

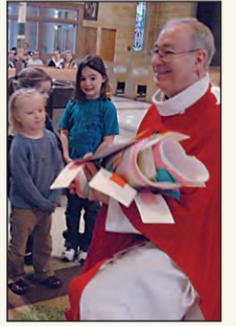


# The Criterion

Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960

## Priestly education

Parish with history of vocations learns about the priesthood, page 7.



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## 'Love the children first, then teach them'



Five teachers—Providence Sister Maureen Fallon, Mary Pat O'Connor, Patrice Payne, Amy Weigel and Laura Williams—from across the archdiocese were recently recognized as winners of the Saint Theodora Excellence in Education Award. Patrice Payne, above, a resource teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas School in Indianapolis, says she strives for those moments with students that lead to "the spark that leaps in their eyes."



## Saint Theodora winners bring out the best of students in classroom of life and faith

By John Shaughnessy

Patrice Payne calls them "Eureka" moments, times when a student suddenly realizes his or her worth. As a teacher who works with students with learning challenges, Payne shared three of those special "Eureka" moments from her 24 years in the classroom:

- "After being complimented on how quickly he could learn vocabulary words, a student said, 'No one has ever told me before that my brain was fascinating. People just usually think I'm a bother.'"
- "After learning he was dyslexic, a

student said with awe, 'I just thought I was stupid. I didn't know I was that smart.'"

- "Before difficult tests, students and I pray. Once after seeing the test grade, a student beamed and said, 'Prayer works!'"

Those "Eureka" moments reflect Payne's approach as a teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas School in Indianapolis.

"I want my students to experience success," she says. "I believe that success breeds success. No matter if it is reading, writing or math, I make sure that my students have a sense of their own accomplishments, gifts and potential. I often point out to them how far they have

come in the last month, quarter or year. The spark that leaps in their eyes is priceless."

It is no wonder that Payne is one of the five teachers from across the archdiocese who were honored on Feb. 16 as a 2009-10 Saint Theodora Excellence in Education Award winner by the archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education.

Each of the winners was asked by *The Criterion* to share a moment that defines them as teachers. Besides Payne, here are the other winners and their answers.

See TEACHERS, page 10

## Pope says human dignity must be guiding light for science

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The natural law upholding the dignity of every human life must be the guiding principle in approaching bioethical questions, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Addressing members of the Pontifical Academy for Life at the Vatican on Feb. 13, the pope also warned that as technological and medical research advances, "Scientists should never think they are handling inanimate and easily manipulated material."

The pope said legislatures and other bodies are often called on to confront the increasingly complex ethical issues that regard the health and life of people, and which open up "possible conflicts of interpretation."



Pope Benedict XVI

Natural moral law, he said, should be the principle with which those issues are faced.

"The recognition of human dignity, which in fact is an inalienable right, finds its foundations in that law that is not written by man, but rather by God the Creator in the heart of every man," the pope said.

"Without the founding principle of human dignity, it would be difficult to find a source for the rights of the person and impossible to reach an ethical judgment regarding the advances of science that directly impact human life," he said.

The Pontifical Academy for Life studies and advises the pope on controversial subjects like euthanasia, embryonic stem-cell research, abortion and birth control. Those practices are strongly opposed by the Church, but are legal, in varying degrees, in many countries.

The pope said that "history has shown how dangerous and harmful" a state can be when it makes laws "acting as though it were the source and foundation of ethics."

Natural and universal moral law,

See POPE, page 2

## St. Anne Parish to dedicate new church on Feb. 28

By Mary Ann Wyand

From the heartbreak of ashes comes the joy of new life.

St. Anne parishioners in Henry County will experience an emotional Lenten journey this year because of the Feb. 28 dedication of their new church at 1904 Broad St. in New Castle.

For three years, they have had to worship in the basement of the Parish Life Center as a result of the tragic arson fire that destroyed their 84-year-old brick church during the early morning hours on Holy Saturday, April 7, in 2007.

The liturgy invitation for parishioners and a few designated guests features an architectural drawing of the contemporary, handicap-accessible brick church built on the same site as well as a prayer that reads, "All glory and praise are yours, Lord God, for from ashes has arisen a church worthy of your praise."



The new St. Anne Church in New Castle was designed by Entheos Architects in Indianapolis. Brandt Construction in Indianapolis was the principal contractor. Construction on the approximately \$2.7 million project started on April 1, 2009, and was completed in early February.

See ST. ANNE, page 2

# Five years later, Criterion Web site continues to grow

By Brandon A. Evans

It was five years ago—on Jan. 13, 2005—that *The Criterion Online Edition* was launched, replacing a much simpler newspaper Web site that had been in place for years.

Since then, the Web site has exploded. It now contains more than 5,100 local news stories, boasts an archive going back to 1998, and has featured thousands of Catholic News Service stories and Vatican Information Service bulletins.

In addition, 3,000-plus photographic images taken by *Criterion* staff members have been made available for purchase, and thousands of more photos have been posted to free photo galleries.

Over the years, the site has included special features, such as front pages from famous historical moments, homepages for major events—such as Pope Benedict XVI's visit to the U.S. in 2008—online purchasing, and the capability to send information via a Web site form.

The most recent additions to the site include a topical archive and an e-mail newsletter.

People have taken advantage of all that the site offers—in the first five years of its

existence, more than 550,000 people have logged on to *The Criterion's* Web site and collectively viewed more than 1.3 million pages.

Traffic has steadily increased, too. In our first year, the site averaged 211 visitors per day. In the last year, its average has doubled—about 425 visitors per day.

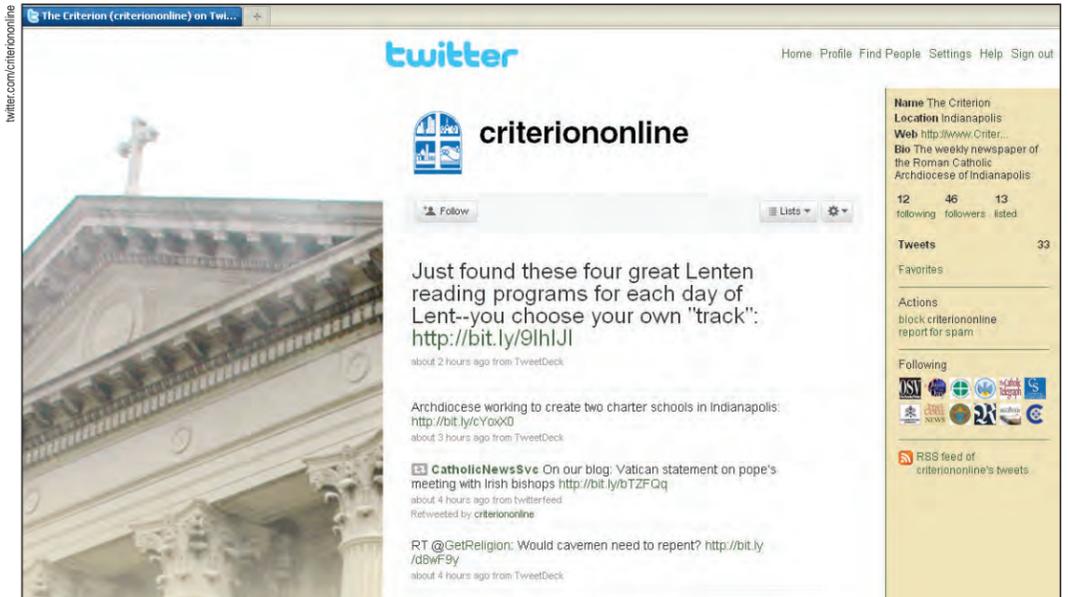
More than 200 people subscribe to *The Criterion* e-newsletter, which is sent via e-mail each week.

As 2010 begins, *The Criterion Online Edition* is again offering new features.

First among them is the ability to follow us on Twitter. The link to our Twitter account is on our homepage or can be found at [twitter.com/criteriononline](http://twitter.com/criteriononline).

Once following our tweets, readers will get notifications on breaking news, previews of upcoming stories and, of course, the latest content posted to our Web site.

Another feature that we hope to add to the site in the near future is Catholic News



A screenshot of our Twitter page, which can be accessed at [twitter.com/criteriononline](http://twitter.com/criteriononline). Visit our page to get the latest in breaking news, special features and “re-tweets” of interesting links provided by other Catholic news outlets that we follow.

Service’s “CrossPlayer,” which features up-to-date videos, news segments, photos and briefs from throughout the world, including the Vatican.

Lastly, we are working on an updated design for not only *The Criterion Online Edition*, but also for the entire archdiocesan Web site. †

## ST. ANNE

continued from page 1

Parishioners will “sing our song of praise and gratitude,” the invitation explains, when Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, the principal celebrant, blesses and dedicates the new church during a 2 p.m. Mass.

On March 7, the public will be able to view the 325-seat church during an open house from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. and participate in a 3 p.m. prayer service with music.

“From the ashes will truly arise new life,” said Franciscan Sister Shirley Gerth, the parish life coordinator of St. Anne Parish in New Castle and St. Rose Parish in Knightstown during a Feb. 11 telephone interview.

“We really do feel that theme has been with us for the last three years of working through everything pertaining to the burning of the old church, the process of forgiveness and the sentencing [of convicted arsonist William L. Abbott of New Castle],” Sister Shirley said. “Every week, the parishioners prayed our ‘Rebuild My Church’ prayer, and I believe that prayer helped us accomplish all that we did with the construction of the new church.”

