Continued blessings, unexpected gifts

One year later, Julie Molloy and volunteers work to continue the legacy of Anna Molloy and Lucious Newsom

By John Shaughnessy

Just moments earlier, Julie Molloy was wiping away tears, but now she’s smiling and laughing when she considers the question about the unlikely duo that changed her life and inspired countless people in Indiana and across the country to care for the hungry and the needy.

The question asks Molloy to consider how her daughter, Anna, and her friend, Lucious Newsom, would react to the way she has continued to keep their combined legacy alive during the year since they both died within 19 days of each other.

Flashing a smile first, Molloy imagines the tiny 12-year-old girl in the motorized wheelchair and the larger-than-life 93-year-old man in bib overalls nudging each other as they watch her from heaven.

Then Molloy breaks into a laugh because she is certain that her daughter and her friend are laughing at her.

“I bet they’re laughing at me,” says Molloy, a member of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis. “I’m a ‘Nervous Nellie’ type who is always wondering, ‘How are we going to get this done? Do we have enough food? Do we have enough money?’ Lucious would just say, ‘Quit worrying, God will take care of everything.”

“They’re laughing at me because every time something has come up this year that I thought was too big to overcome, it’s been taken care of. God has taken care of everything.”

Still, it always takes the longest to take care of the healing.

Trying to fill the void

In late July of 2008, a significant part of the foundation of Julie Molloy’s life began to crumble.

For more than 12 years, Anna had lived with a rare genetic disorder that causes dwarfism. Her approach to life touched her mom, her father, Pete, her brother, Peter, and so many others before her.

On Aug. 18, came the death of Newsom, the retired Baptist-minister-turned-Catholic who rose above traditional ways of caring for the poor, offering them dignity and everything he had.

When Julie Molloy first heard Newsom give a talk about serving the poor 12 years ago, she felt Newsom and God were speaking directly to her. As she cared for her family, she also became more involved with Newsom’s efforts. So did Anna. In fact, Newsom was so touched by Anna’s “hard work and love of Jesus” that he thought of her in 2005 when supporters built a community center near downtown Indianapolis that offers food and other services to people in need.

Encouraged to name the center after himself, Newsom instead decided to call it Anna’s House.

Their deaths rocked Julie Molloy.

“When Anna died, I didn’t know what I was going to do,” she says. “It’s been a lonely year, a quiet year. Anna was just full of life. She had such a spirit about her, such a drive. She talked all the time, and now it’s so quiet. I have an amazing son who will be a sophomore in high school, and he keeps me busy. But when he’s in school, it’s quiet.”

As Molloy struggled with the deaths of her daughter and her friend, there was a growing fear among the supporters of Anna’s House and Newsom’s take-it-to-the-street ministry that everything would fall apart without his presence. Even as Anna’s House, participated in the groundbreaking ceremony.

Pope discusses bioethics, G-8 summit with Obama at Vatican

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Church’s position on bioethical issues got marked attention during Pope Benedict XVI’s meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama on July 10.

In addition to giving Obama a copy of his latest encyclical, which the pope had been presenting to visiting heads of state since its release on July 7, the pope also presented a copy of the Vatican document on biomedical ethics, “Dignitas Personae” (“The Dignity of a Person”). When presenting the gifts after their 35-minute closed-door meeting, the pope gave Obama a signed, white leather-bound copy of the encyclical, “Caritas in Veritate” (“Charity in Truth”), then indicated the light-green soft-cover instruction on bioethics issued last December by the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

“Oh, what we discussed earlier,” said Obama, referring to their closed-door discussions. “I will have some reading to do on the plane.”

Obama was given the instruction to help him better understand the Church’s position on bioethics.

Mgr. Georg Ganswein, papal secretary, told journalists in the pool covering the visit that Obama arrived at the Vatican shortly before 4 p.m., and a squad of Swiss Guards saluted him in the St. Damasus Courtyard of the Apostolic Palace.

U.S. Archbishop James Harvey, prefect of the papal household, was the first to greet the president, and he accompanied Obama to a meeting with Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state.

Pope Benedict XVI greeted U.S. President Barack Obama in the pontiff’s private library at the Vatican on July 10.

Pope Benedict and Obama sat at a desk in the papal library and discussed the Group of Eight summit—the meeting of the world’s wealthy industrialized countries, which concluded that morning in
MOLLOY
continued from page 1

Molly tried to fill the void by becoming the director of Anna's House, the concerns grew.

"The fear was that with Lucious gone, we wouldn't get the volunteers continuing to come, and the gifts wouldn't come in either," she said. "He had been the backbone of it. The fear was people would say, 'Who's that girl?'" Nearly a year later, there are answers.

"I think Lucious would feel really good about how things have continued," says Bill Bahier, a Catholic and longtime volunteer at Anna's House who considers Newsom as one of the heroes in his life. "Julie picked up the baton, kept the principles in place, and kept the opportunity in place. There was a huge void when Lucious died, but a lot of people still get to experience a lot of things that Lucious made possible, thanks to Julie's efforts."

Continued blessings, unexpected gifts
Molly deflects any praise, preferring to give it all to "the many individuals who work so hard to keep this ministry moving." "I couldn't do it without everyone else," she says. "If you want to talk about the true director, God is the director of it. He just puts me down there to unlock the doors. It's been a good place and a healing place to go there to keep things going and to increase the programs down there.

"I have a picture that Anna was doing in this neighborhood," Newsom says. "I like to think this is part of God's plan for me. Molloy is putting her heart and soul into another effort as the anniversary of Anna's House. It's what this ministry is all about. Nothing is more important than the togetherness of the races. For the young and the old, the big and the little, the Gettysburg of it all."

"My head was down there to unlock the doors. It's been a good place and a healing place to go there to keep things going and to increase the programs down there."

"It's almost like when God took Lucious, he brought in this anonymous donor," Bahier says. "Lucious would go to this wholesale on Saturday mornings and buy $500 to $1,000 of fruits and vegetables. A woman Lucious died, an anonymous donor came up and started paying the bill."

A mother volunteer credits Molly with making improvements to Lucious' way of feeding the poor.

"We've changed things up gradually," Molloy says. "We're not only assisting people from that area with food, but also with rent and utilities to keep them in their homes," Molly says. "We're adding three to five families to the list every week. People are losing their jobs right and left because of the economy."

"We've started registering our guests in the boundaries we serve," says Joe M. eade, a volunteer from St. Jude Parish. "That's been tremendous in making things run smoother. And July is very involved in that."

"I think it's part of God's plan for me," Molloy says. "It's what this ministry is all about. Nothing is more important than the togetherness of the races. For the young and the old, the big and the little, the Gettysburg of it all."

"I like to think this is part of God's plan for me," she says about leading Anna's House. "He gave me a lot of kids to be responsible for, and helping with their needs. So I have a lot of kids to take care of. He gave me something good to do."

"I think it's part of God's plan for me," Molloy says. "It's what this ministry is all about. Nothing is more important than the togetherness of the races. For the young and the old, the big and the little, the Gettysburg of it all."

"I think it's part of God's plan for me," Molloy says. "It's what this ministry is all about. Nothing is more important than the togetherness of the races. For the young and the old, the big and the little, the Gettysburg of it all."

"I think it's part of God's plan for me," Molloy says. "It's what this ministry is all about. Nothing is more important than the togetherness of the races. For the young and the old, the big and the little, the Gettysburg of it all."

"I think it's part of God's plan for me," Molloy says. "It's what this ministry is all about. Nothing is more important than the togetherness of the races. For the young and the old, the big and the little, the Gettysburg of it all."

"I think it's part of God's plan for me," Molloy says. "It's what this ministry is all about. Nothing is more important than the togetherness of the races. For the young and the old, the big and the little, the Gettysburg of it all."
Pope Benedict XVI

Charity

TRUTH

Justice advocates and those involved with developing social policy.

It just may happen, said Catholic

business

leaders, that what we have here is not only an economic failure but a moral failure," he said.

Collins, a Catholic, who co-wrote The Moral Measure of the Economy, published in 2007 by Orbis Books. "You have a value of regard for life over a focus on consumption and material happiness," he said. "We have reached this kind of zero of a value imbalance."

Collins said he expects that Pope Benedict's message, based on common values that people around the world hold, will lead to new regulations on business practices to prevent recent abuses in the financial markets from occurring again.

"That's the kind of companies we need to see," he said. "We need companies that place values above individual greed, and want to live in communities where human life and opportunity flourish," he said.

Catholic business owner Umberto P. Fedeli, president and CEO of the Fedeli Group, one of Ohio's largest insurance brokerage firms, was more outspoken in his comments. He said the business world can learn much from the franchise that started in December 2007.

"If we treated people like we were our brother's keeper and we were more men and women for others, then we would have probably avoided a big part of this economic crisis, which has been an unforeseeable moral crisis," Fedeli told CNS from his office in suburban Cleveland.

"I don't know in the future what I want to be treated," said Fedeli, a lifelong Catholic. "I want you to be more like friends and family, and to accept you as relatives like they're an extension of your family. You treat your customers and clients like they're your best friends. You treat your business partners and associates as a member of your extended family.

"If you do this, you wouldn't have to compromise," Fedeli said.

