sister Judith Meredith, superior of the Little Sisters of the Poor at the St. Augustine Home for the Indians in Indianapolis, during a guild luncheon on June 10 at the Woodstock Club in Indianapolis. Funds raised by the guild’s “ Hats Off to Spring” luncheon and style show on May 6 help the Little Sisters with their ministry to the elderly poor. Last year, guild members donated 18,868 hours of volunteer service.

William P. and Donna Jean (Dattilo) Jackson, members of Prince of Peace Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 50th marriage anniversary on June 24.

The couple was married on June 25, 1949, at the former St. Francis de Sales Church in Indianapolis.

They have seven children: Paulette Davis, Indianapolis; Beth Rago, Bernard, Dennis, John, and Robert Sponsel. They also have 25 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Four children: Julie Berry, Carrie, Mary Beth Boone, Laura McCarty and Paula Weller. They also have nine great-grandchildren.

Our Lady of Lourdes Class of 1955 plans reunion

Members of the Class of 1955 at Our Lady of Lourdes School in Indianapolis are looking for classmates to attend a reunion on June 26-27. For more information about the two-day reunion, contact Dodie (Schweitzers) Davis at 317-895-1757 or Kathy (Obley) Hofmeister at 317-894-5331 or send an e-mail to genpowton41@yahoo.com.

VIPs

Paul and Dorothy (Muller) Sponsel, members of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on June 25.

The couple was married on June 25, 1949, at the former St. Francis de Sales Church in Indianapolis.

They have four children: Julie Berry, Carrie, Mary Beth Boone, Laura McCarty and Paula Weller. They also have nine great-grandchildren.

St. Augustine Guild members Kathleen Kunkel, left, and Nellie Mulheran, right, have donated a $36,000 check to Sister Judith Meredith, superior of the Little Sisters of the Poor at the St. Augustine Home for the Indians in Indianapolis, during a guild luncheon on June 10 at the Woodstock Club in Indianapolis. Funds raised by the guild’s “ Hats Off to Spring” luncheon and style show on May 6 help the Little Sisters with their ministry to the elderly poor. Last year, guild members donated 18,868 hours of volunteer service.
Criterion staff honored for excellence in journalism

Editorial writer Daniel Conway and staff members of The Criterion were recently honored for excellence in journalism by two organizations. The recognition included awards from the Catholic Press Association and the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

The C.P.A. awards that staff members won include:
• First place—Best Editorial on a National or International Issue, editorial writer Daniel Conway, for “Economic crisis is a failure of responsible stewardship.”
• Third place—Best Regular Special Supplement, Vacation/Travel Supplement, published in the May 23, 2008, issue, by Vacation/Travel Supplement staff report

The editorial, published in the Oct. 3, 2008, issue of The Criterion, said the beginning of the economic crisis last fall was the result of poor stewardship by banks, other financial institutions, regulatory agencies and government officials charged with the responsibility to serve and protect our nation and its institutions.

“The writer skillfully takes a national issue that is both little understood and over-commented on, and provides readers with a thoughtful, logical examination,” judges wrote. “The writer clearly and provides readers with a thoughtful, logical way of how to respond. Well done.”

• Third place—Best Regular Special Supplement, Vacation/Travel Supplement, published in the May 23, 2008, issue, by The Criterion staff

The award for the June 13, 2008, supplement focused on tourism in Indiana. It featured an interview with Indiana Tourism Commissioner Laura Pence and provided readers with context to understand the world of commerce. The editorial informed the reader, offers the reader context to understand the situation and, finally, provides the reader with clear, firm leadership on how to respond. Well done.”

The awards are named for the late Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara, who was the national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith from 1966 to 1979 and was Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein’s predecessor as shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis from 1979 to 1992. The society is responsible for informing Catholics about the Church’s worldwide mission and advising them of ways they can participate in that mission.

This is the third consecutive year that a staff member has been recognized for reporting on mission work, noted Criterion editor Mike Krokos.

“The history of the awards and their connection to Archbishop O’Meara, we were thrilled to again be recognized by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith,” he said.

Greg Otolski, Criterion associate publisher, said the awards recognition for the staff was well deserved.

“It is always affirming when our team gets recognition for their commitment, dedication and hard work,” Otolski said.

The staff has over 100 years experience in the field and operated since 1932.”

The staff members of The Criterion have been recognized for their commitment, dedication and hard work. The staff members have over 100 years experience in the field and operated since 1932.

The awards are named for the late Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara, who was the national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith from 1966 to 1979 and was Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein’s predecessor as shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis from 1979 to 1992. The society is responsible for informing Catholics about the Church’s worldwide mission and advising them of ways they can participate in that mission.

This is the third consecutive year that a staff member has been recognized for reporting on mission work, noted Criterion editor Mike Krokos.

“The history of the awards and their connection to Archbishop O’Meara, we were thrilled to again be recognized by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith,” he said.

Greg Otolski, Criterion associate publisher, said the awards recognition for the staff was well deserved.

“It is always affirming when our team gets recognition for their commitment, dedication and hard work,” Otolski said.

The staff has over 100 years experience in the field and operated since 1932.”

The staff members of The Criterion have been recognized for their commitment, dedication and hard work. The staff members have over 100 years experience in the field and operated since 1932.

The awards are named for the late Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara, who was the national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith from 1966 to 1979 and was Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein’s predecessor as shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis from 1979 to 1992. The society is responsible for informing Catholics about the Church’s worldwide mission and advising them of ways they can participate in that mission.

This is the third consecutive year that a staff member has been recognized for reporting on mission work, noted Criterion editor Mike Krokos.