Reciting the prayer during Masses helped St. Anne parishioners “attain greater unity and a greater sense of vision,” she said, about what it means to be the Church.

“From all that has happened to us during the past three years, we became that prayer and as a result have been able to build a church that we feel is worthy of worship to God,” Sister Shirley said. “The people can hardly wait to be able to kneel in a sacred space for Mass again. They have grieved the loss of their old church, and also celebrated by watching the construction. They’re so excited and anxious to get into the new

church. It will be a joyful Lent for us.”

After the dedication Mass, Sister Shirley said she just wants to “sit in the beautiful new church for a while and absorb everything that has happened to us on this journey.”

She is especially grateful to the parishioners for their financial pledges to help pay construction costs and purchase liturgical furnishings to supplement the insurance settlement as well as the generosity of so many parishes and individuals that also donated funds to rebuild the church.

“So many people shared our journey and have supported us prayerfully and through their financial donations,” Sister Shirley said. “We are so grateful and want to share our joy with them during the March 7 open house.”

St. Anne parishioners will pray their “Rebuild My Church” prayer for the last times during the weekend Masses on Feb. 20-21, she said, then will begin praying a new prayer titled “In Gratitude” to express their thanks to God, the archdiocese, and their many friends and benefactors.

“The Holy Spirit has guided us every step of the way,” Sister Shirley said. “We have much to be grateful for, and at the heart of all the gratitude is the forgiveness. You can’t celebrate if you haven’t forgiven.”

Eric Atkins, director of management services for the archdiocese, said it took almost a year and a half to resolve issues related to the insurance settlement, another year to design the new church after deciding to demolish what remained of the former church, and a third year for construction of the approximately \$2.7 million project.

“It has been a long journey for the parishioners,” Atkins said. “After the floors and roof had burned and caved, the parish elected to proceed with demolishing the old

church and constructing a new church based on the fact that it was very difficult to make the existing floor plan accessible because of the high steps on the front of the church and the basement.”

Atkins said the new church designed by Entheos Architects and built by Brandt Construction, both based in Indianapolis, features a rotated building from the former orientation with the sanctuary facing Broad Street.

He said the entrance on the north side faces 19th Street, and is accessible to the Parish Life Center and parking lot.

The new design is handicap accessible and maximizes available square footage, he said. It also incorporates some of the architectural elements from the old church, which was a landmark in New Castle and Henry County.

“The parish wanted to bring some of the elements that were in the historic church into the new building,” Atkins said. “There is a new [stained-glass] rose window and a small tower on the southwest corner. The



A firefighter checks the smoldering ruins of St. Anne Church in New Castle on the afternoon of Holy Saturday, April 7, in 2007. The early morning arson fire started in the basement and burned through the roof, leaving only the brick walls. The church cornerstone was set in place in 1923.

tabernacle for the Blessed Sacrament is inside this tower, which makes a nice statement on the outside of the church. What they have now is a fully accessible church that is a wonderful culmination to the tragedy at their parish. The parishioners need to be commended for the hard work and tremendous effort they have put forth to create this beautiful sacramental space. It’s a time for celebration and joy.” †

## POPE

continued from page 1

Pope Benedict said, “can prevent that danger and most of all offers a legislator the guarantee of genuine respect for the human person.”

The pontifical academy is led by Archbishop Rino Fisichella, who told the pope that the theme of the academy’s two-day meeting, “Bioethics and Natural Law,” was particularly urgent in the

cultural, social and legislative context of today’s world.

Members of the academy are committed to an “untiring defense [of human life] from attacks from many sides, which undermine the very sense of the inviolability and intangibility of human life in its sacred essence.”

The pope acknowledged that the job of the members “appears to be ever more delicate and difficult,” and invited them to continue their work “with still greater energy and courage.” †



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# 'Christ Our Hope' helps secure future of parish, archdiocesan ministries

By Sean Gallagher

"Christ Our Hope: Compassion in Community" is the annual archdiocesan stewardship appeal that occurs each fall.

It is a time for Catholics across central and southern Indiana to prayerfully consider and commit to supporting the threefold ministry of their parishes and the archdiocese in which the Gospel is proclaimed, the sacraments are celebrated and charity is given to those in need.

That support can be given both through volunteering in these ministries and financial contributions.

Earlier this month, archdiocesan Catholics who did not initially participate in Christ Our Hope received letters letting them know that there is still time to take part, and encouraged them to do so.

Two of the ministries that are supported by Christ Our Hope are directed to putting the future of archdiocesan parishes on strong footing.

Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, which is currently giving priestly formation to 15 archdiocesan college seminarians, is supported in part by Christ Our Hope.

"We couldn't do it without the resources that are available from ... Christ Our Hope," said Father Robert Robeson, rector of Bishop Bruté. "We benefit directly from that. We're not like a parish [that is supported by a weekly collection]."

"And yet, what we do affects every parish in a profound way. We're basically training the leadership of our parishes, those who will serve as their priests."

The rector said the college seminarians at Bishop Bruté are aware of the support they receive from Catholics across central and southern Indiana.

"We frequently pray for our benefactors, the people who support our ministry," Father Robeson said.

Since he was appointed the first rector of the seminary in 2004, there have been more seminarians to offer those prayers.

Currently, there are 23 seminarians from four dioceses attending Bishop Bruté. "I feel good about where we've come and where we're going,"

Father Robeson said. "It's a sign of promise, a sign of hope for the future."

"I think, too, just the level of support that we've received from parishes and from priests has been a sign of hope. I think people recognize that priests are essential to the mission of the Church."

According to Mary Schaffner, another important part of the Church's mission for the future is getting more young adults involved in parishes.

"I find this generation of young adults to be very joyful, committed," said Schaffner, who is the program coordinator for the archdiocesan Young Adult and College Campus Ministry. "They're intelligent. They have a great respect for the Church."

"My sense is that if the invitation is there and the structure has been put in place and an intentional effort is put forth, this generation will actually be very good and open to [being active in parishes]."

Archdiocesan ministry to young adults in the past has taken place outside of a parish setting. This still occurs in such

programs as Theology on Tap, in which young adults gather at downtown restaurants in Indianapolis to mingle and hear a presentation on the Catholic faith, and at the Bishop's Bash, an event for young



Mary Schaffner



Father Robert Robeson, center, leads seminarians at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis in eucharistic adoration on Aug. 21, 2008, at the seminary's chapel. Father Robeson is the rector of the seminary.

adults held last fall at the home of Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein in Indianapolis that included Mass and a cookout.

Schaffner said there is a growing effort to help parishes and young adults come together.

"We try to work with the [parish] staff on how we can welcome and be more inviting to young adults to find a spiritual home in the parish," she said. "And then [we work with] the young adults to become more active and engaged in their parish."

Schaffner noted that many of these young adults are already deeply committed Catholics.

But she said there are a lot of young adult Catholics who are much less connected to their faith. It is these people that could be evangelized by young adults who are aided by the archdiocese's

Young Adult and College Campus Ministry.

Schaffner said that the young adults she works with are in a good position to lead their friends and fellow students or co-workers closer to the Church.

"What's most important is that the Catholic faith is lived and that the people on the outskirts feel loved," Schaffner said. "And if you read a lot of Pope Benedict's stuff, he's constantly talking about taking a very gentle and inviting approach. That's the key."

"The beautiful thing about this generation is not only do they have the ability to be all of those things, but they also know their faith. They know who we are as Catholics and what we believe."

(For more information about "Christ Our Hope: Compassion in Community," log on to [www.archindy.org/ChristOurHope](http://www.archindy.org/ChristOurHope).) †

## Benedictine monks to be honored for distinguished service in multicultural ministry

Two Benedictine monks from Saint Meinrad Archabbey will be honored for their distinguished service by the Office of Multicultural Ministry in the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Benedictine Fathers Cyprian Davis and Boniface Hardin will be recognized during the 23rd annual African-American Catholic Leadership Awards Banquet, which begins at 6 p.m. on March 6 at the Galt House Hotel and Suites, 140 N. Fourth St., in Louisville.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville will present the keynote address during the awards banquet, which recognizes African-American Catholic leadership in northern Kentucky.

Proceeds from the event benefit a scholarship fund for African-American youths to pursue secondary and post-secondary education.

Thirteen youth scholarships will be given to young men and women that have demonstrated leadership in their parish and school communities in the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Also during the banquet, the monks and six other adults will be honored for their extraordinary leadership in the

African-American Catholic community.

Father Cyprian and Father Boniface will receive the



Fr. Cyprian Davis, O.S.B.

Acacia Award, the highest honor, for their many years of service to the Church community at large.

Both monks are alumni of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, and have earned the seminary's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

The author of numerous articles and books focusing on the history and spirituality of African-American Catholics, Father Cyprian continues to be

one of the most important leaders in historical studies of the African-American Catholic Church. His books include *The History of Black Catholics in the United States*.

Father Boniface has been a champion for social justice and the advancement of society. The Louisville native has

dedicated his life to human relations, education, and the health and welfare of all people.



Fr. Boniface Hardin, O.S.B.

The founder of Martin University in Indianapolis, Father Boniface remains active as a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, and is affiliated with many boards and social groups.

Although the monks do not reside in the Archdiocese of Louisville, the awards recognize their efforts to "educate, inspire and uplift many [people] of all denominations worldwide."