"We have to understand that the business world can do better and lead to new regulations on business practices to prevent recent abuses in the financial markets from occurring again," Fedeli said. "We have to understand that the business world can do better and lead to new regulations on business practices to prevent recent abuses in the financial markets from occurring again."

Sister Simone Campbell, executive director of Network, a Catholic social justice lobby, which for 38 years has promoted legislation and policies in Congress to ensure a more equitable world.

"(The encyclical) is not a call to religious conversion," Sister Simone, a Sister of Social Service, told CNS. "It's a call to economic reality. It's a very pragmatic, eyes-wide-open approach that gives it greater resonance in the public forum."

In the real world, the pope's call to action can lead to needed steps that more people can agree upon, said author Collins, who also directs the Program on Inequality and Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI.

"You're talking about an issue that started in December 2007.

People of faith, led by the hope that God promises, can lead the way in such reforms, the USCCB's Carr said.

"The crisis has created a moment that could lead to conversion," he said. "And we're in the conversion business. We're in the persuasion business."

"It is a counter-cultural message. And guess what? The culture got it working, so maybe we're onto something."†

Lula Baxter, program director for Catholic Charities, served the elderly for 20 years

By Mary Ann Wyand

Lula [Emile] Paige Baxter, the long-time program director of adult day services for Catholic Charities Indianapolis, died on July 12 in Indianapolis following a lengthy battle with cancer. She was 71.

The funeral service will be held at 12:30 p.m. on July 18 at Light of the World Catholic Church, 4846 N. Michigan Road, in Indianapolis.

The calling is from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. on July 17 at Stuart Mortuary, 2201 N. Illinois St., in Indianapolis and from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. on July 18 at Light of the World Catholic Church.

Baxter completed 20 years of service as an archdiocesan employee on Feb. 20.

David J. Bethurum, agency director of Catholic Charities Indianapolis, said Baxter was “a gentle leader who believed in providing compassionate care for vulnerable adults and supporting their loved ones so their later years were filled with wonderful memories.”

He said “all of us at Catholic Charities Indianapolis will miss her professionalism and dedication in serving our older citizens.”

Ellen Brown, senior service director for Catholic Charities Indianapolis, remembered Baxter as a compassionate, gifted colleague and friend.

“Brown said Baxter ‘kept abreast of trends and issues affecting older adults and contributed to the professional development of the field of adult day services.”

“During two decades of ministry to the elderly, Baxter ‘was recognized among her peers in the adult day services arena as a respected leader,’ Brown said. “She exemplified the highest standards. Her staff could always look to her to model cooperation, service and stewardship. The national, state and local adult day services community joins us in mourning the loss of this extraordinary woman.”

In 1994, Baxter earned a certificate of public management from the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI.

She was a member of President Bill Clinton’s National Council on Aging as well as the National A association of Adult Day Services and Indiana Association of Adult Day Services, which she formerly served as president.

Baxter also served on the Medicare Advisory Task Force and Conference on Ministry for Aging, and was a retired board member of the Apha Home.

She also traveled to Australia and New Zealand as a member of a 16-person delegation to study issues in aging.

Baxter was an accomplished cellist and violinist. She performed with the L. E. Newcombe String Ensemble, and sang in the Community Mass Choir, Indianapolis Opera Chorus and Symphonic Praise Choir of the Indianapolis Philharmonic Orchestra.

She was a member of Light of the World Christian Church, where she sang with the Voices of the Light Choir and Golden Lights Choir.

Surviving are two children, Trace Daniels and Janis Paige; a brother, Dr. Phillip Emile; a sister, Helen Lewis; and two grandchildren.

Memorial gifts may be sent to A Caring Place, 4609 N. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46208 or Light of the World Christian Church, where she sang with the Voices of the Light Choir and Golden Lights Choir.

Surviving are two children, Trace Daniels and Janis Paige; a brother, Dr. Phillip Emile; a sister, Helen Lewis; and two grandchildren.

Memorial gifts may be sent to A Caring Place, 4609 N. Capitol Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46208 or Light of the World Christian Church, where she sang with the Voices of the Light Choir and Golden Lights Choir.
The pope and the president search for a path to dialogue

As Catholics, and as Americans, we have reason to be grateful and full of hope when our spiritual and temporal leaders meet face to face as Pope Benedict XVI and President Barack Obama did at the Vatican City State on July 10. We should be grateful because, unlike earlier periods in our nation’s history, the president and the pope can talk to each other about such things.

No one expects these two men who are of different generations, and who come from markedly different backgrounds, to agree on every issue. But, for 35-minute state visit having changed minds once our views have been formed. A Catholic, we believe that openness to God’s truth liberates individuals and societies from the tyranny of false and dehumanizing ideologies. A Methodist, we regard freedom—grounded in our inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness—as our most precious possession. There are not mutually exclusive points of view—far from it. There is common ground here, and a path to authentic dialogue, and we will work for it as openly and honestly as human beings can (with the help of God’s grace).

Pope Benedict was right to welcome Obama on behalf of the universal Church. He was also right to share with him a copy of his book, “Jesus of Nazareth,” and that he “explicitly expressed his commitment to reducing the number of abortions.”

As Catholics, and as Americans, we should be grateful for this brief but very significant exchange between our president and our pope. We should not be naive about this meeting or its implications for the public policy issues discussed. But we can, and should, be people of hope. We have God’s truth and grace, which can do far more than any president or pope, will inspire all our spiritual and temporal leaders to seek the truth in love and to do whatever is humanly possible to build a world community that truly serves the dignity of every human person.

—Daniel Conway

Letters from readers are published in The Criterion as space permits. Letters are limited to one letter every three months. We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and length. Send letters to: “Letters to the Editor,” The Criterion, P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1717. Readers with access to the Internet may send e-mail letters to criterion@archindy.org.

Making Sense Out of Bioethics/Fr. Tad Polachek

The twisted logic underlying abortion

Many influential people and institutions in our society, including Hollywood and the mass media, strongly support abortion. To justify their position, however, they must adeptly defy logic and ignore certain obvious facts. One example of this side-stepping is the argument for abortion that it’s all about a woman’s body. As Father A. Myr Bremener, who starred in the TV show “Judging Amy” once put it, “If a woman really has sovereignty over her own body, we really haven’t come that far.”

The obvious flaw in this argument was cleverly exposed a few years back by supermodel Kathy Ireland—who used to favor abortion—during a televised interview: “Some people say, ‘Well it’s a woman’s body; it should be her choice.’ There’s a 50 percent chance the baby she’s carrying is a boy, and he would have a penis. Women don’t have penises. So it’s residing in her body; it’s not a part of her body.”

While it should go without saying that babies have their own bodies, abortion advocates seem all too ready to step around the obvious to promote their agenda. Pope Benedict was correct in warning that the breaking news story about the murder of an abortionist grasps the headlines: “If someone really wanted to get Dr. George Tiller, the late-term abortionist in Kansas, almost every major media outlet would have pounced on the death of his body while taping into past the tragedy of the 60,000 deaths that Tiller himself had coordinated within his clinics.

Several TV commentators, however, immediately perceived this double standard. An n Coulter, for example, satirically mentioned, “... This one bolt nut to the heart of Tiller... I don’t really like to think of it as a murder. It was terminating Tiller in the 203rd trimester.”

She then argued: “I am personally opposed to shooting abortionists, but I don’t want to impose my moral values on others.”

Coulter also could not resist exposing the Fauci moral bankruptcy behind his pro-abortion rhetoric and sloganeering, as in: “If you don’t believe in abortion, then don’t have sex.”

Perhaps one has not clearly summarized the deadly logic of the pro-abortion position as Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, when she declared in her 1979 Nobel Peace Prize Prize speech: “... If a mother can kill her own child—what is left to prevent you and me—there is nothing between.”

The moral chaos of abortion often begins when advocates feign not to know when life begins.

George Jonas, in his critically titled essay “Thoughts from an Ex-Fetus,” observed how advocates must “pretend not to realize that life is an autonomous process, a continuum from zygote to old-age pension, a self-eraborating force that begins when it begins and keeps going indefinitely. The fact is an evolution. They are so religious—but not to neath that feta were not alive, it wouldn’t have to be true.”

Perhaps the most plausible explanation of why abortion advocates will so readily defy logic and ignore the obvious came from writer Dale Vree. He had been invited to a “living-room discussion” on abortion back in 1989, which included six prominent pro-lifers, six prominent pro-chicorizers and one or two undecided people.

Vree expected that the debate would hinge on when life began, but it didn’t. It did not turn on the hard cases—rape and incest.

When one of the radical feminists asked why the right to choose is held by who want to make choices, one of the pro-chicorizers replied that the choice was made back when the woman agreed to have sex. Then one of the pro-chicorizers finally belted out: “We’re pro-sex and you’re anti-birth.”

Vree said, “It’s funny that there are a lot of people who say, ‘That’s for lots of sex in lots of forms while we pro-lifers feel it should be unisex and monogamous marriage.’ They make it abundantly clear that they’re committed to the sexual revolution. I believe in the right to abortion and this is their bottom-line concern.

This indeed appears to be the crux of the matter, the central concern that has motivated both sides in the abortion debate, and many other advocates of abortion to sacrifice untold millions of unborn babies since the early 1970’s.