“The history of the awards and their connection to Archbishop O’Meara, we were thrilled to again be recognized by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith,” he said.

Greg Otolski, Criterion associate publisher, said the awards recognition for the staff was well deserved.

“It is always affirming when our team gets recognition for their commitment, dedication and hard work,” Otolski said.

The staff has over 100 years experience in the field and operated since 1932.”

The staff members of The Criterion have been recognized for their commitment, dedication and hard work. The staff members have over 100 years experience in the field and operated since 1932.

The awards are named for the late Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara, who was the national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith from 1966 to 1979 and was Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein’s predecessor as shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis from 1979 to 1992. The society is responsible for informing Catholics about the Church’s worldwide mission and advising them of ways they can participate in that mission.

This is the third consecutive year that a staff member has been recognized for reporting on mission work, noted Criterion editor Mike Krokos.

“The history of the awards and their connection to Archbishop O’Meara, we were thrilled to again be recognized by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith,” he said.

Greg Otolski, Criterion associate publisher, said the awards recognition for the staff was well deserved.

“It is always affirming when our team gets recognition for their commitment, dedication and hard work,” Otolski said.

The staff has over 100 years experience in the field and operated since 1932.”

The staff members of The Criterion have been recognized for their commitment, dedication and hard work. The staff members have over 100 years experience in the field and operated since 1932.
Year for Priests
Pies, prayers not enough; clergy need love, support

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Each and every one of the world’s 408,000 priests should be admired, respected, valued and supported in his vocation to bring the Gospel to an increasingly secular—but still open—world, said Cardinal Claudio Hummes.

“The Brazilian cardinal, prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy, said the 2005-2010 Year for Priests, which begins on June 19, must recognize the new challenges and possibilities that Catholic priests face in their ministries.

Pope Benedict XVI called for the media has publicized and that are true. They have harmed the reputation of all priests, live and work, and to recognize that the vast majority of the priests are called to live with joy and love of God and salvation in Jesus, but it’s the priest’s responsibility—it’s his Church. But, no, the Church is all of ours,” he said.

Obviously, any discussion about the world’s priests includes talk about the priest shortage, a situation the cardinal is a sign of vitality,” he said. †

“The great danger is when the focus is on the celebrating the church or the parish has avoided the wicked world outside. The priesthood is a vocation to society. We should remain in our corner, with the group, closing ourselves into a ghetto,” the 74-year-old cardinal said.

But the world still is the place where priests are called to live with joy and love of “the certainty that it is possible to bring the Gospel to this new society and not demonize it, not ignore it and not be discouraged by it,” he said.

Cardinal Hummes is convinced that men and women still are looking for the love of God and salvation in Jesus, “maybe not with an approach that starts with doctrine and morals.”

Once people meet Jesus, “then come doctrine and morality as a form of following that Jesus who attracted me, enchanged me, enlightened me. It is them that you begin talking about what it means to follow Jesus in practice. That’s morality.”

A cardinal Hummes said that showing support for priests includes sharing responsibility with them for parish life and mission.

“We have too few priests,” he said. “Several countries face a very worrying, very difficult future because the number of priests has fallen so drastically.”

Vatican statistics have reported an increase in the number of priests in the world in the past few years, but that increase has not kept pace with the increased number of Catholics in the world, not to mention the world’s growing population.

The Statistical Yearbook of the Holy See, recently released with figures given to the world, showed that there were 408,024 priests in the world. Five years earlier, the number was 405,258.

The yearbook also provided tables indicating Hummes’s point about the increased number of priests not keeping up with the increasing population. According to the yearbook, there were 2,612 Catholics per priest at the end of 2007, while there were only 2,424 Catholic priests per anum.

While the significant growth in the number of priests in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe may mean some of those men would be available to minister in Western Europe and North America, Cardinal Hummes said local communities should give rise to local vocations. “A local church having its own priests is a sign of vitality,” he said.
Nativity parishioners celebrate the ordinations of two sons of the parish

By Kamilla Benko

They are right back where they started.

But this time, they are not fourth-graders in Providence Sister Marie Grace Molloy’s class nor are they eighth-graders being dragged to monthly confession.

Father Jeremy Gries, 31, and Father John Hollowell, 29, were ordained on June 6, and celebrated their first Masses at their childhood church, Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ in Indianapolis, that same weekend.

“This is a great sense of pride in the parish,” said Father Patrick Doyle, pastor of Nativity. “There is a pride that two of their own are being called forward to serve the archdiocese and the wider Church.”

Father Gries will be the associate pastor of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis. Father Hollowell will be the chaplain of Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis as well as provide sacramental assistance at St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg.

Father Gries’ connection to Nativity Parish begins close to home. His mother, Kathy Gries, was a kindergarten teacher and, later, a first-grade teacher at Nativity School for 24 years before retiring in May.

Father Hollowell, originally home-schooled, entered Nativity School in the fourth grade. His youngest sister still attends Nativity, and will be in the sixth grade in the fall.

Nativity School, Father Hollowell said, is where he “really became moles in my life: I took root.”

“I received a great education at Nativity,” Father Hollowell said. “But the value of being taught by the sisters—what they represented to us, living out their vow in front of our very eyes—that is what was important.”

Eight-grade confession and prayer time in the church also influenced him, said Father Hollowell.

“We had to bring a Bible, and prayer was sort of forced,” he said. “I don’t think I really appreciated it at the time, but I think that was a really big part of [becoming a priest] for me.”

Now, the two new priests are trying to give back to the Indianapolis South Deanery parish that gave so much to them.

“This past year,” said Father Gries, “we worked harder to stay in touch with the parish.