(Tickets are \$40 per person and must be purchased in advance. For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Ministry in the Archdiocese of Louisville at 502-636-0296.) †

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# The Criterion

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## Editorial

# We seek the face of God when we help poor children

From personal experience, I have deep convictions about the enormous value of Catholic education. Everyone experiences poverty of one kind or another, whether it be financial, physical, spiritual or moral poverty. The quality of academic education in our Catholic schools, and the environment of caring and discipline and no-nonsense moral values are worth a great deal of sacrifice because they give us a way out of poverty" (Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, "Seeking the Face of the Lord," 1993).

Since 1992, Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein has written his weekly column, "Seeking the Face of the Lord," to teach and inspire us, to reflect on and interpret the teachings of our Church, to share Good News and, occasionally, to ask for our prayers and assistance as he tries to carry out his responsibilities on behalf of the Church in central and southern Indiana.

The topics our archbishop has written about in more than 850 weekly columns to date are diverse, but what unites them all is his desire to walk with us, to lead and guide us as our pastor, as we seek the face of the Lord among all the challenges and distractions of our daily lives.

"Seek the Face of the Lord" is taken from Psalm 27 and from the *Rule* of St. Benedict. It is the archbishop's episcopal motto as well as the title of his weekly column in *The Criterion*.

It is both a challenge and an invitation that the Church extends to each one of us as we journey through life.

Our mission as disciples of Jesus Christ is not to serve ourselves. It is to know, love and serve Christ—to seek and find him in the Eucharist, in the Word of God, in the sacraments and in the faces of others, especially the poor and the vulnerable.

Archbishop Buechlein never misses his weekly column. He is not deterred by illness or surgery, by the demands of his busy administrative, sacramental and pastoral schedule or by the occasional need to travel outside the archdiocese for meetings of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. After prayer, which the archbishop rightly sees as his first priority, his teaching ministry is at the top of his list as the chief pastor of this local Church.

In his column in the Jan. 22 issue, Archbishop Buechlein wrote about the challenge of helping children in the center city of Indianapolis, and in other areas of the archdiocese, break the cycle of poverty through excellence in education and faith formation.

For more than 17 years, the archbishop, with the help of dedicated clergy, religious and lay leaders, and with the assistance of generous gifts of time, talent and money from individuals, corporations and foundations, has carried forward the mission of educating the children of poor families in spite of enormous obstacles.

Through his weekly column, but also



CNS photo/Sam Lucero, The Compass

Cassie Clemente assists students in this 2007 file photo at Holy Wisdom Academy in Milwaukee. Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein recently announced the decision to apply for a public school charter for St. Anthony Catholic School and St. Andrew & St. Rita Catholic Academy in Indianapolis.

through his consistent decisions and action during his tenure as Archbishop of Indianapolis, Archbishop Buechlein has taught us that education is a responsibility shared by the whole Church. It should not be a luxury that only the wealthy can afford. It should be a ministry of the whole Church that is open and accessible for all.

Now, Archbishop Buechlein is asking us to help support a new venture in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis—charter schools.

Acknowledging that this is a difficult and controversial step to take because it means letting go of the schools' Catholic identity, and handing over the operation and fiscal management of the schools to public control, the archbishop nevertheless affirms the decision to apply for a public school charter for St. Anthony Catholic School and St. Andrew & St. Rita Catholic Academy.

"I share the disappointment of those who deeply regret the sacrifice and compromising of Catholic identity," the archbishop writes. "I ask for your understanding and especially your prayers as we pursue this difficult course of action. Always, the focus of our efforts is the desire to help poor children."

How do we find the face of the Lord when we help poor children? In one of his earliest columns (see quote above), Archbishop Buechlein called our attention to "the quality of academic education in our Catholic schools, and the environment of caring and discipline and non-nonsense moral values" that help children and their families break the cycle of poverty. He told us that these "are worth a great deal of sacrifice," and that we find the face of Jesus in the faces of poor children, the families, teachers and pastors.

No one pretends that public charter schools can provide all of the benefits of a Catholic school education. But if they can help us maintain our commitment to poor children by continuing to provide them with quality education in an environment of caring, discipline and no-nonsense morals, then surely charter schools are worth exploring.

Let's give Archbishop Buechlein the prayerful support he has asked for. Let's walk with him as he seeks the face of the Lord in the center city and in poor rural communities throughout central and southern Indiana.

Finally, let's pray that the archbishop's commitment to help poor children find a way out of poverty will continue to inspire our generous gifts of time, talent and treasure for many years to come!

—Daniel Conway

## Parish Diary/Fr. Peter Daly

# Pro-life movement is changing

I participated in the March for Life in Washington this year. I think it was my 15th time. The march has been held every year since the 1973 Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade*.



It seems to me that there have been subtle changes in the march and the pro-life movement over the years that I have been participating.

Many things are the same, of course.

The march still covers the same ground, beginning at the National Mall and ending at the Supreme Court.

And the march still has the same moral objective: We want to change our society and our laws so we will be able to reduce the number of abortions in the United States.

But some of the atmosphere around the march has changed since I first participated in 1979.

First, the march is more of a Catholic event. Nearly every banner around me this year was from some Catholic group. There were a few evangelical and Orthodox Christian groups present. I saw only one group each of Anglicans and Orthodox Jews. The overwhelming majority of marchers were Catholic.

Second, the march is getting younger. In the past, there were a lot of gray heads in the crowd. Now the gray heads seem to be mostly on the podium. Today, the crowd is made up of thousands of teenagers and young adults. Their signs say they are the generation that "survived *Roe v. Wade*."

Young crowds are very enthusiastic. They are filled with chants and rhythms. This crowd was no different. Youth is the time of life for idealism. The pro-life position is the idealistic position regarding abortion. It calls for

self-sacrifice and reverence for others.

The pro-choice position, by contrast, is largely self-centered.

The tide of public opinion is shifting, especially among young people. They are increasingly pro-life. The march reflects that youthful dimension.

Third, even though the march protests a Supreme Court decision, it seems to be more about changing minds than changing laws. Creating a culture of life is by definition more of a cultural struggle than a legal struggle. If we want to create a culture of life, we must change minds and hearts.

Some new groups on the pro-life scene are emblematic of this tonal shift. One of those groups is the Silent No More Awareness Campaign. It is composed of women who have had abortions, and are now willing to discuss the pain and trauma that followed. This group also includes men who participated in abortions and now regret their lost fatherhood.

The night before the March for Life, our parish held a pro-life rally. At the rally, we heard from Leslie Dean, a member of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign. Her message was about telling the truth and leading people to willingly choose life. She was promoting the idea that every pregnant woman and potential father should see an ultrasound image of their baby in the womb. Once they see the baby moving his or hers arms and legs, they will choose life.

Surveys reveal that more than 96 percent of people who see the ultrasound image choose life.

A step like requiring the ultrasound image is less about the compulsion than it is about persuasion. It is less about legislation than it is about information that leads to conversion of heart. It says that we have confidence in the truth.

The pro-life position is the truth. Ultimately, I think this is where the pro-life movement will be victorious.

(Father Peter Daly writes for *Catholic News Service*.) †

## Letters to the Editor

### People in Haiti desperately need our prayers

The earthquakes in Haiti were terrible. Many people are now homeless, starving, and in need of clean water and medical attention.

The people in Haiti desperately need our prayers.

Please pray for them because they are God's children.

Nicholas Zoeller  
Clarksville

### Newspaper must step up its efforts in pro-life matters

A fact of Catholic life is that we profess to be pro-life. Yet *The Criterion* seems to be not so aggressive in pro-life matters; I would say comparable to the popular media.

An example: In the *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention* journal, the Seattle-based Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center published a research paper confirming a strong connection between the use of oral contraceptives and a particularly aggressive form of breast cancer.

I wonder why *The Criterion* has not promulgated this information to protect women's health.

There is so much evidence of a link between breast cancer, abortion and

contraceptives that *The Criterion* could print a news article each week and not run short of material.

The newspaper's coverage of the March for Life was commendable. But the real news is that Catholics should not support fundraising businesses like the National Cancer Institute, the American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure or any others who do not publish the link between abortion and breast cancer or the link between oral contraceptives and breast cancer.

How can they claim to serve women's health when it comes to cancer when they neglect the most obvious cause?

Paul Kachinski  
Indianapolis

### Story about Guardian Angel Guild anniversary is appreciated

Many thanks to *The Criterion* and Mary Ann Wyand for the wonderful article about the 50th anniversary of the Guardian Angel Guild.

For anyone interested in learning more about the guild, please e-mail us at [guardianangels@archindy.org](mailto:guardianangels@archindy.org).

For those interested in participating in our endowment and/or fundraising efforts, please send your donation to Guardian Angel Guild, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.

Ginny Maher  
Indianapolis

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



# SEEKING THE FACE OF THE LORD

## BUSCANDO LA CARA DEL SEÑOR

### Seminarians, youths and young adults are a blessing for our archdiocese

I have had a lot of contact with our youths and young adults lately, and I am impressed.

Hundreds of our youths and young adults made their way to Washington, D.C., for the Masses and prayers as well as the March for Life that observed the annual anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*.

These youths and young adults came from our parishes, high schools, and a variety of colleges and universities around Indiana. Some young adults took vacation days from their jobs to be there.