George Jonas zeroed in on this same bottom-line explanation: “We invent every excuse to shoot abortionists, and for the last 35 years, they’re committed to the sexual revolution, and that revolution will conquer the world.”

In the final analysis, this stands as probably the most honest analysis of our time, that the unordered and inordinate sexual desires of men and women are a bottom-line concern of abortion.

Fr. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale University and did doctoral work at Harvard University. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org
La adoración y la corresponsabilidad guardan una relación muy estrecha

E l quinto de los cinco mandamientos de la Iglesia recoge que esta viva en el mundo real. El Catecismo Católico de Estados Unidos nos recuerda: “Cada uno pongo al servicio de los demás el don que haya recibido, administrando fielmente la gracia de Dios en sus diversas formas” (1 Pt 4:10).

En su segunda Carta a los Coríntios, San Pablo dice: “Por ahora, voy a Jerusalén para llevar ayuda a los hermanos, ya que Macedonia y Acaia tuvieron a bien hacer una colecta para los hermanos pobres de Jerusalén. Lo hicieron con buena voluntad, aunque en realidad era su obligación hacerlo. Porque si los gentiles han participado en las bendiciones espirituales de los judíos, están en deuda con ellos para servirles con las bendiciones materiales” (Rm 15:25-27).

San Pablo va más allá cuando aplica la palabra “liturgia” al ministerio del amor y de la hermandad, que se hace palpable en la colecta de dones, incluyendo el dinero. Utiliza el vocablo “liturgia” (liturgia), que, según expresa, a su vez conlleva a un desbordamiento de acciones de gracias hacia Dios (Rm 15:27; 1 Cor 9:12f).

Este acto de compartir, expresado en la participación en la corresponsabilidad por medio de la pobreza, es un acto de adoración de Dios. Y se realiza en el mismo contexto en que se da gracias a Dios por los dones de las bendiciones espirituales de los judíos. Al participar de esta forma en el amor de Cristo, los gentiles realizan una acción de gracias a Dios por su generosidad. Porque si los gentiles han participado en las bendiciones espirituales de los judíos, están en deuda con ellos para servirles con las bendiciones materiales” (Rm 15:25-27).

En 2002, los obispos de Estados Unidos enmendaron una carta pastoral sobre la corresponsabilidad cristiana, titulada: “Corresponsabilidad: la respuesta es un acto de corresponsabilidad. Debemos ser corresponsables por vocación. Todos y cada uno de nosotros hemos sido llamados por Dios para marcar la diferencia en nuestro mundo. Nuestra respuesta a este acto de corresponsabilidad es el quinto mandamiento de la Iglesia.”

**La intención de vocaciones del Arzobispo Buechlein para julio**

**Hombres Religiosos:** Que los dones especiales que sus comunidades traen a la iglesia sean más apreciados y alentados por todas partes.

**La intención de vocaciones del Arzobispo Buechlein para julio**

**Hombres Religiosos:** Que los dones especiales que sus comunidades traen a la iglesia sean más apreciados y alentados por todas partes.
Events Calendar

July 16-18  St. Christopher Parish, 5353 E. 36th St., Indianapolis. 70th annual “M isummer Festival,” Thurs. 4:30 p.m.-
10:30 p.m., Fri. 4:30 p.m.-11 p.m., Sat. noon-11 p.m., food, games, rides. Information: 317-241-6314.


July 17-23  Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1401 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. Shop INN-ovative, “Spirited Summer Social,” 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 317-789-7581 or benedictin@stlouiscol.edu.

July 17-23  St. Susanna Parish, 1210 E. Main St., Plainfield. Parish festival, Fri. 6 p.m.-11 p.m., pulled pork dinner, Sat. 4:30 p.m.-midnight, chicken dinner, food, games, music. Information: 317-839-3333.

July 18  St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. “Our Lady of God’s Precious Infants Pro-Life Mass,” Father Shaun Whittington, celebrant. 8:30 a.m., followed by rosary outside abortion clinic and Benediction at church.

July 20-24  St. Mary Parish, Navillion, 7500 Navillion Road, Fishers. *“N Ice Fun Run and Walk,” 8 a.m., 5K, 10K, 1 to raise money for the church, $50 per person, includes lunch. Information: 812-923-5419.

July 20-24  St. John the Baptist Parish, 25743 State Road 1, Dovre. “Summer Festival,” 11 a.m.-6 p.m., fried chicken dinner, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Information: 812-576-4302.

July 20-24  St. Mary Parish, Navillion, 7500 Navillion Road, Fishers. Kloach, *“Parish picnic, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., chicken dinner, food, games. Information: 812-923-5419.

July 21  St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. Festival, “Fun Fest,” 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Information: 317-838-7447 or activities@saintsusanna.com.

July 21-23  St. Susanna Parish, 1210 E. Main St., Plainfield. Parish picnic, Sat. noon-11 p.m., 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Information: 317-848-9772 or stmsusanna@gmail.com.


July 24-25  St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 316 N. Sherwood Ave., Clarksville. Parish picnic, Fri. 5 p.m.-11 p.m., Sat. 2 p.m.-midnight, chicken dinner. Sat. food, entertainment. Information: 800-282-2290.

July 25-26  St. Martin Parish, 8044 Yorkridge Road, Yorkville. Parish festival, Sat. 4:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m., prime rib dinner, 4:30 p.m.-8 p.m., Sun. 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m., fried chicken dinner, 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m., food, games, music. Information: 812-623-3408.

July 26  St. Augustine Parish, 18020 Lafayette St., Leopold. Parish festival and picnic, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., chicken dinner, quilts, games. Information: 812-843-5343.

July 26-Aug 1  Jackson County Fairgrounds, Seymour. St. Ambrose Parish and Our Lady of Providence Parish, Jackson County Fair, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Information: 812-522-5304.

July 27  St. George’s Neighborhood Grill, 6953 Lake Plaza, Indianapolis. “Chicken Fun Fest,” 11 a.m.-8 p.m., food, games, music, $15 adults, $7 children.


July 28-29  St. Mary Parish, Navillion, 7500 Navillion Road, Fishers. Klobuchar, *“St. Mary Parish Family Reunion,” 4 p.m., Mass, includes lunch and dinner, reservations due July 10. Information: 317-948-9772 or benedictin@stlouiscol.edu.

July 29-31  Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 36th St., Indianapolis. Mid-week retreat, “*Use Time-Don’t Let It Use You,” *Benedictine Father Ku, presenter. Information: 800-581-6905 or M_zoeller@saintmeinrad.edu.

July 29-24  St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. 18020 Lafayette St., Leopold. Festival, “Summer Festival,” 8 a.m.-12 a.m., prime rib dinner, 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m., fried chicken dinner, 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m., food, games, music. Information: 812-623-3408.

July 31-Aug 1  St. Joseph Parish, 2605 St. Joe Road W., Sellersburg. Parish yard sale, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 812-246-2512.

August 1  Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 36th St., Indianapolis. Fourth annual “Missions Helping Missions Bazaar,” family picnic and summer celebration, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., picnic, 1-6:30 p.m., Mass, 4 p.m., dinner, $10 per person or $60 per family. Information: 317-646-7681 or zoeijay@archindy.org.

August 1  Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 90 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. Altar run rummage sale, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454, ext. 2.

Retreats and Programs

July 10  Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. Summer Celebration and Day of Reflection, “A Way of At-One-Ment,” 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., $40 per person includes lunch. Information: 812-933-6437 or center@oldengroof.org.


Community garden

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Mitchell is hosting a community vegetable garden this summer. Last spring, parish council members approved the use of a field behind the church to plow and open to community members for gardening. Six volunteer gardeners are growing vegetables for personal use as well as to provide food for the Lawrence Internat Food Emergency (LIFE), the local food bank. Father Rick Eldred, the pastor, asked the gardeners to plant pumpkins in one area of the vegetable garden for children to pick in the fall. Other produce includes corn, beets, tomatoes, watermelon, cucumbers, summer squash, onions and beans. It is hoped that this is the first of many successful seasons for the Mitchell Community Garden at St. Mary Parish.

Roncalli football coach to speak on July 19 at St. Jude Parish

Roncalli High School’s varsity football coach is the keynote speaker for “An Evening with Bruce Scifres” on July 19 at St. Jude Parish, 5353 E. McFarland Road, in Indianapolis. The St. Jude Men’s Spiritual Focus is sponsoring the free program, which is open to the public and begins at 6:30 p.m. at St. Jude Church. Program organizers said the talk will be of special interest to fathers and their sons aged 12 and over.

For more information, call St. Jude Parish at 317-788-4371.  

Summer tutoring program

Eight-year-old Brandi Reid, a second-grader at Fayette Elementary School in Vigo County, visits the horses at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with her volunteer tutor, Tom Milner, as part of the summer program at the college of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and a program of Guerin Outreach Ministries, Educational Family Services offers free tutoring for school-age children and General Education Degree preparation courses for adults. Retired Providence sister and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College students are among the summer program volunteer tutors.
Family recalls newly ordained Archbishop Di Noia's early calling

WASHINGTON (CNS)—It was clear that Archbishop J. Augustine Di Noia would become a priest from the age of 11, when he would regularly celebrate Mass for his younger cousins using a box covered in cloth as an altar and sugar wafers as hosts. “They all honored him as a priest at that age,” said Alfred Mancuso, Archbishop Di Noia’s uncle and confirmation sponsor 33 years ago. “He had that feeling way back.”