The two men set up an online blog which gave the parishioners the opportunity to learn about life in the seminary and the ordination process.

“We also wrote a letter to the parish on a monthly basis,” said Father Gries, “with Father John [Hollowell] writing a letter one month and me writing a letter the next month.”

People seemed to like that.

Both young men returned to Nativity Parish to help with Masses and speak with parishioners as often as their schedules allowed. During Vocations Week, they also spoke to the students at the school.

“The kids were curious to see that graduates of our school have chosen to be priests,” said Father Doyle. “They found that [Father Hollowell and Father Gries] were solid, balanced young men who have chosen to do something significant.”

The importance of their chosen vocation is rippling through the community.

“The parish is inspired and very proud that we have not just one, but two priests,” said Providence Sister Theresa Clare Crc, a retired teacher from Nativity, who taught both men in grade school.

“We are so enthusiastic,” agreed Sister Marie Grace Molloy, a former fourth-grade teacher.

“Everyone [in the parish] is caught up in the idea of the priesthood and its importance.”

There is a great awareness of how vocations really impact the Church, said Father Doyle. “There is an increased awareness of the need for vocations, and that the work and prayer of a community does have its benefits.”

This past year, Nativity formed a vocations committee to help the parish celebrate the ordinations.

But Father Doyle said that he hopes the committee will have a long-lasting impact on the parish.

“It has a secondary goal of keeping this vocation energy alive,” he said.

But where does this vocation energy come from?

“I’m not sure what makes Nativity so special,” said Father Hollowell. “Maby it is that we’re still on the same side of the street. When I’ve always experienced Nativity as a fruitful and nurturing place.”

Barbara Dinner, a long-time parishioner at Nativity, offered her own opinion.

“I think the parish as a whole is very friendly, very giving, and I think that could have influenced them,” she said.

“I think it’s a great reflection on the parish and the people who taught here, and the priests who encouraged them so well.”

First Masses

Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Church in Indianapolis. He grew up in the Indianapolis South Deanery parish.

Father Gries will serve as the associate pastor of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis.

Polish archbishop urges people to keep late pontiff’s letters private

WARSAW, Poland (CNS)—A Polish archbishop has urged people with letters from Pope John Paul II not to publish them and speak with parishioners as often as their schedules allowed. During Vocations Week, they also spoke to the students at the school.

“The kids were curious to see that graduates of our school have chosen to be priests,” said Father Doyle. “They found that [Father Hollowell and Father Gries] were solid, balanced young men who have chosen to do something significant.”

The importance of their chosen vocation is rippling through the community.

“The parish is inspired and very proud that we have not just one, but two priests,” said Providence Sister Theresa Clare Crc, a retired teacher from Nativity, who taught both men in grade school.

“We are so enthusiastic,” agreed Sister Marie Grace Molloy, a former fourth-grade teacher.

“Everyone [in the parish] is caught up in the idea of the priesthood and its importance.”

There is a great awareness of how vocations really impact the Church, said Father Doyle. “There is an increased awareness of the need for vocations, and that the work and prayer of a community does have its benefits.”

This past year, Nativity formed a vocations committee to help the parish celebrate the ordinations.

But Father Doyle said that he hopes the committee will have a long-lasting impact on the parish.

“It has a secondary goal of keeping this vocation energy alive,” he said.

But where does this vocation energy come from?

“I’m not sure what makes Nativity so special,” said Father Hollowell. “Maby it is that we’re still on the same side of the street. When I’ve always experienced Nativity as a fruitful and nurturing place.”

Barbara Dinner, a long-time parishioner at Nativity, offered her own opinion.

“I think the parish as a whole is very friendly, very giving, and I think that could have influenced them,” she said.

“I think it’s a great reflection on the parish and the people who taught here, and the priests who encouraged them so well.”

CARDINAL STANISLAW DZIWISZ, who told Italy’s La Stampa daily on June 1 that Półtawska had “exaggerated” the friendship and “loured for herself a unique relationship and special link which didn’t exist in reality.”

Meanwhile, Italian newspapers said the book could delay John Paul II’s beatification process by creating extra work for the Rome tribunal.

Father Tomasz Lubas, director of the K nowak-based Edyta Swietego Pawla, which published the book, told Poland’s Catholic information agency on June 2 that the manuscript had been submitted before publication to the tribunal, adding that he and Półtawska had shown “constant care and attention” to ensure it would not disrupt the process.

Meanwhile, Półtawska also defended the book and said she believed she had the same right to publish the writings of Pope John Paul II as Cardinal Dziewisz and other friends and colleagues of the pontiff.

“The pope wanted me to give this testimony when I spoke to him before his death. Nothing else matters to me,” the 87-year-old said in a story published in the June 14 edition of the weekly Catholic Tygodnik Powieczesny. 
Serra Club vocations essay

God calls each person by name to spread the Gospel

(For: See previous page.

By Morgan Paras

God opens many people's hearts every day through 
religious and pious people.

Christians are called by name from God to spread the 
Gospel around the world by becoming priests, deacons, and 
religious brothers and sisters.

God truly loves each and every one of us without 
concern for the color of our skin, the religion we believe in 
or the social culture we are accepted into. It's God's job to 
care for and look out for his children.

As a lay servant of my Church, I try to listen to the 
ability to turn bread and wine into our Redeemer.

Father Martin, our former 
associate pastor and a good family 
friend, inspired me through his 
speeches, homilies, gatherings and 
celebrating the Eucharist. Watching 
Father Justin on the altar holding the 
Body and Blood of Christ in his 
hands brought chills to my arms.