A great deal of sacrifice is involved in making this annual journey. Most of the high school youths, their lay chaperones and some of our young priests ride buses overnight in order to get there. Most sleep on the floor of a gym at The Catholic University of America. And then they are back on the buses the evening of the march for the overnight ride home. This is not easy.

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on the eve of the march is packed beyond belief.

Besides thousands of high school youths and their chaperones, young adults and adults, there was an estimated 400 seminarians, an equal number of priests, 40-plus bishops and six cardinals.

The march itself can be taxing because thousands of people are crowded on Constitution Avenue trying to stay with their group. It takes a good hour before the march gets going. I know because I was

there with our youths and young adults.

I can't tell you how impressive are the positive spirit, patience and sincerity of these fellow Catholics of ours. They are amazing, and a marvelous sign of hope and encouragement for our Church.

Aside from the Masses and the march itself, I spent a lot of time with our young adults.

If you have followed the implementation of our renewed strategic leadership plan, you know that ministry to young adults and campus ministry is one of our priorities.

I won't go into detail here, but the response of young adults to our new initiatives has been gratifying. Our efforts are worthwhile. Young adults in varying jobs and from college and university campuses have been seeking opportunities to live their Catholic faith, learn more about their faith and to do so with like-minded peers. Their energy and commitment can only strengthen our local Church in central and southern Indiana now and in the future.

At the end of January, I spent a good part of the weekend with our seminarians at the Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis. I was invited to lead a recollection for the seminarians. They have this opportunity off and on throughout the academic year. I think I counted 25 seminarians and a couple of guests who are prospective seminarians next fall. Talk about having your spirit lifted!

The seminarians, for the most part, are college-age young adults. They are giving

themselves the opportunity to discern whether or not God is calling them to be priests. They are sincere and committed to this goal, and are spirited in its pursuit.

Besides my spiritual reflections, to which they were genuinely attentive, we celebrated Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours in common. On the evening of the first day, there was also an hour of adoration and Benediction.

The next morning, at the conclusion of the recollection, there was another hour of adoration and Benediction. I would ordinarily expect college-age students to be restless and fidgety during an hour of adoration. The seminarians were not.

But don't get the wrong idea. These are normal guys full of life and spirit, and they have a lot of fun. There is more than enough humor among them, and they get along well.

After the close of the recollection, we went to a local pizza place for lunch. They can put away a lot of food! During lunch, I learned that, after doing some homework, a group of the guys were going rock climbing somewhere on the east side. Once again, I was impressed at the quality of our college seminarians and encouraged for our

local Church.

Earlier in February, I was at the seminary at Saint Meinrad for the institution of lectors and acolytes, steps along the way to ordination. If you want to have your spirits lifted, stop by Saint Meinrad some time. Our local Church can look forward to top-notch new priests down the line.

I hope you join me in enthusiastic and grateful prayer for the wonderful blessings God is giving to our archdiocese. We don't want to take these blessings—our seminarians, youths and young adults—for granted.

And let's not forget to pray for those who serve these folks generously and faithfully. †

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

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

#### Archbishop Buechlein's intention for vocations for February

**Young Adults:** That they may realize the importance of their presence in our parishes and have the generosity and courage to consider service in the Church, especially as priests and religious.

### Seminaristas, jóvenes y jóvenes adultos son una bendición para nuestra arquidiócesis

Últimamente he tenido la oportunidad de estar más en contacto con nuestros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos, y debo decir que estoy impresionado.

Cientos de nuestros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos hallaron la forma de llegar a Washington, D.C., para asistir a las Misas y oraciones, así como también para la Marcha por la Vida que conmemoró el aniversario de la decisión *Roe v. Wade*.

Estos jóvenes y jóvenes adultos provenían de nuestras parroquias, escuelas secundarias, institutos de educación superior y universidades de todo Indiana. Algunos jóvenes adultos tomaron días de vacaciones en sus trabajos para poder estar presentes.

Esta peregrinación anual supone grandes sacrificios. La mayoría de los jóvenes de secundaria, sus acompañantes laicos y algunos de nuestros sacerdotes jóvenes viajaron en autobús toda la noche para poder llegar. La mayoría durmió en el piso del gimnasio de la universidad Catholic University of America y en la noche, luego de la marcha, se subieron nuevamente a los autobuses para emprender el viaje de regreso a casa durante la noche. No fue fácil.

Resulta increíble ver cómo la Basílica del Santuario Nacional de la Inmaculada Concepción se llena en la víspera de la marcha.

Además de los miles de jóvenes de secundaria y sus acompañantes, nuestros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos, habría aproximadamente 400 seminaristas, una cantidad semejante de sacerdotes, más de 40 obispos y seis cardenales.

La propia marcha puede ser todo un desafío porque miles de personas se agolpan en Constitution Avenue, intentando mantenerse unidas al grupo. La marcha

demora por lo menos una hora en empezar. Lo sé porque estaba allí con nuestros jóvenes y jóvenes adultos.

No puedo describirles lo impresionantes que resultan los espíritus positivos, la paciencia y la sinceridad de nuestros compañeros católicos. Son formidables y representan una maravillosa señal de esperanza y aliento para nuestra Iglesia.

Además de las Misas y la marcha, pasé bastante tiempo con nuestros jóvenes adultos.

Si ha estado siguiendo la implementación de nuestro plan de liderazgo estratégico renovado, sabrá que el ministerio a los jóvenes adultos y en los campus universitarios es una de nuestras prioridades.

No me explayaré aquí, pero la respuesta de los jóvenes adultos ante nuestras iniciativas ha resultado gratificante. Nuestros esfuerzos valen la pena. Jóvenes adultos en diversas ocupaciones, así como también procedentes de institutos universitarios y universidades, han estado procurando oportunidades para vivir su fe católica, aprender más acerca de ella y hacerlo con compañeros que compartan su forma de pensar. Su energía y compromiso sólo puede servir para fortalecer nuestra Iglesia local en el centro y el sur de Indiana, tanto ahora como en el futuro.

A finales de enero pasé buena parte del fin de semana con nuestros seminaristas en el seminario universitario Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary. Se me invitó a guiar un retiro para los seminaristas, quienes tienen esta oportunidad intermitentemente durante todo el año académico. Me parece haber contado 25 seminaristas y un par de invitados que eran seminaristas prospectivos para el otoño siguiente. ¡Eso sí que le levanta el espíritu a cualquiera!

La mayoría de los seminaristas son jóvenes adultos en edad universitaria. Se brindan a sí mismos la oportunidad de discernir si Dios los está llamando a ser sacerdotes o no. Son sinceros y están comprometidos con este objetivo, el cual persiguen con entusiasmo.

Además de mis reflexiones espirituales, a las cuales prestaron genuina atención, celebramos la Misa y la Liturgia de las Horas juntos. En la noche del primer día también hubo una hora de adoración y de bendición.

A la mañana siguiente, al concluir el retiro, hubo otra hora de adoración y bendición. Por lo general, esperaríamos que los alumnos en edad universitaria se mostraran inquietos e intranquilos durante la hora de adoración. No fue así con los seminaristas.

Pero no me malinterpreten: estos son jóvenes normales llenos de vida y de entusiasmo, y se divierten de lo lindo. Existe muchísima comicidad y camaradería entre ellos.

Después de la clausura del retiro nos fuimos a una pizzería a almorzar. ¡Tienen un apetito increíble! Durante el almuerzo me enteré de que, después de hacer los deberes, un grupo de ellos se iba a escalar rocas en algún lugar en el este. Una vez más, me sentí impresionado por la calidad de nuestros seminaristas universitarios y alentado ante la trascendencia para nuestra Iglesia local.

A principios de febrero visité el seminario de Saint Meinrad para la institución de lectores y acólitos, pasos que conducen a la ordenación. Si quiere levantarse el ánimo, pase por Saint Meinrad. Nuestra Iglesia local puede contar con sacerdotes de primera en el futuro.

Espero que puedan acompañarme en una oración entusiasta y agradecida por las maravillosas bendiciones que Dios está derramando sobre nuestra arquidiócesis. No debemos tomarnos a la ligera estas bendiciones, nuestros seminaristas, jóvenes y jóvenes adultos.

Y no olvidemos rezar por aquellos que sirven a estos muchachos de forma generosa y fiel. †

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

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

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

#### La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en febrero

**Adultos jóvenes:** que se den cuenta de la importancia de su presencia en nuestras parroquias y tengan la generosidad y el valor de considerar el servicio en la iglesia, especialmente como sacerdotes y religiosos.

## Events Calendar

### February 19

Northside Knights of Columbus Hall, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis. **Catholic Business Exchange**, Mass, breakfast and program, "Faith and a Brush with Death," State Rep. Ed Delaney, speaker, 6:30-8:30 a.m., online reservations only by Feb. 17. Reservations and information: [www.catholicbusinessexchange.org](http://www.catholicbusinessexchange.org).

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. **Lenten program, "Redemptive Suffering,"** Benedictine Father Denis Robinson, presenter, 7 p.m. Information: 317-888-2861.

St. Mark the Evangelist Parish, 535 E. Edgewood Ave., Indianapolis. **Lenten fish fry**, 5-7:30 p.m., \$7 adults, \$3 children. Information: 317-787-8246.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Parish Hall, 1125 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Lenten fish fry**, 5-7 p.m., \$6 adults, \$3 children. Information: 317-638-5551.