Mancuso was not surprised, then, when Archbishop Di Noia was ordained an archbishop on July 11 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. But it was still a big occasion.

An estimated 2,500 people witnessed the ordination of the new secretary of the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, which oversees matters concerning the liturgy and sacraments.

The crowd was the biggest that William Wooten has seen at an ordination in his 12 years as basilica security director.

Concelebrants included three cardinals, two ordaining bishops, 14 bishops and 148 priests.

The Gospel was Jesus’ prayer for priests: “As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world. And I consecrate myself for them, so that they also may be consecrated in truth” (Jn 17:18-19).

In his homily, Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, addressing Archbishop J. Augustine Di Noia:

“The whole of heaven casts its gaze upon you in response to the prayers of the Church. Here today, the prayers of all the saints will lift you up from above.”


The ordination of the newly ordained Archbishop Di Noia is held over the head of Archbishop J. Augustine Di Noia during his episcopal ordination at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington on July 11. Archbishop Di Noia was consecrated an archbishop by Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Pope Benedict XVI has named Archbishop Di Noia to serve as secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments.

Right, Archbishop J. Augustine Di Noia greets people during his episcopal ordination at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington on July 11.

Oberammergau Passion Play

Plus Tour Germany, Austria, and Italy including: Verona, Florence, Rome, and the Vatican!

11 Days

Depart May through September 2010 from $2699*

Arive in Munich, Germany, for an evening sightseeing tour. Tour Salzburg, Austria, birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Witness the city’s impressive monuments from the 18th century in Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque style. Sightshots through the Bavarian Alps & picturesque Oberammergau and the 700 year original Oberammergau Passion Play. Held every ten years, and attracting over 100,000 visitors, the Passion Play depicts the life and death of Jesus and is performed by over 2,000 performers, masks, and stage technicians. Dinner is served during the theatre intermission. The next day travel through Innsbruck, Austria, to Venice, Italy. Tour Bobbio, Italy, offering unique Italian-Australian fair at Molinazzo church. Venice, Italy, with Roman ruins and 12th century churches (there’s time for an optional tour to Verona); and Florence, the Renaissance capital of the world with famous sites, Leonardo, Dante, Michelangelo and Machiavelli. Speed two nights in Rome, with sightseeing including ancient Rome, the Vatican, St. Peter’s Basilica with Mass, Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and more. Includes 17 meals! This once-every-tan-year trip is very limited and will sell out fast. *Per person, double occupancy, plus $235 tax, service, port fees. Airfare is extra.

For information, reservations & brochures, call 1-800-736-7300.
Iraqi bishop says bomb explosion came after prayers for peace at Mass

BEIRUT, Lebanon (CNS)—Chaldean Auxiliary Bishop Shleemon Warduni of Baghdad, Iraq, had just finished celebrating Mass at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church and was talking to parishioners in the courtyard. Moments later, while he was in his office, a bomb exploded on the road that runs alongside the church.

The July 12 bomb blast was one of six that targeted Christian churches in Baghdad on July 11-12. A nother church was bombed in the northern city of Mosul on July 13.

Contrasting the Mass with the mayhem that ensued, Bishop Warduni told Catholic News Service in a telephone interview, “We had been praying for peace during the Mass.”

He said that “all the little children [had been] praying in the church. Then they ran out to see the death, the destruction, to see the war.”

“It was hell,” he said. “We cry: Why? Why? Why is our fault? That we are Christians?” the bishop said.

The series of church bombings left at least four people dead and more than 30 injured. A flare-up in violence last October claimed the lives of 13 Christians and forced thousands from Iraq.

“Alf the Christians are leaving,” Bishop Warduni told CNS on July 13. Iraq’s Christian population has dwindled to approximately half of what it was before the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

He said the attacks were part of a plan to purge Iraq of Christians and added: “We need peace. We need security.”

To purge Iraq of Christians and added:

 todo approximately half of what it was

October claimed the lives of 13 Christians

and added: “We need peace. We need security.”

on July 13.

Iraq’s Christian population has dwindled to approximately half of what it was before the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

He said the attacks were part of a plan to purge Iraq of Christians and added: “We need peace. We need security.”

The bishop said he did not know who the perpetrators were, but added, “If I knew who it was, we would pray for them.”

The bishop asked the world to pray for Iraq.

“Prayer unites us as brothers,” he said. “We don’t have any weapon but prayer. With prayer, we can kill the war.”

The Vatican newspaper L’Osservatore Romano reported on July 13 that Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, sent a telegram to the Chaldean patriarch Cardinal Emmanuel-Karim Delly of Baghdad, assuring him of Pope Benedict XVI’s prayers for the Catholic community in Iraq.

The pope “prays for the conversion of the hearts of those responsible for the violence and encourages the authorities to do everything possible to promote a just and peaceful coexistence among all sectors of the Iraqi population,” it said.

Younadn K ana, an Iraqi Christian lawmaker, told The Associated Press: “The terrorists are determined to hamper the political process in Iraq and not let Iraqis live in peace even after the withdrawal of foreign forces from the cities. ... We demand that the Iraqi government take all necessary measures to protect Christians in Baghdad and in all of Iraq.”

The attacks occurred less than two weeks after the pullback of U.S. troops from Iraqi urban areas. Iraqi officials announced on July 13 they were stepping up security around all Christian places of worship.

In Washington, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, a watchdog agency, expressed alarm at the bombings.

A July 13 statement quoted

commission chairmen Leonard Leo as saying the Iraqi government “must apprehend and punish the perpetrators of this violence, and must ensure that civilian property and lives, particularly of its most vulnerable citizens, are protected.”

The commission said Iraq’s small Christian community has been particularly vulnerable to violence because it does not have militia or tribal structures to protect itself and does not receive adequate official protection.
Ruth Ann Zeilinga and Steven Brian Moll were married on June 27 at St. Rose Church in Knightstown. The bride is the daughter of Fred and Kathy Zeilinga. The groom is the son of Dan Moll and Jan Johnstone. Father John Kiefer, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Muncie, Ind., officiated at their wedding ceremony.
**WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Alvarez-Meneses**
Maria Teressa Alvarez and Pablo Hector Meneses will be married on Aug. 15 at St. Louis Church in Batesville. The bride is the daughter of Alfonso and Maria Alvarez. The groom is the son of David and Julie Greenlee.

**Amberger-Nobbe**
Hilary Anne Amberger and Bradley Joseph Nobbe will be married on Sept. 26 at Holy Family Church in Oldenburg. The bride is the daughter of Stephen and Deborah Amberger. The groom is the son of Douglas and Catherine Nobbe.

**Aldridge**
Donna Dezern and Joseph Aldridge will be married on Oct. 17 at St. Pius X Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Ron and Donna Dezern. The groom is the son of David Dezern and Shirley Blair.

**Alessandra Casabella**
Benjamin Charles Casabella will be married on Sept. 26 at St. Louis Bertrand Church in Louisville, Ky. The bride is the daughter of A jardin and Dorris Ennett. The groom is the son of Napoleon Rolfe and Sandra Dee Ennett.

**Amberger**
Dennis Lally and Hilary Anne-Juliet Amberger will be married on Aug. 1 at St. Michael's Church in Oldenburg. The bride is the daughter of Gary and Lucinda Amberger. The groom is the son of Jeffrey and Carol Dall.

**Bauer**
Jay Lally will be married on Aug. 1 at St. Gerald Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Ron and Kara Bauer. The groom is the son of David and Gloria Record.

**Beck-Lacy**
Aimee Jay Lacy and Matthew Lacy will be married on Aug. 1 at St. Michael Church in Oldenburg. The bride is the daughter of David Dezern and Christine Blair. The groom is the son of Kevin and Mary Lacy.

**Bergman**
Jennifer Bergman and Kurt Bergman will be married on Aug. 30 at Sacred Heart Church in St. Louis. The bride is the daughter of Joseph and Valerie Feldkamp. The groom is the son of Hubert and Darlene Bergman.

**Bergman**
Michael and Dawn Lally will be married on Sept. 5 at St. Simon the Apostle Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Brian and Judy Joerger. The groom is the son of Michael and Dawn Lally.

**Bishop**
Melissa Anne Costello and Matthew James Bishop will be married on Oct. 17 at St. Pius X Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Ron and Cindy Bishop. The groom is the son of David and Julie Greenlee.

**Bovee**
Cindy Costello and Bryan Linnberg will be married on July 24 at St. Matthew Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Steve and Kelly Bovee. The groom is the son of Bruce and Lee Linnberg.

**Brown**
Bryan Michael Brown will be married on Oct. 17 at St. Michael Church in Greenfield. The bride is the daughter of Bret and Regina Brown. The groom is the son of Robert and Carolyn Brown.

**Casa de Alvarez**
Hector Meneses will be married on Aug. 15 at St. Jude Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Ron and Mary Meneses. The groom is the son of Brian and Mary Meneses.