As a holy servant of God, he had 
the ability to turn bread and wine into our Redeemer. 
Father Justin taught me the importance of respecting our 
Father for who he is, and that, yes, terrible events happen in 
our lives, but they are always for a reason.

Pain and sorrow come into our lives, but that is God's 
way of saying, "Slow down and watch what you are doing." 
Horrifically, Father Justin passed away at age 28, which 
made me realize that life can be short. He touched thousands 
of people's lives through his short time here on Earth.

In our lives, we have to find time to listen to God and see 
where he wants us to take our journey. When disaster comes 
into our daily existence, I will forever know that it was 
God's plan and everything will be all right in the end.

Father Justin educated me in my religious life, teaching 
me the importance of hearing God's call and opening my 
heart to him.

Our class trip to a convent in the seventh grade is a 
special memory that will never leave me. I remember 
watching the nuns at Mass singing their hearts out, pouring 
their thoughts, sorrows and joys upon our Savior. The way 
the nuns stood, walked and talked, I knew that God was 
forever inside of them. I recall one elderly nun who was our 
tour lady and showed us around the convent. In the middle of a story, as 
she was telling our group about the history of the convent, 
hers pager buzzed. The nun told us that God was calling, and 
that she needed to leave for a short moment.

I never thought twice about her reaction to the buzzer, 
just her simple words that God was calling her. The pager 
really was not from God, but that did not make any 
difference to me.

I knew that God had spoken to her plenty of times in her 
life, and that she was quite right in telling us God was 
calling. Through our busy lives, we need to sit back and realize 
that God is truly calling us. Whether it is through a pager or 
or God wants us to listen.

The voice of God comes in different ways so we need to 
be ready for his words.

I have truly been blessed by the priests, deacons, and 
religious brothers and sisters around me to help me open my 
heart unto the Lord. Growing in my relationship with God 
consists of hearing his call through priests, deacons, and 
religious brothers and sisters.

(Morgan and her parents, Mark and Lola Paras, are 
members of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. She 
completed the eighth grade at St. Luke School in 
Indianapolis last spring, and is the eighth-grade division 
winner in the 2009 Indianapolis Serra Club Vocations 
Essay Contest.)

Thank you for supporting our big vision.

Sustained small and medium-sized businesses, he said. †

The world has lost the sense that true value is derived 
from human labor, not just capital, he said. "Productive 
capital has in our economies."

The Vatican representative said it was "an ethical 
requirement" for the international labor group to promote a 
"jobless recovery" "in which large corporations and stock 
markets will bounce back, but from which the world’s 
workers will not benefit," said Archbishop Silvano Tomasi.

People need to turn the current crisis into an opportunity 
to reaffirm the importance of protecting people’s dignity in 
the work world, “to encourage a lifestyle of sobriety, 
solidarity and responsibility; and to direct all economic 
activities to the common good,” he said.

The archbishop made his comments on June 10 during 
the International Labor Organization’s annual inter-
national labor conference on June 3-19 in Geneva. He sent 
a copy of his remarks to Catholic News Service on June 11.

As the global economy experiences its deepest 
downturn in 50 years, labor analysts predict that the 
number of jobless persons around the world will 
increase by 50 million people, he said.

The Vatican representative said it was "an ethical 
requirement" for the international labor group to promote a 
"Global jobs Pact" to stimulate job creation alongside 
other measures taken by world leaders to stimulate the 
economy and credit markets.

Archbishop Tomasi said the current crisis underlines 
"the frailty of financial wealth and the uncertain role that 
capital has in our economies."

The world has lost the sense that true value is derived 
from human labor, not just capital, he said. "Productive 
work is at the base of the real economy rather than 
[financial] speculation that is prompted solely by greed for 
profits," he said.

The two avenues toward economic recovery that would 
be most effective and offer greater respect for human 
dignity would be to protect and expand employment, and 
sustain small and medium-sized businesses, he said. †
Faith Alive!

Elderly people need love, respect and affirmation

By Kathleen Carlton Johnson

Margaret, a willowy, elderly woman with curled, white hair, was aggravated. Her tea was late. When her middle-aged daughter, Gina, finally arrived with her tea, there was an angry exchange of words. Her tea was not only late. It also was cold. Although cold tea in and of itself is not a major problem, elderly people who are homebound like Margaret often feel frustrated because their world is not large anymore. They are dependent on their caregivers for the most ordinary, everyday needs, which—when they are met—offer a sense of stability and security.

Gina had been concentrating on her phone conversation with a doctor about tests that she had undergone the previous week, and the tea had cooled on the kitchen counter. Margaret later regretted what she had said in frustration after her daughter hurried out of the room with hurt feelings and thoughts about how ungrateful her mother was for her caregiving.

Margaret, who is 82, has been living with her daughter for several years now. She likes this arrangement because she feels at home, loved and cared for—even when her tea is cold. “But I still spend a lot of time alone,” Margaret said. She thinks that it is “hard sometimes to fit into a family setting even if it is your own family [because] there are children and a husband and things that I cannot participate in.”

Margaret, like many elderly people who live in their adult children’s homes, said she “did not want to be a burden” on her daughter’s family. This concept of “burden” was often expressed by the elderly people I interviewed about their living arrangements with relatives. This concept and the idea of “guilt” on the part of the family caregiver are all factors that, if not looked at in realistic and loving ways, can easily cause resentment of the elder or despair on the part of the elder because he or she fears being a burden to loved ones.

This situation can also cause stress and possibly irrevocable harm to close-knit family relationships. Many elders who chose to live with their adult children find it difficult. Several senior citizens whom I have spoken with over the years said they are often “treated like children” by those who care for them.