### February 20

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. **Helpers 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. Information: Archdiocesan Office for Pro-Life Ministry, 317-236-1569 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1569.

Father Thomas Scecina Memorial High School, 5000 Nowland Ave., Indianapolis. **Alumni and friends casino trip to Horseshoe Casino**, 8:45 a.m.-6:15 p.m., \$20 before Feb. 6 and \$25 after early registration deadline. Information: 317-356-6377, ext. 1312, or [tbranson@scecina.org](mailto:tbranson@scecina.org).

### February 21

Richmond Catholic Community, 701 N. "A" St., Richmond. **Charismatic prayer group**, 7 p.m. Information: [dicksoncorp@parallax.ws](mailto:dicksoncorp@parallax.ws).

St. Joseph Church, 312 E. High St., Corydon. **Mission**,

**"How to Get the Most Out of Lent,"** Benedictine Father Denis Robinson, presenter, 7 p.m. Information: 812-738-2742 or [parish.office@catholiccommunity.org](mailto:parish.office@catholiccommunity.org).

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

### February 23

Butler University, Clowes Memorial Hall, Krannert Room, 4600 Sunset Ave., Indianapolis. **Center for Faith and Vocation, spring seminar, "The Future of Jerusalem,"** 7:30 p.m., no charge, tickets required, available at Clowes Hall box office. Information: 317-940-8253.

St. Mary Parish, 208 S. East St., Greensburg. **"Sermon on the Mount,"** actor Frank Runyeon, presenter, 7 p.m.,

free-will offering. Information: 812-663-8427 or [anavarra@stmmarysgreensburg.com](mailto:anavarra@stmmarysgreensburg.com).

### February 24

Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. **Spaghetti and Spirituality**, Mass, 5:45 p.m., pasta dinner, **"The Ministerial Priesthood—Demonstrating What a Priest Is by What a Priest Does,"** Tim Staples, presenter, suggested donation \$5. Information: [www.holyrosaryindy.org](http://www.holyrosaryindy.org).

Old Spaghetti Factory, 210 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Theology on Tap, "Art Is the Truth Made Visible,"** Father Aaron Jenkins, presenter, 7 p.m. Information: 765-532-2403 or [indytheologyontap@gmail.com](mailto:indytheologyontap@gmail.com).

Calvary Cemetery, Mausoleum Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis. **Monthly Mass**, 2 p.m. Information: 317-784-4439.

### February 25

St. Monica Church, 6131 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis. **Lenten Taizé prayer service**, 7:30 p.m. Information:

317-253-2193 or [acorcoran@stmonincindy.org](mailto:acorcoran@stmonincindy.org).

### February 26

St. Matthew Parish, gymnasium, 4100 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Lenten fish fry**, 5:30-8 p.m. Information: 317-257-4297.

St. Rose of Lima Parish, 114 Lancelot Drive, Franklin. **"The Gospel of John,"** actor Frank Runyeon, presenter, 7 p.m., free-will offering. Information: 317-738-3929.

Holy Trinity Parish, Bockhold Hall, 902 N. Holmes Ave., Indianapolis. **Stations of the Cross and Lenten fish fry**, 5:30 p.m. Information: 317-631-2939.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Parish Hall, 1125 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Lenten fish fry**, 5-7 p.m., \$6 adults, \$3 children. Information: 317-638-5551.

### February 27

Reilly Auditorium, Owens Hall, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, St. Mary-of-the-Woods. **"Eating Close to Home—The Importance of Local Food Markets and**

**Simple Ways to Extend the Growing Season,"** Jane Bush, presenter, 7 p.m., organic and fair-trade coffee and desserts served, \$10 in advance, \$15 at door. Information and registration: [candace@terregoods.org](mailto:candace@terregoods.org).

St. Augustine Home for the Aged, 2345 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. **"Discerning God's Voice—Day of Reflection on Religious Vocations,"** Father Patrick Beidelman, presenter, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., conference, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, opportunity for reconciliation and lunch, men and women ages 18-38. Information and registration: Little Sisters of the Poor, Sister Marie Cecilia Fausto, 317-872-6420.

### February 28

Hindel Bowling Lanes, 6833 Massachusetts Ave., Indianapolis. **"Bowl-athon" fundraiser**, 1 p.m., \$100 per team. Information and registration: [guardianangels@archindy.org](mailto:guardianangels@archindy.org). †

## Retreats and Programs

### February 21

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. **"Coffee Talk—We Are All (Thank God) Prodigal Sons and Daughters,"** Franciscan Father Norman Langenbrunner, presenter, 10:45 a.m.-noon, free-will donation includes pastry and coffee. Information: 812-933-6437 or [center@oldenburgosf.com](mailto:center@oldenburgosf.com).

### February 25

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. **"Lenten Lecture Series—Called to Conversion,"** Franciscan Sister

Barbara Leonhard, presenter, 7-8:30 p.m., \$10 per person. Information: 812-933-6437 or [center@oldenburgosf.com](mailto:center@oldenburgosf.com).

### February 26-28

Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. **"Women's Retreat—Women Clothed in Grace,"** Information: 317-788-7581 or [benedictinn@benedictinn.org](mailto:benedictinn@benedictinn.org).

Monastery Immaculate Conception, 802 E. 10th St., Ferdinand, Ind. (Evansville Diocese). Sisters of St. Benedict, **"Come and See Weekend,"** high school girls are invited to learn

about religious life. Information: 800-734-9999 or [vocation@thedome.org](mailto:vocation@thedome.org).

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. **"Pray Your Way to Happiness,"** Benedictine Brother Maurus Zoeller, presenter. Information: 800-581-6905 or [MZoeller@saintmeinrad.edu](mailto:MZoeller@saintmeinrad.edu).

### February 27

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **"Date Night at Fatima Retreat House—The Five Love Languages,"** Father Jim Farrell, presenter, 5 p.m., registration, Mass, 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and

presentation, \$40 per couple. Information: 317-545-7681 or [spasotti@archindy.org](mailto:spasotti@archindy.org).

### March 1

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House and Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, **"Drinking from the Well—Renewing Our Desire for Eternal Life with the Women of John's Gospel,"** Benedictine Sister Kathleen Yeadon and Rev. Callie Smith, presenters, Mass, 5:30 p.m., dinner, presentation, \$30 per person. Information: 317-545-7681 or [spasotti@archindy.org](mailto:spasotti@archindy.org). †

## Lenten young adult series to be hosted by Indianapolis parish

"Building Passionate Relationships in Lent" is a Lenten young adult faith formation series sponsored by the archdiocesan Young Adult and College Campus Ministry in which participants will learn to love as Christ loves and see how relationships can be transformed by Christ's Passion.

It will take place on Feb. 19 and 26,

and March 5, 12 and 26 at St. John the Evangelist Parish, 126 W. Georgia St., in Indianapolis.

Each session will start at 6 p.m. and include the Stations of the Cross, a reflection, discussion, meal and the opportunity for confession.

For more information, send an e-mail to [jpedersen@stjohnsindy.com](mailto:jpedersen@stjohnsindy.com). †

## Center to host film series on ecology during Lent

The White Violet Center for Eco-Justice, a ministry of the Sisters of Providence, will host a Lenten film series beginning on Feb. 17 at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

The series is titled "And the Darkness Shall Not Overcome the Light: A Lenten Film Series Exploring Beacons of Hope."

Films are scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. each Wednesday during Lent at the White Violet Center education facility.

A discussion period after each film will focus on positive ways that people

are addressing each specific topic.

The film topics are:

- Feb. 17—"Ecology and Spirituality."
- Feb. 24—"Ecology and Community."
- March 3—"Food Production."
- March 10—"Water Conservation."
- March 17—"Land Use."
- March 24—"Sustainable Energy Use."

A supper on March 31 will conclude the film series.

The film series is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jenny Jeck at [jjeck@spsmw.org](mailto:jjeck@spsmw.org) or 812-535-2930. †

## '40 Hours' devotion

Members of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods pray while Father Daniel Hopcus, their chaplain, incenses the Blessed Sacrament exposed in a monstrance on Feb. 14 at the sisters' Church of the Immaculate Conception on the grounds of their motherhouse in St. Mary-of-the-Woods. The prayer service marked the start of a "40 Hours" devotion for the sisters. St. Theodora Guérin began the devotion for the Sisters of Providence in 1843.



Submitted photo by Christina Buser



Submitted photo

## Teacher appreciation night

Bishop Chatard High School teachers Tracy Luke, Elaine Carson and Robin Kontor of Indianapolis, seated from left, celebrate during "Teacher Appreciation Night" on Jan. 29 at the Northside Knights of Columbus Hall in Indianapolis. The knights hosted teachers from Catholic schools throughout the Indianapolis North Deanery during Catholic Schools Week.

# Parish with history of vocations learns about the priesthood

By Sean Gallagher

In its 85-year history, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish in Indianapolis has seen many of its young men discern vocations to the priesthood.

In this Year for Priests, members of the Indianapolis East Deanery Parish have been learning about the sacrament of holy orders and paying tribute to priests who either have ministered in the parish or grew up in Little Flower.

This catechetical program, which took place in January, is part of a broader initiative in which Little Flower parishioners are learning about all the sacraments.

Bulletin inserts in January gave parishioners information about the priesthood. Letters in appreciation of priests from members of the parish were displayed in the parish church's narthex.