**Curtis**
Alyssa Curtis and Bryan Linnberg will be married on July 24 at St. Matthew Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of A. and Kelly Curtis. The groom is the son of Bruce and Lee Linnberg.

**Davis**
Susanna N. Davis and Kenneth L. Blair will be married on Oct. 17 at St. Michael Church in Greenfield. The bride is the daughter of Deacon Wayne and Darlene Davis. The groom is the son of David and Shirley Blair.

**Dall**
Karen Dall and Bradley Darren Wilson will be married on Oct. 24 at St. Simon the Apostle Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Norbert and Carol Dall. The groom is the son of Jeffrey and Barbara Wilson.

**Downham**
Chase Alexander Downham and Samantha R. Downham will be married on July 18 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Dale City, Va. The bride is the daughter of A. and Sonya Downham. The groom is the son of Al and Julie Downham.

**Eckstein**
Lindsey A. Eckstein and Daniel M. Lynch were married on July 11 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Garry and Mary Jo Eckstein. The groom is the son of Kathleen and Robert Lynch Jr.

**Feldkamp-Casabella**
Mary Katherine Feldkamp and Benjamin Charles Casabella will be married on Sept. 26 at St. Louis Bertrand Church in Louisville, Ky. The bride is the daughter of A. and Dorris Ennett. The groom is the son of Ronald and Mary Casabella.

**Flasch**
Samantha Flasch and Adam Record will be married on Oct. 17 at St. Michael Church in Greenfield. The bride is the daughter of Regina and Michael Flasch. The groom is the son of David and Donna Decker.

**Gilmore-Williams**
Frankie D. Gilmore and Ryan Michael Williams will be married on Sept. 5 at St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of David and Cathy Gilmore. The groom is the son of Mike and Sharon Williams.

**Haggenjos-Brown**
Regina Marie Haggenjos and Bryan Michael Brown will be married on Dec. 19 at St. Francis and Clare Church in Greenwood. The bride is the daughter of Don and Sharon Haggenjos. The groom is the son of Robert and Carolyn Brown.

**Hoffman-Kelly**
Erin Hoffman and Joshua Kelly will be married on Nov. 21 at St. Joan of Arc Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of John and Susan Hoffman. The groom is the son of Gerald and Deborah Kelly.

**Joerger-Brock**
Eric Michelle Joerger and Corey Allen Brock will be married on Oct. 3 at St. Paul Church in New Alsace. The bride is the daughter of Larry and Beth Joerger. The groom is the son of Michael and Dorothy Brock.

**Jones-Paul**
Christina Lynn Jones and Craig Anthony Paul will be married on Oct. 17 at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Shelby County. The bride is the daughter of Brian and Tamara Jones. The groom is the son of Jerome Paul and Linda Paul.

**Jordan-Harrell**
Tiffany Lynn Jordan and Kye Matthew Harrell will be married on July 18 at St. Andrew Church in Richmond. The bride is the daughter of Brian and Judy Wiles. The groom is the son of Kevin and Mary Harrell.

**Hagenjoos-Brown**
Regina Marie Hagenjoos and Bryan Michael Brown will be married on Dec. 19 at St. Francis and Clare Church in Greenwood. The bride is the daughter of Don and Sharon Hagenjoos. The groom is the son of Robert and Carolyn Brown.
Kidwell-Dietz
Mary A. and Kim Kidwell and Tanner Douglas Dietz will be married on Nov. 28 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of William and Denise Kidwell. The groom is the son of Steven Dietz and Joyce Watz.

Maddox-Brown
Samantha Nicole Maddox and Thomas Joseph Brown will be married on Aug. 1 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church in Greenwood. The bride is the daughter of Peter and Diane Maddox. The groom is the son of Tom and Martha Brown.

Parsons-Neff
Theresa Rose Parsons and Victor Alan Neff will be married on Aug. 1 at St. Mary Church in Iowa City, Iowa. The bride is the daughter of Mary Suzanne Parsons. The groom is the son of Mark and Jancee Neff.

Schmitz-Keefe
Laura Therisa Schmitz and Kevin Treacy Keefe will be married on July 18 at St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of James and Marjorie Schmitz. The groom is the son of Daniel and Christine Keefe.

Kreilein-Hurrle
Nicole Dawn Kreilein and Stephen Francis Hurrle will be married on Sept. 5 at St. Joseph Church in Jasper, Ind. The bride is the daughter of Keith Kreilein and Marcia Corbin. The groom is the son of Steve and Barb Hurrle.

Lang-Eddy
Jennifer M. Lang and Timothy J. Eddy will be married on July 19 at St. Pius X Church in Appleton, Wis. The bride is the daughter of David and Debbie Lang. The groom is the son of Steve and Barb Eddy.

McGill-Miller
Amy Kathleen McGill and Kevin Joseph Miller will be married on Oct. 24 at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Bloomington. The bride is the daughter of Dan and Debbie M. Miller. The groom is the son of John and Lori Miller.

Scardine-Snyder
Danielle Nicole Scardine and Rick Carl Snyder will be married on Sept. 12 at Holy Family Church in Chicago, Ill. The bride is the daughter of Robert and Dolores Scardine.

St. Clair-Heim
Sara Elizabeth St. Clair and Patrick Joseph Heim will be married on Nov. 14 at St. Monica Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth St. Clair. The groom is the son of Thomas Heim and Bernadine Heim.

Nicholson-Martin
Kelly Marie Nicholson and Anthony Ross Martin will be married on Nov. 14 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Donald and Ruth Nicholson. The groom is the son of Jeff and Elizabeth Martin.

Schieffer-Braun
Ann E. Schieffer and Warrant Officer Kyle A. Braun were married on March 14 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Dr. L. Col. Charles and Faye Schieffer. The groom is the son of Timothy Braun and Sandra Harris.

Vaal-Tentler
Corine Theresa Vaal and Gary Nicholas Tentler will be married on Aug. 15 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Gene and Paula Vaal. The groom is the son of Wayne and Madeline Barrett.

Winningham-Kashman
Gillian Elizabeth Winningham and Joseph Edward Kashman will be married on Nov. 21 at the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Bruce and Elizabeth Winningham. The groom is the son of Dennis and Dianan Kashman.

Stephenson-Ripperger
Ashley Marie Stephenson and Joseph William Ripperger will be married on Sept. 5 at St. Thomas More Church in Indianapolis. The bride is the daughter of Robert and Sandra Ripperger. The groom is the son of Robert and Kathy Ripperger.

Vist us online
The Criterion www.criteriononline.com

Wedding at St. Rose Church
Above, newlyweds Steven and Ruth Moll pose beside the sign at St. Rose Church in Knightstown after their June 27 wedding ceremony.

Left, Ruth and Steven Moll pose for a picture with Father John Kiefer, pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Muncie, Ind., at the Lafayette Diocese, who officiated at their wedding ceremony. The newlyweds met Father Kiefer when they were students at Ball State University in Muncie.
‘Love one another’
Tobit Weekend helps couples live God-centered marriage

By Mary Ann Wyand

“I love one another as I love you” (Jn 15:12). Christ’s instructions in the Gospel of John are a simple and straightforward lesson in how to live a happy and holy life. But in the midst of oftentimes stressful and extremely busy daily living, it can be easy for individuals and married couples to forget those words of wisdom. That’s why the Church requires engaged couples to participate in a marriage preparation program before exchanging vows in the sacrament of matrimony.

The Pre Cana Program, a one-day course sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries and the Tobit Weekend, a retreat presented by a priest and trained volunteer team of engaged couples, help engaged couples learn how to grow in love and holiness with God at the center of their marriage all the days of their lives together.

Both marriage preparation programs are offered at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, the archdiocesan retreat center at 5333 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Father Jim Farrell, Fatima’s director, and Cheryl M. C'Sweeney, program manager, invite interested couples to help with this important volunteer ministry as Tobit team members.

“Tobit Weekend retreats are a wonderful opportunity for engaged couples to take a weekend away from the hectic schedules that many of them face as they are making preparations for the celebration of their marriage,” Father Farrell explained. “It’s an opportunity for them to focus on all the days that follow the wedding—the lifetime of marital commitment.”

Married couples on the Tobit team candidly share their own marriage experiences, he said, to “offer engaged couples an inside view of marriage—the daily blessings and challenges of working out a relationship with your beloved spouse and what all is involved in that.”

Tobit presentations and discussions address a variety of relationship skills, including:

• What does it mean to learn the art of communication with your spouse? How do you move toward forgiveness in times of difficulty or disillusionment?

• What are the marriage vows really about?

• It’s an opportunity to focus on the meaning of ‘for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health,’” Father Farrell said. “We are blessed to have some couples in the archdiocese, who have been married anywhere from three to five years up to 35 or 48 years, that have been very committed to the Tobit ministry and give up a weekend to be a part of this experience in helping engaged couples prepare for the sacrament of marriage.”

Fatima staff members and Tobit volunteer team presenters are “always looking for additional couples who are willing to share the story of their love and their sacrament with engaged couples,” he said. “Any of the married couples who are involved in this ministry speak of the blessing it is for them to have a time to reflect on the meaning of their own commitment, what they have come to value in their marriage, how their sacrament has come to life, how they feel the power of the grace of the sacrament at work within their love, and how this makes all the difference day after day.”