It is little wonder then that those who can afford it or consider it the lesser of two evils—being a burden to family members or living among strangers—opt to live in a nursing home or assisted-living complex.

Have these dynamics always existed between elderly parents and their adult children? The modern world is not geared toward families living in community as has been done in the past. Back then, families were a community of members and several generations often lived under one roof.

That has changed. In almost every case, elderly people are marginalized in our present fast-paced culture. But many adult children today do think it is their duty to take care of an elderly parent or other family member at home. Often, however, they fail to consider appropriate living conditions.

Elderly people should be loved, respected and affirmed, not endured. This is the challenge in adult child and elderly parent living arrangements. A living arrangement involving elderly family members and their grandchildren can often be a real blessing. Kids enjoy and appreciate their grandparents’ presence.

These situations must be looked at realistically for how they impact both the elderly family member and their caregivers. Rudd noted that “the case of the frail and unwanted elderly person capable of being managed at home, but for whom the community has no real use, is surely one of the great moral problems of the day.”

But elderly people do have usefulness, abilities and their own work to do. Rudd explained. Regardless of their physical state, they can pray earnestly for their families, caregivers and other elders as they undertake “the work of old age.” Rudd described this important and necessary work as “the adaptation to a changed environment, devised by a loving God for the perfection of a soul.” He said “the ability to renounce things, previously felt to be vital to life, is an important feature.”

Elderly people are not children, and they deserve to be treated with dignity, love and abiding respect. They also deserve clear and realistic living conditions as well as care which makes them feel like they are part of the family.

Are we as Christians willing to face this problem, to “work among the aged and mentally afflicted, encouraging our sons and daughters to do the same”? Rudd asked. “The present mature generation is rightly preoccupied by thoughts of old age, and will find no real peace of mind until it has solved its moral problem. For it knows, consciously or unconsciously, that its comforts are enjoyed at the expense of the older generation.”

[Kathleen Carlton Johnson, a veteran educator, is an advocate for the elderly and a hospice volunteer in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, where she lives with her husband and adult children. Her book, Elder Prayer, is published by Paulist Press.]
From the beginning of time, humans have been concerned about death and what happens afterward.

The ancient Egyptians depicted their pharaohs with all the things they thought they would need in the next life. Some ancient peoples buried wives and servants with their kings, believing that they would need them in the next life.

Religious teachings about life after death vary considerably depending upon whether one is a Hindu, Buddhist, Jew, Muslim, Christian, or member of another religion. Catholics believe in the resurrection of the body. It's a belief that has been an essential ingredient of the Christian faith from its beginnings. We are called to believe that those who are saved will enjoy their reward, or punishment, immediately after death. The Church calls this "the particular judgment" to distinguish it from the "general judgment," which takes place at the end of time. "If Jesus tells us what the last judgment will be like, in the 25th chapter of Matthew's Gospel, I am going to judge us according to how well we fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, clothed the naked, etc. It will display God's justice in condemning sinners and rewarding those who are saved." (2 Cor 5:10)

"That's the promise of our Catholic faith."

The Joyful Catholic/Rich Hermann

Husband discovers new love for his wife

Recently, a friend of mine said, "I've discovered that I enjoy being a great husband more than having a great wife." Puzzled, I asked, "What do you mean?"

"Well," he continued, "I used to think the best part of marriage was being married to a great woman. You know, having a gorgeous, sexy wife.

"I still think she's beautiful, but I've come to realize that I find more pleasure in being a great husband than in having a great wife. You know, like doing special things for her and taking care of her."

He smiled as he spoke and his eyes glinted.

"That's been her sense for three years now, and I've discovered I like being able to help her. I actually enjoy being the she who is there for her, even when she should realize it or appreciate it."

He concluded, "I'm not bragging here. It's just true. I've discovered a much deeper love for her and a new outlook on life.

As I listened, it dawned on me that I was hearing something special. His words brightened my mind like sunbeams on a stained-glass window. I marveled at his discovery and shared his delight.

"He was a great wife," he continued, "in full view. He was being transformed by the love of God into a new creation.

"There in the body and blood of my friend was a new awakening, a new beginning. She is the love of Jesus, totally self-giving. In, we both lose and find ourselves. It overflows in us with pure joy. We find this love only if we seek it with all our heart, like children searching for buried treasure. Once we discover it, we joyfully sell everything to possess it."

"Whoever finds this love will be truly blessed, and we will re-incarnate it," he continued. "Whoever finds this love is radically transformed. Like the weary traveler who climbs the mountains and gazes at the sight of the Promised Land, or the sinner who stumbles into the cathedral and is astonished by the majesty inside, we discover a love more wonderful than we ever imagined.

"The man who loves this way is the greatest warrior. He is greater than any general who conquers a city for he has conquered himself!"

In my friend, we see the reflection of Christ, who sacrificed himself for the sake of his church. The Church teaches that "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the Church" (Eph 5:25).

"I am proud to be a husband to her for he is devoted to her and lays down his life for her. His life is consacrated, set apart from the world and other women. He embraces her alone."

"How many women yearn for a lover like this? How many wives would gladly submit to husbands who love them completely? By giving himself entirely to his bride, he sanctifies her and redeems himself. In return, she may give herself completely to him, as the Lord.

"This love is perfect, and reminds us that we cannot be perfect, therefore, at most, our heavenly father is perfect" (Mt 5:48).

"This man shows that marriage is more than a state of living in the same house. It reveals deeper dimensions of marriage in which we glorify God and help each other get to heaven."

"This is a profound mystery," said St. Paul. "I am talking about Christ and the Church" (Eph 5:32).