And during a Feb. 5 Mass, students in the parish's preschool program presented

Father Robert Gilday, the pastor of Little Flower Parish, a spiritual bouquet that was a visible sign for him of the many prayers that Little Flower School students offered up for him.

Father Gilday is in a good position to appreciate the way in which Little Flower has nurtured priestly vocations over the years. He grew up in the parish in the 1950s and 1960s.

"The parish was large," he said. "The school was large. In many ways, my life as

a child was very much centered on the school and this parish. So all of those things obviously factored into me becoming a priest.

"I could come down on Saturdays and help the nuns. I'd come down in the evenings and answer the phone in the rectory. It was very easy for us to be involved."

Other priests who called Little Flower Parish home include Comboni Father Michael Barton, Benedictine Father Bede Cisco, Father James Farrell, Father Joseph Moriarty, Father Paul Shikany, Maryknoll Father David Sullivan and Father Darvin Winters.

Priests now deceased who grew up in Little Flower Parish include Father Donald Schmidlin and Msgr. Francis Tuohy.

"[Parishioners] appreciate what a gift that this parish gave to the Church of the archdiocese in both priests and sisters," Father Gilday said.

"That's a bit of a motivation to them to, through prayer and positive encouragement, carry on and try to have some of that effect again."

Those prayers are continuing to have an effect. Seminarian David Leszcynski, a freshman at Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary in Indianapolis, is a Little Flower parishioner.

He said that it was his involvement in parish liturgies and choirs, as he was growing up, that helped him nurture his faith

*'In many ways, my life as a child was very much centered on the school and this parish. So all of those things obviously factored into me becoming a priest.'*

*—Father Robert Gilday, pastor of Little Flower Parish, who also grew up in the parish*



Father Robert Gilday, right, receives a spiritual bouquet from Canaan Miller, from left, Gabrielle Herner, Gavin Turner, Lily Russell, Mira Jackson and Shelby Robinett, all preschool students at Little Flower School in Indianapolis, during a Feb. 5 Mass at the parish church. Father Gilday is the pastor of St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish.

and discern a possible priestly vocation.

"I know that what I did was helpful to the parish, and I enjoyed being able to give back," Leszcynski said. "I remember teachers and priests, including Father Bob Gilday, telling me that I would make a great priest. They encouraged me to go discern the priesthood."

Tom Costello, 56, is a lifelong member of Little Flower Parish. For the past decade, he has served as the parish's director of stewardship and parish administration. Costello also oversees the parish's confirmation program.

Although he is quick to acknowledge that there have been significant demographic changes in the parish in recent decades, Costello is confident that more young men at Little Flower Parish could follow in Leszcynski's footsteps in

discerning a vocation to the priesthood.

"With the elementary school and with [Father Thomas] Scecina [Memorial High School] down the street and with the parish itself, we have everything in place to [foster vocations] in the future," Costello said. "And although our numbers aren't as large and won't be as large, we have the parishioners who are still very supportive of vocations. I hope that those things can continue."

Leszcynski shares Costello's hope. "Little Flower [Parish] has great examples of strong Catholics," he said. "By the examples that they set, I hope that more men and women hear their call."

(For more information about St. Therese of the Infant Jesus [Little Flower] Parish in Indianapolis, log on to [www.littleflowerparish.org](http://www.littleflowerparish.org).) †

## Cell phone seen as a way to help young men hear call to the priesthood

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (CNS)—Allentown Bishop John O. Barres has taken a new approach to fostering vocations to the priesthood—making sure young men personally receive a call.



Bishop John O. Barres

One morning in late December, many college-age men received phone calls or voice mail messages from Bishop Barres or two other diocesan priests asking them to consider a vocation to the priesthood.

"In this phase of the vocation initiative—'Hearing His Call'—the focus has been on helping young men consider that the Lord might be calling them to this wonderful vocation," said Father Andrew Gehringer, diocesan director of vocations.

The priest, who also made the phone calls, told *The A.D. Times*, Allentown's diocesan newspaper, that the bishop's idea was inspired by New York Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, whom he heard made a personal call to a young man who was discerning a vocation to the priesthood.

In response to the idea, Father Gehringer and

Father Scott Ardinger, at the time a diocesan official who is currently pursuing doctoral studies at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill., composed a list of names and cell phone numbers of more than 35 young men.

The priests listed those "who have either thought about the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood or who just have the good qualities and natural goodness that we are looking for in possible candidates for the priesthood," Father Gehringer said.

These young men were some of those presented to the diocesan Office of Vocations by various priests throughout the diocese or those whom Father Ardinger had known from his contacts with high school and youth ministry.

Father Gehringer said the men were surprised when either he or Father Ardinger made the initial contact with them telling them that Bishop Barres would like to speak to them.

"A few of the men, naturally as college students, were actually sleeping at the time of the initial contact made by Father Ardinger or myself. However, some of the men actually expected the call," he said.

"But to get that one-on-one time with the bishop, who spoke to them about how their semester was going and how they were doing in their prayer life and discernment of their vocation, was the biggest surprise," he said.

"Men attending universities like Scranton, Drexel, Fordham and Penn State, as well as other universities, heard Bishop Barres' sincere desire to encourage them to think about the possibility of being a priest," Father Gehringer said.

Such personal contact "is crucial" in the bishop's mind, he added.

"To form a culture of vocations, we need to cultivate the soil of the minds and hearts of our young people with the knowledge that God has wonderful plans for them," Father Gehringer said. "Once they hear and believe this truth, their hearts can expand around God's desire for them."

The priest said prayer was the focus of many of the conversations with the bishop. By the very question "how is your prayer life going?" these young men heard how important it was for them to make prayer a crucial part of their life so that they can seriously be open to what God has in store for them, he emphasized.

The phone call effort led up to a vocation awareness week in the diocese at the beginning of the year. Bishop Barres also used this year's Catholic School Week, which ended on Feb. 4, to challenge all Catholics to continue to promote vocations, especially to the priesthood, in the lives of young people. †

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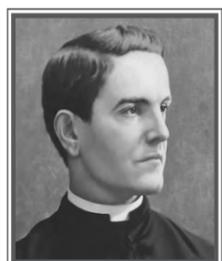
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# Senate OKs bill recognizing fetus as person in drunken driving cases

By Brigid Curtis Ayer

When Wayne County resident Danielle Brookshire got in her car to run an errand, little did she know how the short trip would change her life.

Brookshire was hit by a drunk driver, resulting in the death of her unborn child. As if the tragedy could be any worse, the driver at fault received only a traffic ticket.

When Brookshire met with her state senator, Allen Paul, R-Richmond, and shared her story about the 2007 car crash,



Sen. Allen Paul

Sen. Paul was convinced that changes should be made in current state law.

Sen. Paul worked with Brookshire and Wayne County Prosecutor Michael Shipman on crafting the language of

Senate Bill 71, and named the proposed legislation "Drew's Bill" after the unborn child who died.

Drew's Bill, which passed the Senate by a 50-0 vote, adds termination of pregnancy to the current reckless homicide law, a Class C felony. This law would not apply to an abortion as medically performed in compliance with Indiana law.

Glenn Tebbe, Indiana Catholic Conference executive director, said that, while he did not testify during the Senate hearing of the bill, the Church is supportive of the legislation because of its premise of recognizing unborn babies.

Sen. Paul noted the tragic events that led to the proposed legislation.

"Danielle was in the final trimester of her pregnancy when she was struck by a

drunken driver," Sen. Paul said. "While the driver walked away with only a traffic ticket, Danielle tragically lost her unborn child and sadly is unable to become pregnant again."

Currently, Indiana law states that a drunken driver who fatally injures another person can be charged with a Class C felony, a crime punishable by up to eight years in prison. The charge becomes a Class B felony if the driver has prior convictions, and could face six to 20 years in prison.

Senate Bill 71, as amended, would make the killing of a fetus as a result of

operating a vehicle while intoxicated a Class D felony—a crime punishable by up to six months in prison.

Sen. Paul said Indiana would join several other states where penalties against drunken drivers increase if they cause crashes resulting in the termination of pregnancies. According to data compiled by National Right to Life, the other states that have either reckless or vehicular homicide laws recognizing unborn babies include:

Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Wisconsin.

Last year, the Indiana General Assembly increased penalties for feticide by giving further recognition to the

unborn. The feticide legislation of 2009 was prompted by a tragedy involving a pregnant bank teller who was shot during a robbery. The bank teller survived, but her unborn twins died.

Under the feticide law, if a person kills an unborn baby while committing or attempting to commit murder or another crime also commits feticide. A person found guilty of causing the death of a child in utero may be sentenced to an additional term of imprisonment of six to 20 years.

In criminal actions, the state prosecutes on behalf of the victim for crimes

committed. The law increased penalties for the crime of feticide from a Class C to a Class B felony.

Sen. Paul said he applauded the bipartisan effort shown by Senate lawmakers to pass the legislation.

"Both sides of the aisle supported this from the beginning, and I am excited to see it move over to the House," Sen. Paul said.

"Also, I am pleased Senate lawmakers allowed the bill to stay true to its intended purpose—to increase penalties against drunken drivers and

prevent another family from going through the same horrible situation [that] Danielle Brookshire and her family went through.

"While the accident was tragic and [is] a situation no family should go through, Drew's memory will live on through this



*'Both sides of the aisle supported this from the beginning, and I am excited to see it move over to the House. Also, I am pleased Senate lawmakers allowed the bill to stay true to its intended purpose.'*

—Sen. Allen Paul, R-Richmond

bill and will help make sure this type of reckless act does not continue to go unpunished," Sen. Paul said. "It's a fitting tribute to Danielle's lost son."