For team couples, the Tobit ministry is “an opportunity to renew their own marriage even as they give the gift of their wisdom and experience,” he said, “and share their story with couples who are preparing for the sacrament.”

The late Franciscan Father Martin Wolter started the Tobit Weekend ministry during the 1980s at the former Alverna Retreat Center in Indianapolis.

Two married couples and a priest serve on the Tobit Weekend team, Father Farrell said. The priest presents a talk on the spirituality and sacramentality of marriage, and also celebratory, explanatory Mass in slow motion, a catechetical tool for young couples preparing for a Catholic or an interfaith marriage.

“The experience of being a priest on the Tobit Weekend is an opportunity to witness my own spousal relationship with the Church,” he said, “and also to benefit from hearing the witness, the stories, of the presenting couples. It’s always very enriching for me to hear about the couples who are living out their marriage in the Church, meeting various challenges, going through periods of disillusionment and sorrow, but then rising to new periods of joy and discovery in their love for each other. It’s a real blessing.

“As I witness the engaged couples,” he said, “I’m always encouraged by the couples who take this opportunity to enrich their love for each other and deepen their communication with each other.”

Cheryl M. C'Sweeney, Fatima’s program manager for five years, and her husband, Mark, are members of Holy Spirit Parish in Fishers, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese, and have volunteered as Tobit Weekend presenters for 15 years. They have been married for 19 years and have three children.

“We believe so much in the Tobit Weekend message,” she said, “and know how crucial—even in our first few years of marriage—that information was for us.”

Tobit presentations focus on the importance of communication with your spouse and with God,” she said, “sharing that conversation with God as a couple and what that will do for your marriage.

Keeping God in the center of your marriage is the key to a lifetime of happiness together, M. C'Sweeney said. “In the ins and outs and challenges of daily life, it’s knowin’ that not only do we have each other to lean on, we also have our faith in God.”

Tobit Weekend presentations are especially important for young couples who live far away from their families, she said, and don’t have the benefit of this support in their marriage.

“It’s a very personal ministry,” M. C'Sweeney said, because “presenting couples are sharing their whole life with engaged couples” to help prepare them for a loving, God-centered marriage.

Immaculate Heart of Mary parishioners Larry and Emily Connolly of Indianapolis have been married for 42 years, and have three grown sons and three grandchildren.

They have volunteered as presenters on the Tobit Weekend team for 12 years.

“At the retreat house, engaged couples have the ability to spend important one-on-one time communing with each other,” Connolly said. “Emily and I believe that [helping with the Tobit program] has been a blessing to us. We have had a very good marriage, and it’s a gift from God. By working with engaged couples, if we can share anything that helps them along the road, it’s a matter of sharing that gift. … If you can help them realize how God is a part of their marriage, that’s a victory in itself.”

(For information about Tobit Weekends for engaged couples in 2019 and 2020, or to volunteer as a presenting couple, call Cheryl M. C'Sweeney at Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House in Indianapolis at 317-545-7681.)
Love and respect
Marriage aptitude test examines communication skills

(PMAT: The Perfect Marriage Aptitude Test by Mary Carty, Glitterati Inc., New York, 2009, 144 pp., $18.95.)

Reviewed by David Gibson
Special to The Criterion

"Respect is the number one ingredient in a healthy relationship. If you respect your partner, you will set a positive foundation for all of your communication," Mary Carty writes in PMAT: The Perfect Marriage Aptitude Test.

In one sense, this book is really all about communication skills in marriage. In her approach, however, the author differs from many others who have probed this topic.

Carty gets right down to the basics of married life by encouraging husbands and wives to evaluate how well they communicate when it comes to the nitty-gritty issues of daily life.

For example, the book invites readers to think about how their partners respond to requests. The author notes, "partners that are explicitly demanding...are almost always more demanding...after a marriage has settled down...than when they are engaged." 

Carty also cautions couples to avoid blaming each other. "It's not constructive," she explains, "and its negativity is damaging and not worth the consequences." 

In their approach to any issue which challenges them, Carty believes that spouses should "strive toward responding with respect, love, empathy, openness and a positive attitude." 

Many readers are sure to profit from the book's list of 100 ways to show active love—everything from taking care of a husband or wife during an illness to walking together and enjoying nature, and from giving compliments to smiling often at one's spouse.

Before a husband and wife begin to discuss an issue, Carty advises each partner to "take five seconds and remind yourself of the unconditional love you feel for your partner and of your commitment to act in a respectful manner." 

Carty also cautions couples to avoid blaming each other. "It's not constructive," she explains, "and its negativity is damaging and not worth the consequences." 

But the book offers much more than just a test. Carty gives readers a list of "six marriage communication tools," which should prove highly beneficial, along with an easy-to-consult list of 11 "communication reminders."

In one sense, this book makes it a unique resource that can be consulted again and again. Couples will find it valuable, and so will marriage educators. But the book offers much more than just a test.

Carty gives readers a list of "six marriage communication tools," which should prove highly beneficial, along with an easy-to-consult list of 11 "communication reminders."

Many readers are sure to profit from the book's list of 100 ways to show active love—everything from taking care of a husband or wife during an illness to walking together and enjoying nature, and from giving compliments to smiling often at one's spouse.

Before a husband and wife begin to discuss an issue, Carty advises each partner to "take five seconds and remind yourself of the unconditional love you feel for your partner and of your commitment to act in a respectful manner."

She counsels that "bored looks and folded arms may give signals that you are not open or interested in what your partner has to say." 

Carty also cautions couples to avoid blaming each other. "It's not constructive," she explains, "and its negativity is damaging and not worth the consequences."

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

Tobit Marriage Preparation weekends
Christian communication retreats for engaged couples or couples considering engagement.

2009 Tobit Dates
• January 22-24
• February 5-7
• May 14-16
• June 4-6
• July 30-August 1
• September 17-19

2009 Pre-Cana Dates
• January 31
• February 28
• March 7
• April 18
• May 2
• May 16

Love is a decision!
Call 545-7681 or e-mail cmcsweeney@archindy.org for details or to have a brochure mailed to your home!
WASHINGTON (CNS)—President Barack Obama has nominated Dr. Francis S. Collins, the former director of the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., to head the 27 institutes and centers that make up NIH.

The appointment was announced at the White House on July 8, the day after Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid introduced legislation to reauthorize funding for embryonic stem-cell research took effect. It must be confirmed by the Senate.

Collins, 59, was an early proponent of America's first human genome project in 1984. He later became interested in molecular biology and has said that the discovery of a person's genes “is not who he is as a person.”

Born on April 14, 1950, in Staunton, Va., Collins won a Christopher Award in 2007 for his book “The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief.” The awards honor works that affirm the highest values of the human spirit.

After leaving the genome project in August 2008, Collins was named deputy director of the National Center for Human Genome Research. He called the work “an adventure that beats going to the moon or splitting the atom.” Under Collins’ leadership, the 15-year project of mapping the human genome was completed in April 2003, ahead of schedule and under budget.

In a statement released by the White House on July 8, Obama called Collins “one of the top scientists in the world,” and said “his groundbreaking work has changed the very ways we consider our health and examine disease.”

Retired Bishop William B. Friend of Shreveport, La., who was a consultant to the Human Genome Project, said that while his group was advancing genomics, it knew that from his own participation “in certain gatherings of scientists that he was appreciated as an excellent scientist and a very able administrator.”

Obama names geneticist Francis Collins to head National Institutes of Health

WASHINGTON (CNS)—President Barack Obama has nominated Dr. Francis S. Collins, the former director of the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., to head the 27 institutes and centers that make up NIH.

The appointment was announced at the White House on July 8, the day after Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid introduced legislation to reauthorize funding for embryonic stem-cell research took effect. It must be confirmed by the Senate.

Collins, 59, was an early proponent of America's first human genome project in 1984. He later became interested in molecular biology and has said that the discovery of a person's genes “is not who he is as a person.”

Born on April 14, 1950, in Staunton, Va., Collins won a Christopher Award in 2007 for his book “The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief.” The awards honor works that affirm the highest values of the human spirit.

After leaving the genome project in August 2008, Collins was named deputy director of the National Center for Human Genome Research. He called the work “an adventure that beats going to the moon or splitting the atom.” Under Collins’ leadership, the 15-year project of mapping the human genome was completed in April 2003, ahead of schedule and under budget.

In a statement released by the White House on July 8, Obama called Collins “one of the top scientists in the world,” and said “his groundbreaking work has changed the very ways we consider our health and examine disease.”

Retired Bishop William B. Friend of Shreveport, La., who was a consultant to the Human Genome Project, said that while his group was advancing genomics, it knew that from his own participation “in certain gatherings of scientists that he was appreciated as an excellent scientist and a very able administrator.”
New prioress seeks to help her sisters be ‘women of prayer’

By Sean Gallagher

BEECH GROVE—On March 7, the Sisters of St. Benedict of Our Lady of Grace Monastery in Beech Grove elected Benedictine Sister Juliann Babcock as their newest prioress.

The election followed a discernment process of several months where members of the community prayerfully considered and discussed what kind of leader they needed for the future.

Sister Juliann was installed and began her six-year term on June 7.