"When a man loves his wife like this, he loves her the way Jesus loves us."

(Rich Hermann of St. Louis is a Catholic columnist and speaker. His e-mail address is rh222@sbcglobal.net.)

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

Handwriting on wall spurs June tribute to children

Recently, I asked my husband, Paul, what we had moved in here on June 30, 1974.

"It was our wedding day," he replied. "We moved in here just a few days after my grandmother died."

That's how our story began. We were married on June 30, 1974, at St. George's Church in Toms River, New Jersey.

On June 30, 1974, we were married at St. George's Church. We had a beautiful wedding, and we were very happy. We were married by Father John, who was our pastor at the time.

After the wedding, we went to our honeymoon. We stayed at a beautiful hotel in Hawaii. We had a great time, and we fell in love with each other even more.

When we got back from our honeymoon, we moved into our new home. We were thrilled to be in our own house, and we were very happy.

As Catholics, we are called to "cross the border" to help others cross the way. If we are not involved in helping others cross the border, we are not really being Catholic. As a member of the Catholic Church, I believe that it is our duty to help others cross the way. As Catholics, we are called to "cross the border" to help others cross the way. We are called to help others cross the way.

(Margarita Solis Deal is the coordinator for Latino Outreach in the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education.)

Perspectives

From the Editor Emeritus/John E Fink

Basic Catholicism: Resurrection of the body

From the beginning of time, humans have been concerned about death and what happens afterward.

The ancient Egyptians depicted their pharaohs with all the things they thought they would need in the next life. Some ancient peoples buried wives and servants with their kings, believing that they would need them in the next life.

Religious teachings about life after death vary considerably depending upon whether one is a Hindu, Buddhist, Jew, Muslim, Christian, or member of another religion. Catholics believe in the resurrection of the body. It's a belief that has been an essential ingredient of the Christian faith from its beginnings. We are called to believe that those who are saved will enjoy their reward, or punishment, immediately after death. The Church calls this "the particular judgment" to distinguish it from the "general judgment," which takes place at the end of time. "If Jesus tells us what the last judgment will be like, in the 25th chapter of Matthew's Gospel, I am going to judge us according to how well we fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, clothed the naked, etc. It will display God's justice in condemnation sinners and rewarding those who are saved." (2 Cor 5:10)

"That's the promise of our Catholic faith."

Catholic Education Outreach/ Margarita Solis Deal

Catholics crossing borders

At the time of this writing, I am busy preparing for an annual trip to Latin America to support our missionaries in Honduras.

As a member of St. James Apostle Parish in Lepaterique, I have been involved with a sister-parish relationship in developing a sister-parish relationship with St. James Apostle Parish in Santiago Apóstol in Lepaterique.

At its core, the mission of this ministry is to develop a relationship through prayer within the Eucharist. Every visit we make make every activity that we accomplish are weighted against this mission.

It is our Catholic faith that allows us to "cross the border" that exists between ourselves and others. We are called to "cross the border" that exists between ourselves and others.

With minimal English skills, she began reaching out to the students and information and to see if it was possible for her son to attend school.

She was "crossing a border" and was greeted with a stretched-out hand of love and understanding as the principal greeted her with "Buenos dias!" ("Good morning)."

While the language translation was the strength of faith, demonstrated by both the parents and the principal, the principal helped "cross the border."

Patricia's son was starting the third grade at the school in August. As a constituent of the Catholic Bishops, more than 50 percent of all Catholics in the United States under the age of 18 are of Hispanic descent (www.usccb.org/hispaniccaffairs/)

As the face of our faith community continues to transition, we are faced with many "border crossings." Some will be easier to cross than others.

Why is it so difficult for us to "cross borders"? Some say fear, some say misconceptions and some say the unwillingness to find common ground. Others, however, see the "crossing of borders" as an opportunity to strengthen communities and to see the world through the lens of the others. The beauty of our faith, however, is that we do not need to determine this for ourselves because as Catholics we are called to "cross the border" no matter where the boundary lies.

When a legal scholar asked Jesus what the most important commandment of Scripture was, Jesus indicated that there are two commandments that capture all of the Law and the Prophets: "To love the Lord with all of our heart, soul, and mind," and "to love our neighbor as ourselves" (Mt 22:37-40).

As Catholics, we are called to "cross the border" to help others cross the way. What borders are you currently crossing? Are you helping your neighbor to cross?
Sunday, June 21, 2009

The Sunday Readings

**Daily Readings**

- **Monday, June 22**
  - Paulinus of Nola, bishop
  - John Fisher, bishop and martyr
  - Thomas More, martyr
  - Genesis 12:1-9
  - Psalm 33:12-13, 18-20
  - Matthew 7:1-5

- **Tuesday, June 23**
  - Genesis 13:2, 5-18
  - Psalm 15:2-5
  - Matthew 7:6, 12-14
  - Vigil Mass of the Nativity of John the Baptist
  - Jeremiah 1:4-5a, 5b-6b, 15ab, 17
  - 1 Peter 1:8-12
  - Luke 1:5-17

- **Wednesday, June 24**
  - The Nativity of John the Baptist
  - Isaiah 49:1-6
  - Psalm 139:1-3, 13-15
  - Luke 1:57-66, 80

- **Thursday, June 25**
  - Genesis 16:1-12, 15-16
  - or Genesis 16:6b-12, 15-16
  - Psalm 106:1-5
  - Matthew 7:21-29

**Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen**

**Only priests and bishops administer sacrament of anointing of the sick**

Our faith community is confused about the sacrament of anointing of the sick. According to a friend of mine in our parish, their study group anoints sick people with oil as part of their prayer. Unless I’m mistaken, only a priest should do this.