Rep. Phil Pflum, D-Milton, is the House sponsor of the bill. The bill has been assigned to the House Courts and Criminal Codes Committee, and awaits a hearing. Rep. Matt Pierce, D-Bloomington, chairs the committee.

"Rep. Pierce has not committed to giving the bill a hearing," Tebbe said.

Additionally, concerns about the bill moving forward are mounting as the Senate and House leadership announced on Feb. 5 their goal of shortening an already short session.

"Lawmakers are planning to complete committee hearings

by Feb. 19," Tebbe said. "It is going to really crunch a lot of legislative business into a very short time, and I suspect some important issues, such as the Marriage Amendment, may not move forward as a result."

Once the regular committee process is completed, bills which have been amended in the second chamber must go back to the original chamber for a concurrence vote or a vote of approval. Bills which do not get a concurrence vote can move to a process called "conference committee."

The Indiana General Assembly must adjourn by March 14, but could end as early as March 5.

(Brigid Curtis Ayer is a correspondent for The Criterion.) †



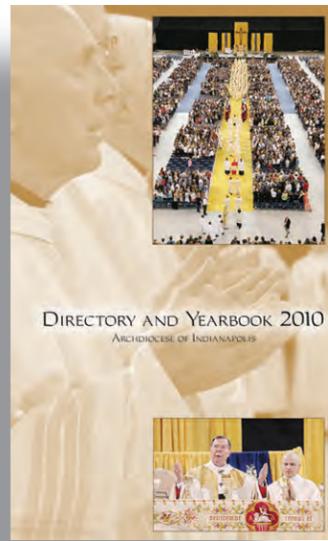
Glenn Tebbe

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# Archdiocesan parishes schedule Lenten penance services

Parishes throughout the archdiocese have scheduled communal penance services for Lent. The following is a list of penance services that have been reported to *The Criterion*.

Due to space constraints, penance services scheduled later during Lent may be omitted from the list in this week's newspaper. However, the entire schedule is posted on *The Criterion Online* at [www.CriterionOnline.com](http://www.CriterionOnline.com).

## Batesville Deanery

Feb. 25, 7 p.m. at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Aurora  
 March 1, 7 p.m. at St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg  
 March 3, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Shelbyville  
 March 3, 7 p.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Rock, Franklin County  
 March 4, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Rushville  
 March 10, 7 p.m. for St. Martin, Yorkville, and St. Paul, New Alsace, at St. Paul, New Alsace  
 March 15, 7 p.m. at St. Peter, Franklin County  
 March 15, 7 p.m. at St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Bright  
 March 15, 7 p.m. at St. Louis, Batesville  
 March 26, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Greensburg

## Bloomington Deanery

Feb. 23, 7 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul, Bedford  
 Feb. 25, 7 p.m. at St. John the Apostle, Bloomington  
 March 3, 7 p.m. at St. Charles Borromeo, Bloomington  
 March 9, 7 p.m. at St. Agnes, Nashville  
 March 23, 7 p.m. at St. Paul Catholic Center, Bloomington  
 March 25, 7 p.m. at St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville

## Connersville Deanery

March 3, 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel, Connersville  
 March 4, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Rushville  
 March 4, 7 p.m. at St. Bridget, Liberty  
 March 11, 7 p.m. at St. Andrew, Richmond  
 March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Cambridge City  
 March 23, 7 p.m. at St. Anne, New Castle

## Indianapolis East Deanery

March 3, 7 p.m. at Holy Spirit  
 March 8, 7 p.m. for St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), St. Bernadette and Our Lady of Lourdes at St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower)  
 March 10, 1:30 p.m. at St. Philip Neri  
 March 17, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas, Fortville  
 March 23, 7 p.m. for St. Mary, Holy Cross and SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral  
 March 25, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Greenfield

## Indianapolis North Deanery

March 14, 2 p.m. deanery service at St. Andrew the Apostle  
 March 15, 7 p.m. deanery service at Immaculate Heart of Mary  
 March 16, 7 p.m. deanery service at Immaculate Heart of Mary

## Indianapolis South Deanery

Feb. 20, 11 a.m.-noon at St. John the Evangelist



Msgr. Paul Dudziak of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Gaithersburg, Md., blesses a young woman after hearing confession during a rally for life and youth Mass at the Verizon Center in Washington on Jan. 22. Bishop David A. Zubik of Pittsburgh is also seen hearing a confession.

March 3, 7 p.m. at St. Mark the Evangelist  
 March 4, 7 p.m. at Holy Name of Jesus, Beech Grove  
 March 9, 7 p.m. at St. Roch  
 March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Jude  
 March 15, 7 p.m. at Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
 March 25, 7 p.m. at St. Ann  
 March 29, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of the Greenwood, Greenwood

## Indianapolis West Deanery

Feb. 23, 7 p.m. at Mary, Queen of Peace, Danville  
 March 1, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas More, Mooresville  
 March 4, 7 p.m. at St. Malachy, Brownsburg  
 March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Christopher  
 March 15, 7 p.m. at St. Gabriel the Archangel  
 March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Monica  
 March 20, 10 a.m. for Holy Trinity and St. Anthony at St. Anthony  
 March 24, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph  
 March 24, 7 p.m. at St. Michael the Archangel  
 March 25, 7 p.m. at Holy Angels

## New Albany Deanery

Feb. 24, 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus, Jeffersonville  
 March 2, 7 p.m. at St. Michael, Bradford  
 March 7, 4 p.m. at St. Mary, New Albany  
 March 8, 7 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville  
 March 9, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Sellersburg  
 March 10, 7 p.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs  
 March 11, 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul, Sellersburg  
 March 13, 9:30 a.m. at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs  
 March 15, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Navilleton  
 March 17, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Corydon

March 18, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany  
 March 18, 7 p.m. St. Frances Xavier, Henryville  
 March 21, 4 p.m. at St. Mary, Lanesville  
 March 28, 4 p.m. at Holy Family, New Albany

## Seymour Deanery

March 7, 2 p.m. for St. Rose of Lima, Franklin, and Holy Trinity, Edinburgh, at Holy Trinity, Edinburgh  
 March 9, 7 p.m. for Most Sorrowful Mother of God, Vevay, and Prince of Peace, Madison, at Prince of Peace, Madison  
 March 10, 7 p.m. for Our Lady of Providence, Brownstown, and St. Ambrose, Seymour, at St. Ambrose, Seymour  
 March 11, 7 p.m. at St. Bartholomew, Columbus  
 March 29, 6:30 p.m. for St. Anne, Jennings County; St. Joseph, Jennings County; and St. Mary, North Vernon, at St. Mary, North Vernon

## Tell City Deanery

March 7, 5 p.m. at St. Augustine, Leopold  
 March 21, 4 p.m. at St. Paul, Tell City  
 March 24, 6:30 p.m. at St. Meinrad, St. Meinrad

## Terre Haute Deanery

Feb. 23, 7 p.m. at Annunciation, Brazil  
 Feb. 25, 7 p.m. at Holy Rosary, Seelyville  
 Feb. 25, 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart, Clinton  
 March 3, 7 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle, Greencastle  
 March 4, 7 p.m. at St. Patrick, Terre Haute  
 March 14, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Rockville  
 March 16, 7 p.m. at St. Benedict, Terre Haute  
 March 18, 1:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus, Terre Haute †

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## Lenten activities available online

Be sure to visit *The Criterion's* Lenten Web page at [www.archindy.org/lent](http://www.archindy.org/lent). The page consists of links to daily readings, a Lenten column by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, a full list of communal penance services taking place at parishes and other features. †

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# TEACHERS

continued from page 1

## 'Love the children first'

When she begins to list her most rewarding teaching experiences, Amy Weigel



Amy Weigel

starts with a moment that didn't happen in school. Yet the moment still reflects the approach that guides her as a teacher, an approach based upon this quotation from St. Theodora Guérin, the founder of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-

Woods and the first saint from Indiana: "Love the children first, then teach them."

"Several years ago, I was at a local festival," recalls Weigel, who teaches fourth grade at St. Louis School in Batesville. "I ran into a former student and spent some time catching up. After covering all of the traditional questions, the former student told me that she always loved my class, which made me feel great. She then said something that made a huge impact on me. She told me why she loved fourth grade.

"She said it wasn't what I taught her during her eight hours of sitting in my class, but the fact that I wanted to know if she had won her soccer game over the weekend or if she had birthday cake for her sister's birthday last night. I have always tried to get to know my students on a personal level, but this former student taught me the significant impact it had.

"My classroom is a safe place to learn, but I believe children will be more productive learners if they are in an environment where they know someone

cares about them. Every day, I make a special effort to *talk* to every child even if it is a simple, basic comment such as, 'I like your haircut' or 'Did you win your soccer game?'

"It defines who I am as a teacher."

## Teaching lessons in compassion

Laura Williams has always stressed the lessons of compassion and empathy to her



Laura Williams

religion students, but that emphasis wasn't making an impact on one student.

"He was not open to anyone," says Williams, now in her ninth year as a teacher at St. Barnabas School in Indianapolis. So she didn't

know what to expect from the boy when she took her class to Rise Learning Center, a school for children with mental and physical handicaps in Marion County.