She leads a community of 69 sisters who minister in the archdiocese in a variety of ways, including two ministries based on their grounds in Beech Grove: St. Paul Hermitage, a retirement and nursing facility, and the Benedictine Inn Retreat and Conference Center.

Other sisters from Our Lady of Grace minister in various parts of the archdiocese in educational, health care and parish ministries. They also have sisters who minister in Newburgh, Ind.; Louisville, Ky.; Dayton, Ohio; and Clearwater, Fla.

Sister Juliann, 66, grew up in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis and graduated from the former Our Lady of Grace Academy in Beech Grove in 1966.

She joined the monastic community that same year, and made her first profession of vows in 1968 and perpetual profession of vows in 1973.

During 43 years of religious life, Sister Juliann was an educator for 10 years, on the staff at the Benedict Inn, and served as vocation director, formation director and sub-prioress (second in leadership on the staff at the Benedict Inn, and served as sub-prioress (second in leadership)

She led the formation of its newest members.

As a Benedictine community, our role as prioress in the years to come will be leading it and for the long term.

A Benedictine community, our prioress is prayed for work and hospitality. Our life is centered around our prayer and our community life. Our values are very important to us, and we work to keep deepening them.

I feel that we become the monastic women we are called to be, that we keep deepening our prayer life. serving other people by sharing gifts we’ve been given, and welcoming our guests as Christ.

We have a lot of guests who visit our monastery, and we’re grateful for each one of them.

Our sisters are engaged in a variety of ministries in the archdiocese, and we want to continue serving in those areas as we are able. We want to invite more women to join us. Voices are a very important part of our energy right now.

We feel that monastic life has a great deal to offer to the world today.
Basic Catholicism: Yes, we believe in angels

The angels, It’s surprising how fashionable angels have become in our secular society. From popular television shows to jewelry advertisements, angels seem to be a widespread interest in these modern times, yet one image of angels seems like myth? Today, most religions do teach the real existence of angels. It’s part of the traditional beliefs of Judaism, Christianiity and Islam. The Catechism of the Catholic Church, for example, says, “The existence of the angels, noncorporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls ‘angels’ is a truth of faith. The writings of Scripture are as clear as the unanimity of Tradition” (#328).

The word “angel” is the name of their office or function, not of their nature. St. Augustine taught that the name of their nature is “spirit” because they are purely spiritual creatures. They have intelligence and free will, and they surpass in perfection all visible creatures. Their mission is to serve as servants and messengers of God. Angels have traditionally been divided into nine “choirs”: angels, archangels, principalities, powers, virtues, dominions, thrones, cherubim and seraphim.

Scriptures give us the names of only three angels: archangels Michael, Raphael and Gabriel, though Jewish apocrypha add Uriel and Jheremiel. Michael first appears in Daniel’s vision as “the great prince” who defends Israel. In the Book of Revelation, he leads God’s armies to final victory over the forces of evil. Raphael’s only appearance is in the story of Tobit, where he guides Tobit through a series of adventures and heals Tobit’s blindness. Gabriel also makes an appearance in Daniel’s visions, announcing Michael’s role. He then appears in the New Testament, first to Mary to announce the birth of John the Baptist then to Mary to tell her that she would become the mother of God. Again in the New Testament, St. Luke says, “the Scripture and the Christian Old Testament: They closed the earthly paradise, protected of course, St. Hildegard’s daughter, stayed Abraham’s hand when he was going to sacrifice Isaac, communicated the law by the cherubim and seraphim, and blessed the prophets, just to cite a few examples. The Gospels tell us that angels ministered to Jesus during various times in his life. They protected him in his infancy, served him in the desert, and strengthened him in his ministry.

The existence of Guardian Angels has never been explicitly defined as a matter of faith for Catholics, but belief in them goes back at least as far as St. Basil the Great, who died in 379. He wrote, “Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life.” Angels aren’t as they are portrayed on TV, but they do exist.

Shirley Vogler Meister
Member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis, a regular columnist for The Criterion.

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

Love: anterior to life … posterior to death

My 83-year-old mother, Irene Rose, died 13 years ago in January after a lengthy illness. Because I said “goodbye” many times, I thought I was ready for her death. Not so.

Nothing prepared me for that kind of pain, not even for my sister’s sudden death at age 49 in 2003, nor the one grief that happened when that also, I thought no grief could be as heart-wrenching. I was wrong then, too.

With Mom’s death, I felt as though temporal ties with our ancestors were broken. As momentary thought is the I next. In the line.

However, my brother, Michael, a Salvation Army officer, told me about eulogy at her funeral, reminding us that parental ties are never broken. He said our parents’ virtues and attributes live on through us.

I am the eldest. Then came my siblings, Stanley, Beaverly and Michael. Between my birth and my first brother’s birth, my mother suffered a dreadful fall down a flight of stairs and lost a baby. At this time, her childhood friend, a schoolteacher, simply said “Baby Vogler.” Later, when my sister and her husband also lost a baby, they named him after her offspring. “Lester Vernon” on the tombstone.

In his eulogy for Mom, my brother, Beaverly, also shared how he wrote by Kentucky-born poet and lawyer William Ross Lord, “The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world.” This was a tribute to Mom as a homemaker in our childhood home. Michael also used the Hebrew word for family, which means friends and often laughed through our tears. He also reached into a deep vein of his sitcom frame: “Dying is like being born. It’s God’s business.”

Another verse from “All in the Family” is “Everybody’s scared of death until it hits you—and then you don’t give it another thought.” That’s because, hopefully, the deceased loved one is already in heaven.

A mother TV program, a documentary about death, referred to as “the last frontier.” If so, then we are all pioneers in a spiritual adventure. My sister, Beverly, considers Mom’s passing to heaven must have been happy because a peaceful smile graced her face as she died. As a lover of nature, Mom loved nature. I didn’t tell it was beautiful.

A week after Mom’s burial, Bev’s doctor called to inform us that Bev and the nursing colleague at the hospital decided to take care of the house. They called, Terms of a unique Psalm 38:18: “The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and saves the crushed spirit.” When Terry returned to her patients, one of Bev’s nurses called her to pull the paper sheets off a daily calendar so it would be updated. On that day, Bev’s last Psalm was Psalm 38.

“We—we don’t.”

“Such a coincidence,” I exclaimed. My niece said, “We call it a confirmation.”

A few months later, poet Emily Dickinson explained, “Love is anterior to life and posterior to death.”

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

**Sunday, July 19, 2009**

- **Jeremiah 23:1-6**
- **Ephesians 2:13-18**
- **Mark 6:30-34**

The prophecy of Jeremiah provides this Liturgy of the Word with its first reading. While the writings of prophets are plentiful in the Bible, in reality today we have access to the words of only a few of the many prophets who certainly were active among God’s people during the many centuries before Christ.

Of course, the words of Jeremiah, or at least some of those words, are available to us. They are contained in the Book of Jeremiah, an important inclusion in the Hebrew Scriptures.

However, Jeremiah likely was not alone as a prophet in his time and, surely, his brothers and sisters, the many other prophets who assumed for themselves the prophetic mantle, easily could point the people away from God. Understandably, Jeremiah looked upon these interlopers with dismay and even alarm.

To emphasize the falseness and peril of these would-be prophets, in this reading Jeremiah writes on behalf of God. The prophet uses the first person to speak the mind of God. Clearly, God speaks through Jeremiah. This precisely is the impression that Jeremiah wishes to convey to the people.

God rejects these falsely constituted prophets. Obviously, God has not appointed them. They should be ignored. Jeremiah is God’s chosen representative. Jeremiah’s voice is the voice of God.

Authenticity is one issue. Another fact is that God has provided for the people. He instructs them and guides them. The Epistle to the Ephesians supplies the next reading this weekend.

This message is typical of this epistle and of Pauline theology. Christ is everything. In Christ, all the faithful are redeemed. In Christ, the faithful possess true life and can anticipate eternal life.

The Lord Jesus, the Son of God, the lamb of Calvary, reconciled fallen, sinful humanity with God. His redemption, sealed in the Crucifixion, bridged the gap created between God and humanity by sin.

St. Mark’s Gospel provides the last reading. Throughout all four of the Gospels, the Apostles were crucial figures in fulfilling the divine plan of salvation achieved in and by Jesus.

This reading makes quite evident two aspects of their role.

First, they were the Lord’s special students, hearing and seeing what was not said or shown to others. 

At the end of a mission, they returned to Jesus to report their efforts and be assigned to new areas of ministry.

**Reflection**

This weekend, the Church brings us face to face with a reality very important as we seek our own salvation.

Voices contrary to the Gospel, or even vying with God for our allegiance, surround us. The voices may come from within us. They may be from others or persons who may have their origin in the culture and popular attitudes of the time.

These voices lure us to our own distress and danger. God is still our Saviour. He provides for us. This weekend, in these readings, the Church insists that we need God, and God reaches out to meet our needs.

Aways, God has reached out to guide people. Long, long ago, he provided the prophets, such as Jeremiah, to help the people.

Then God gave us Jesus. The Lord provided the Apostles for us. He knew the Lord, and he taught them. God sent them to us.