Some churchgoers report they have seen the Blessed Virgin and now have healing powers. Please explain who is authorized to administer oil.

A can ordinary priest bless the oil of peace and consider it a holy oil? (Indiana)

Not all of your questions can be answered fully here, but a few points can be made that should be helpful. It is important first to recognize that the sacrament of anointing of the sick is not only for the spiritual, physical and psychological healing in the Catholic Church’s spiritual household. Prayers for and with sick persons—conforting them with one’s presence and words, or blessing them with the sign of the cross on the forehead—are among many ways of petitioning God’s healing that can be used at any time by anyone.

They all acknowledge our Lord’s presence in the midst of suffering, his saving power over all evil and hurt, and his desire to free us in every way possible from the effects of our human limitations and weaknesses. Everyone is encouraged to employ them whenever possible, either one on one or with others who share this.

The Church has, in fact, specific rituals and prayers that may be utilized by lay people as well as clergy in their effort to assist the sick. These prayers and rituals are found primarily in the official ritual for Pastoral Care of the Sick (Chapter 1) and in the Rite of Blessing of the Sick, which is approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (Chapter 2).

Now oil of the sick is one of three holy oils that the bishop consecrates at the chrism Mass during Holy Week: specifically for use in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, holy orders and anointing of the sick. They should normally be used only by those administering these sacraments. If necessary, any priest may bless the oil of the sick during the anointing liturgy of the sick and not just the consecration. As a final note, it seems like you are unsure that holy oils no longer need to come from olives. Because olive oil is sometimes difficult to obtain, oil from any plant—corn, soybean and others—may be used in the sacraments (Pastoral Care of the Sick, #40; Blessing of Oils, Introduction).

(If a free brochure answering questions that Catholics ask about the anointing of the sick is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 3135, Peoria, IL 61615, questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address or by e-mail in care of jjdietzen@aol.com)

---

**Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen**

**Only priests and bishops administer sacrament of anointing of the sick**

Our faith community is confused about the sacrament of anointing of the sick. According to a friend of mine in our parish, their study group anoints sick people with oil as part of their prayer. Unless I’m mistaken, only a priest should do this.

Some churchgoers report they have seen the Blessed Virgin and now have healing powers. Please explain who is authorized to administer oil.

A can ordinary priest bless the oil of peace and consider it a holy oil? (Indiana)

Not all of your questions can be answered fully here, but a few points can be made that should be helpful. It is important first to recognize that the sacrament of anointing of the sick is not only for the spiritual, physical and psychological healing in the Catholic Church’s spiritual household. Prayers for and with sick persons—comforting them with one’s presence and words, or blessing them with the sign of the cross on the forehead—are among many ways of petitioning God’s healing that can be used at any time by anyone.

They all acknowledge our Lord’s presence in the midst of suffering, his saving power over all evil and hurt, and his desire to free us in every way possible from the effects of our human limitations and weaknesses. Everyone is encouraged to employ them whenever possible, either one on one or with others who share this.

The Church has, in fact, specific rituals and prayers that may be utilized by lay people as well as clergy in their effort to assist the sick. These prayers and rituals are found primarily in the official ritual for Pastoral Care of the Sick (Chapter 1) and in the Rite of Blessing of the Sick, which is approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (Chapter 2).

Now oil of the sick is one of three holy oils that the bishop consecrates at the chrism Mass during Holy Week: specifically for use in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, holy orders and anointing of the sick. They should normally be used only by those administering these sacraments. If necessary, any priest may bless the oil of the sick during the anointing liturgy of the sick and not just the consecration. As a final note, it seems like you are unsure that holy oils no longer need to come from olives. Because olive oil is sometimes difficult to obtain, oil from any plant—corn, soybean and others—may be used in the sacraments (Pastoral Care of the Sick, #40; Blessing of Oils, Introduction).

(If a free brochure answering questions that Catholics ask about the anointing of the sick is available by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Father John Dietzen, Box 3135, Peoria, IL 61615, questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at the same address or by e-mail in care of jjdietzen@aol.com)
CIALDELLA, Ronald Patsy
Great-grandmother of four.

CIADELLA, Ronald Patsy
Grandmother of six.

Mother of Frank and Tom
and Brenda Curran. Great-
r
Marian Bergman and Donald

Grandchildren of Jerome and
and daughter of Jerome and
Elizabeth

pages.

Order priests and
are listed elsewhere in
priests serving our archdiocese
before the week of publication;

Radio
• Son Rise Show - 7:00 am • Catholic Connection - 9:00 am
• The Doctor Is In - 1:00 pm • Open Line - 3:00 pm
• Al Kresta - 5:00 pm • Catholic Answers - 6:00 pm –
8:00 pm

Now Three Ways to Listen

1. From east of Terre Haute to Indianapolis
and south of Lafayette to Martinsville listen on your
radio in the Archdiocese of

2. In Indy or within about 10 miles of the city you
can listen on a Small Miracle Radio, even inside
your home, even in weak signal areas.

3. If you live anywhere in the Archdiocese (or the
world) listen at www.CatholicRadioIndy.org on
your computer.

Shepherds of Christ
religious shop

5954 N SR 62, China, IN 47260

Catholic Radio
Great Catholic Programs 24 Hours a Day

• Daily Mass - 4:00 am & noon
• Rosary - 8:00 am
• Son Rise Show - 7:00 am
• The Doctor Is In - 1:00 pm
• All Kids - 5:00 pm

Now Three Ways to Listen

1. From east of Terre Haute to Indianapolis and south of Lafayette to Martinsville listen on your radio in the Archdiocese of

2. In Indy or within about 10 miles of the city you can listen on a Small Miracle Radio, even inside your home, even in weak signal areas.

3. If you live anywhere in the Archdiocese (or the world) listen at www.CatholicRadioIndy.org on your computer.

Do you know that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis is 100% operated
by volunteers?

That’s right, StVDP has no paid employees. All that
you give goes directly to supporting the poor with food,
clothing and household items.

Stretch your charitable contributions by giving to
a

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
300 S. E. 8th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46228

Or donate online at
www.svdpindy.org

Can God call you to something more?

Whether you’re a lay minister

Eckstein Shoe Store
1200 MAIN ST.
BEECH GROVE, IN
317-786-7086

All Men’s and
Women’s SAS Shoes.

A Full Service Asphalt Paving Contractor
And A Family Tradition
In Central Indiana Since 1931

Industrial
Tennis Courts
Parking Lots
Cart Paths
Commercial

Globe Asphalt Paving
CO. INC.
6445 E. 30th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46219
317-568-4344

For information, contact Office of Enrollment, 200 Hill Drive,
St. Meinrad, IN 47577, phone: (800) 434-4723
e-mail: apply@stmeinrad.org, www.stmeinrad.org

Saint Meinrad
School of Theology

Admission to the College is open to qualified young men of any
belief and national origin.

The school of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in the Archdiocese of
Indianapolis is 100% operated by volunteers.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Sisters of Providence, St. Mary-of-the-Woods,
IN 47487.

Providing Providence Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education department
at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.

Providing Providence
Wendy Workman worked at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in
1984. Sister Wendy joined the faculty in the physical education
department at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and from the 1990s to 2001 she taught
in the ministerial program full-time.
History book recounts 175 years of Catholicism in the archdiocese

“This history will help all of us learn how our ancestors in the faith revealed the face of the Lord to others and how, over the years, they invited people to ‘come and see.’”

— Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein

The nearly 200-page hardcover, tells the story of Catholicism in central and southern Indiana from the arrival of Jesuit missionaries in the mid-1700s to the present day.

The history book sells for $27 (plus $4.50 for shipping and handling). The coffonth cover contains glossy, full-color photographs and graphics. The first half of the book is a historical account of the founding of the archdiocese and the growth of the Catholic Church in Indiana. The second half of the book contains historical information and photographs of each parish in the archdiocese.

Available at:

- The Archdiocese of Indianapolis
- Catholic Schools Office
- Catholic Family Center
- Catholic Book Center
- Catholic Baby Store
- Catholic News Service
- Catholic Charities
- Catholic Schools Foundation
- Catholic Communications
- Catholic Social Services
- Catholic Health Network
- Catholic Healthcare Alliance
- Catholic Health Network of Indiana
- Catholic Health Network of Illinois

For more information, call (317) 236-1572.
Couple collaborates on book of poetry and photographs

By Mary Ann Wyand

The poetry of daily life fascinates Sandra Marek Behringer.

The talented Catholic poet and novelist often feels compelled to take pen and paper or use computer key strokes to preserve vivid words and rhythmic phrases that resonate within her life experiences and reflect her deep spirituality.

Her husband, John, a gifted photographer, admits to being captivated by artistic images of split-second moments in time caught with just the right lighting and camera angle.

The longtime St. Luke the Evangelist parishioners are enjoying their retirement years in Indianapolis with their four sons—Matthew, Marc, Paul and Joseph—daughters-in-law and 10 grandchildren as well as occasional trips to interesting places around the world.

Recently, they collaborated on Only a Passage, a book of poetry and photographs published by Prairie Hawk Books which poignantly captures their relationships with God, family members and friends.

Bishop Robert F. Morczyk, auxiliary bishop of Green Bay as well as a poet, author and photographer, reviewed their book and gave it his literary blessing.

"Combining black and white photos with poetic reflections, Only a Passage offers more than a mere passage," he wrote in a statement for the book’s back cover, "This volume is rich in metaphor, meaning and messages from the heart."

Bishop Morczyk, who also is her writing mentor, described the book as "a good read in all seasons." The focus of Behringer’s poetry originates from her love for God and her Polish Catholic upbringing.

Many of her poems are inspirational reminders that God is always with us, especially in times of trial.

"I was exposed to a lot of wonderful realities that we don’t have to be because through faith in God, we don’t have to be lonely, … We have God, family members and friends,'” Behringer said, “and it occurred to me that I have been writing faith-based poetry—eucharistic, sacramental, Catholic poetry—for years.”

Her religious poetry reflects her strong belief in a loving and merciful God.

"Even when he hides his face, he is always, always there,” Behringer said. “I like to dwell on the meaning of existence, of what it means to be alive. Often, after I have read Scripture, … I’m inspired to put some ideas into poems." The title poem is an affirmation of the reality that “though we might be lonely, … we don’t have to be because through eucharist the God who made us breaks down that wall,” she said, “and then there is no loneliness because he enters into the atoms of our being. Beyond that, [the theme] seems to me to suggest life itself, which is only a passage into eternity. All the poems in the book about marriage, pregnancy, baptism, family and friends are also about passages. We go from one passage to another as we move toward God."

(Only a Passage can be purchased at Krieg Bros. in Indianapolis and Holy Family Bookstore in Carmel, Ind., or by sending $6.65, which includes tax and postage, to Prairie Hawk Books, 1427 W. 86th St., Suite 518, Indianapolis, IN 46260. To order Hawks Crossing, log on to sandramarekbehringer.com.)