The Church formed, the Church which still endures, relying upon the Apostles and upon those whom they selected to follow them, in continuing Christ’s redemption of the world.

**Question Corner/By Fr. John Dietzen**

**Extraordinary ministers of holy Communion may distribute ashes**

Q The following questions have been hot topics among, especially as we look forward to next year’s liturgies.

A May extraordinary ministers of holy Communion assist in the blessing of ashes on Ash Wednesday?

We have received different answers to these questions.

Westransform the distribution of ashes

A Regarding the distribution of ashes, a response to the American bishops from the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments (Jan. 30, 1975) stated that extraordinary ministers of holy Communion may not bless ashes, but may assist the celebrant in distributing them or impose ashes already blessed if no priest is present.

The response would provide also for other lay persons to distribute ashes if there is a pastoral need in the parish.

Some pastors are reluctant to ask extraordinary ministers of holy Communion to assist with the ashes, partly I suppose out of concern for the sensibilities of some parishioners who may find it startling. But it is permitted.

A May extraordinary ministers of holy Communion assist in the blessing of ashes on Ash Wednesday?

We have received different answers to these questions.

Q At a recent Catholic symposium, one speaker claimed that, according to Pope John Paul II, we can follow our conscience only when it is in accord with Church teachings.

A The speaker said that, regardless of what we believe is right, we must always follow what the Church demands.

Is this what the pope taught? (Ohio)

A Pope John Paul II dealt with this subject often, but perhaps nowhere more explicitly than in his 1994 book Crossing the Threshold of Hope (pp. 190-191). He quotes approvingly the Second Vatican Council document on religious freedom, which “treats human freedom very seriously.”

In the book, the pope explained that, “Man can be forced to accept the truth. He can be driven to the truth only by his own nature, that is, by his own freedom.”

The pope refers to St. Thomas Aquinas, who “is so consistent in his respect for conscience that he maintains that it is wrong for one to make an act of faith in Christ if in one’s conscience one is convinced, however absurdly, that it is wrong to carry out such an act.”

Summa Theologiae I-II: 19, 5.

A According to the pope, Cardinal John Henry Newman did not proclaim anything new in the teaching of the Church when he placed conscience above all other authority, civil or religious.

Q People must search for the true and the good, especially when conscience itself is almost blind because of a habit of sin. But an honest conscience, which searches for what is right, always retains its dignity.

A (A free brochure in English or Spanish, answering questions that Catholics ask about baptism practices and sponsors, is available by sending a stamp, or e-mail to criterion@archindy.org. Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column.

The Criterion invites readers to submit original prose or poetry relating to faith or experiences of prayer for possible publication in the “My Journey to God” column. Seasonal reflections also are appreciated. Please include name, address, parish and telephone number with submissions.

Send material for consideration to “My Journey to God,” The Criterion, P.O. Box 1257, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or e-mail to criterion@archindy.org.†
Rest in peace

Please submit in writing to our office by Friday, July 10 before the week of publication; be sure to state date of death. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests serving our archdiocese are listed downstairs.

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.


PROVENCAL, Raymond L., 80, St. Barnabas, Indianapolis, June 27. Son of Robert and Deborah Provenecal. Brother of Rebecca Tietlow and Robert Provenecal, Jr.


SHIRLEY, Mark A., 61, St. Mary of the Knobs, Floyds Knobs, June 27. Son of Robert and Steve Shirley. Brother of Kathy Shirley. Grandfather of three.


Msgr. Francis Tuohy helped student grow in faith.

(Editors note: Following is the sixth in a series featuring the winners of the 2009 Indianapolis Serra Club Vocations Essay Contest.)

By Allie Ferraro

Serra Club Vocations essay

Allie Ferraro

Special to The Criterion

When I was 6 years old, I started attending Christ the King School. Now that I am in high school, I still attend Sunday Mass at the church.

I didn’t really know God before starting school at Christ the King, but Msgr. Tuohy really helped show me the way. He knew me by name and, for me, he was the Christ-figure in my life.

In 2004, he retired because his health was declining. Sadly, Msgr. Tuohy passed away when I was in the seventh grade. The ways in which my community joined together in remembrance and thanks for him still hold true today. Humbly, he gave his time every day to better the lives of the students and parishioners.

This was not his job; this was his way of life. He let me know that God will always be a major part of my life. I know not to stray away; God will lead me in the right direction.

Msgr. Tuohy made everyone feel special, and made them feel they had a place in the world. I may not know exactly what I want to do for my vocation or where I even want to go with my personal life, but I know I will always follow God. And Msgr. Tuohy showed me this.

He made me believe God is my path. If I put my trust in God, I will bring me out of any trouble I may be having.

(Allie and her parents, Robert Ferraro and Melanie O'low, are members of the King Parish in Indianapolis. She graduated from Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis last spring, and is the 12th-grade division winner in the 2009 Indianapolis Serra Club Vocations Essay Contest.)

---

Patronize Our Advertisers!

For Sale

REMAX Select, REALTORS®
Gary, 317-695-7600
FOR SALE
Executive home near Parochial school

For Rent

A free report reveals the “9 New Ways to Beat the High Cost of College!”

College Planning

SERAFTY. Overlooks 4.6 rolling acres with stocked pond, Greencastle, IN. Provides seclusion, only minutes away from highway 460, 170, and DePauw University. Walk out deck and basement patio are features of this 4000 sq. ft. A-frame home. 2-story detached garage allows for upper level studio, game workshop area.

CALL 317-881-6914, 765-719-1063 or 765-720-3119

Houser HomeCare

Houser HomeCare

Consultation

For Sale

REMAX Select, REALTORS®
Gary, 317-695-7600
FOR SALE
Executive home near Parochial school

For Home Improvement

Quesser Construction

BSC Construction

Rowe Paving Co.

Health Care

Houser HomeCare

Consultation

For Sale

REMAX Select, REALTORS®
Gary, 317-695-7600
FOR SALE
Executive home near Parochial school

For Home Improvement

Quesser Construction

BSC Construction

Rowe Paving Co.

Health Care

Houser HomeCare

Consultation

For Sale

REMAX Select, REALTORS®
Gary, 317-695-7600
FOR SALE
Executive home near Parochial school
varied—but tend heavily toward old books, statues and vases—Pope Benedict always gives heads of state a gold medallion marking the current year of his pontificate.

The pope gave Obama a medal as a memento of his July 7 audience at St. Peter’s Basilica in Pope Paul VI’s name. The pope had been a close friend of Pope Paul VI, who died in 1978.

The Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, told reporters after the meeting that the pope had been “attentive and ready to live” the president’s words.

Father Lombardi told pool reporters that giving the pope a gift was a “mutual respect” and that Obama was looking forward to reading the document, Pope Benedict gave Obama a mosaic showing the Great Synagogue of Rome and the Vatican. The president gave the pope a liturgical stole that was “a beautiful gift” and the pope thanked the president for the gift.

The two topics still top the list of the pope’s concerns for the United States.†

The Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, told reporters after the meeting that the pope had been “attentive and ready to live” the president’s words.

Father Lombardi told pool reporters that giving the pope a gift was a “mutual respect” and that Obama was looking forward to reading the document, Pope Benedict gave Obama a mosaic showing the Great Synagogue of Rome and the Vatican. The president gave the pope a liturgical stole that was “a beautiful gift” and the pope thanked the president for the gift.

The two topics still top the list of the pope’s concerns for the United States.†

Spokesman says pope wants honest dialogue with Obama on life issues

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—When Pope Benedict XVI gave President Barack Obama a Vatican document on July 10, he became the 12th U.S. president to do so.

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—When Pope Benedict XVI gave President Barack Obama a Vatican document on July 10, he became the 12th U.S. president to do so.

When U.S. President Barack Obama met with Pope Benedict XVI on July 10, he gave this stole to the pope as a gift. It has a unique connection to St. John Neumann, a Redemptorist priest who served as the bishop of Philadelphia from 1832 until his death in 1860.

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—When Pope Benedict XVI gave President Barack Obama a Vatican document on July 10, he became the 12th U.S. president to do so.

Spokesman says pope wants honest dialogue with Obama on life issues

When U.S. President Barack Obama met with Pope Benedict XVI on July 10, he gave this stole to the pope as a gift. It has a unique connection to St. John Neumann, a Redemptorist priest who served as the bishop of Philadelphia from 1832 until his death in 1860.

Spokesman says pope wants honest dialogue with Obama on life issues

When U.S. President Barack Obama met with Pope Benedict XVI on July 10, he gave this stole to the pope as a gift. It has a unique connection to St. John Neumann, a Redemptorist priest who served as the bishop of Philadelphia from 1832 until his death in 1860.

Spokesman says pope wants honest dialogue with Obama on life issues

When U.S. President Barack Obama met with Pope Benedict XVI on July 10, he gave this stole to the pope as a gift. It has a unique connection to St. John Neumann, a Redemptorist priest who served as the bishop of Philadelphia from 1832 until his death in 1860.

Spokesman says pope wants honest dialogue with Obama on life issues

When U.S. President Barack Obama met with Pope Benedict XVI on July 10, he gave this stole to the pope as a gift. It has a unique connection to St. John Neumann, a Redemptorist priest who served as the bishop of Philadelphia from 1832 until his death in 1860.