"During the trip to Rise, I saw my student allow a handicapped child to repeatedly touch his face as he fed the child," Williams recalls. "In that small moment, I saw my student light up. His smile and his total acceptance of the handicapped student reflected his total understanding of this child's grace. At that moment, I knew that the lessons I had taught in my classroom were realized in my student."

The moment meant even more to Williams because her oldest son has a handicap. She talks about him often to her students—one of the ways she lets them know about her family and her life.

"My main focus in my approach in

teaching my students is to let them know I am a real person," Williams says. "I experience both struggles and triumphs in my life, and I know that God is with me through the highs and lows of my daily life. I want them to realize the greatness of the Lord in their lives."

## The classroom of the world

For science teacher Mary Pat O'Connor, the defining moments with her students



Mary Pat O'Connor

often come in the unusual places that she takes them.

She has taken them for overnight stays at the Indianapolis Zoo, and on rafting trips along the White River.

She and her students have also visited a nuclear power plant in

Michigan and a waste-water treatment plant in Noblesville.

She has also led them on a five-day trip for an environmental rally in Washington, D.C., and at the University of Maryland.

"I definitely do not believe that all learning takes place in the classroom," says O'Connor, who teaches biology, ecology, anatomy and physiology at Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis.

While her goal is to have her students interact with the world, her main focus as a teacher is to create a partnership in learning with them.

"I really feel like my classes are a cooperative effort," says O'Connor, who has been teaching for 14 years. "It is my responsibility to teach, but it is my students' responsibility to learn. My ecology class exemplifies this because the students pick

the topic for their year's study. They have the main voice in what projects we choose, and then I direct the learning."

## Following in the footsteps of her hero

Inspiration in teaching comes in two major ways for Providence Sister Maureen Fallon.

The first way is captured in a picture of her hero—St. Theodora Guérin—that hangs in her classroom at Providence Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis.

"She was so dedicated to providing an excellent education, and she was such a great math teacher," says Sister Maureen, who is in her 25th year of teaching math and science. "It is such an honor to be following her example."

Her second source of inspiration comes from her students at the private Catholic high school. She knows that many of them face challenges in their daily lives.

"Probably what defines me as a teacher might be the extra lengths I am willing to go to in order to establish confidence, competence and a sense of Christian community within my classroom," she says. "My students know I will go the extra mile for them to help them understand and prepare for the future."

The future of her students always guides her approach to teaching.

"As a teacher, I try to be consistent, compassionate and prepared. I have the privilege of helping to lay the foundation for future scientists, doctors and other successful professionals." †



Sr. Maureen Fallon, S.P.

# Saint Theodora winners offer advice for new teachers

By John Shaughnessy

After nine years of teaching, Laura Williams has this advice for new teachers: "Relax and enjoy the young people that you teach. Listen to your students because they are also teachers. You need to listen to the 'stories of their lives.' They teach lessons of perseverance, compassion and forgiveness."

A religion teacher at St. Barnabas School in Indianapolis, Williams offered the advice as one of the five winners of the archdiocese's Saint Theodora Excellence in Education Award for 2009-10.

The other four winners shared these tips for new teachers:

## The power of prayer

Patrice Payne, resource teacher at

St. Thomas Aquinas School in Indianapolis:

- "Embrace and accept each child in your heart and soul."

- "Pray for each of your students by name."

- "Pray for yourself that you may be able to show your students their potential."

- "Challenge your students to be their best."

## Take advantage of the opportunity

Providence Sister Maureen Fallon, science and math teacher at Providence Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis:

*'Listen to your students because they are also teachers. You need to listen to the "stories of their lives." They teach lessons of perseverance, compassion and forgiveness.'*

—Laura Williams, religion teacher at St. Barnabas School in Indianapolis

"Always remember that we have the

chance to make a difference in the minds and hearts of students every day."

## Be flexible

Amy Weigel, fourth-grade teacher at St. Louis School in Batesville:

"Every teacher needs to remember that some lessons are going to go exactly as planned and others are going to be revamped to provide optimal student

learning. At school, there are so many factors that affect the day, and the best

way to be prepared is to be flexible. Schedules change, students have social and academic issues that need to be addressed, and, of course, there are technology glitches that require teachers to test their flexibility."

## Have the passion to teach

Mary Pat O'Connor, science teacher at Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis:

"Have a passion for teaching. It's too hard if you don't like what you are doing. While it is wonderful if the students like you, don't let that be your goal. The students will respect you if you respect them, and are prepared and willing to help them, succeed. Have fun with your students. Don't hesitate to try new things." †

# A valuable resource list for parents of children in Catholic schools

By John Shaughnessy

Consider the list as a valuable resource for parents who have children in Catholic schools.

The list includes tips for parents—to help their children make the most of their education.

It's filled with suggestions from the five teachers in the archdiocese who were recognized on Feb. 16 as the winners of the Saint Theodora Excellence in Education Award for 2009-10.

## Have your child take responsibility for his education

"Ask them if they are writing down homework assignments and test dates," advises Mary Pat O'Connor, a science teacher at Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis.

"Encourage them to seek out their teacher when they need extra help. We want our students to succeed, and would

much rather a student seek us out and ask questions than get behind in their studies. I believe organized students who communicate well with their teachers have a better chance of being successful in college."

*'Knowing what is going on in your child's classroom can play a vital role in their education. It shows the child that education is important.'*

—Amy Weigel, a fourth-grade teacher at St. Louis School in Batesville

## Be involved

"Knowing what is going on in your child's classroom can play a vital role in their education," says Amy Weigel, a fourth-grade teacher at St. Louis School in Batesville. "It shows the child that education is important. There are so many opportunities to stay posted on what is going on in your child's classroom. Take advantage of e-mail, Web sites, blogs and newsletters."

## Celebrate and communicate

"Parents can help us celebrate the accomplishments of the child," says Providence Sister Maureen Fallon, a math and science teacher at Providence

Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis. "Talk to your child every day. Let them tell you the story of their daily struggles and accomplishments."

## Show and tell

"Put your family first before other things," says Patrice Payne, a resource teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas School in Indianapolis. "Read, read, read—to them

and in front of them. Show and tell them how math and science are used in your daily lives. Help them with their homework."

## Be a partner with the teacher

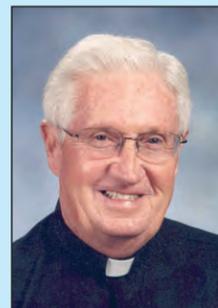
"Children learn better if we are all on the same page," says Laura Williams, a religion teacher at St. Barnabas School in Indianapolis. "We all have the same goal—to see children succeed." †

# Priest, principal honored at luncheon

Father James Wilmoth and Mary Pat Sharpe were honored by the archdiocese during the Saint Theodora Excellence in Education Award luncheon on Feb. 16.

Father Wilmoth was recognized as the Distinguished Pastor for the archdiocese—for his outstanding contributions to Catholic education in both his roles as the pastor of St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis and as the chaplain of Roncalli High School in Indianapolis.

Sharpe received the honor of Distinguished Principal for her great



Fr. James Wilmoth



Mary Pat Sharpe

work and leadership as the principal of St. Joan of Arc School in Indianapolis. †

# Volunteer medical team treats injured people in Haiti

By Mary Ann Wyand

A month after the catastrophic Jan. 12 earthquake near Port-au-Prince, 10 members of a volunteer medical team organized by the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Haiti Committee in Indianapolis were busy caring for injured Haitians at St. Damien's Children's Hospital outside the ruins of the capital city.

The pediatric hospital located near the airport only sustained minor damage during the 7.0 magnitude quake and is being used for emergency medical care.

St. Thomas Aquinas parishioner Joseph Zelenka of Indianapolis, who organized the Feb. 13-20 medical mission trip, called his wife, Sharel, on Feb. 14 to report that they arrived in the Dominican Republic on a flight from Philadelphia and traveled from there to Port-au-Prince.

Zelenka worked with Father Rick Frechette, an American priest who also is a physician and the hospital director, on travel arrangements to bring the medical team into the disaster area.

On Jan. 15, Father Frechette told an ABC News reporter in Haiti that medical personnel at the pediatric hospital were providing acute medical care for adults and children with severe crush injuries and open fractures.

During a Feb. 6 *Criterion* interview, Zelenka said the St. Thomas medical team received financial support from many parishioners, who have been "unbelievably generous," as well as donations of medicine and supplies for wound care from St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

"We had planned this medical trip to St. Jean Marie Parish in Belle Riviere almost four months ago," he said. "Our plans changed because the real need is in Port-au-Prince. I'm not sure how I'm going to respond when I see the rubble and so many injured people. It's beyond all comprehension."

"We've been told by Father Rick Frechette's staff at St. Damien's Hospital to be prepared to do a lot of wound care," Zelenka said. "I received e-mail reports that

some doctors in Haiti had to do a lot of amputations without anesthesia to save people's lives because their limbs were mangled and infection sets in quickly."

The rainy season is only a few weeks away, he said, and Haitians are afraid to seek shelter in any buildings still standing because they are wary of more aftershocks.

"Diseases will be a major problem," Zelenka said. "People are sleeping in the streets, and there are feces and urination on the ground. Those who were not injured were returning to the provinces where they came from, and those [areas] are overcrowded now. Small huts that house two or three people are now housing 10 people."

He planned to stay in Haiti after the other Indianapolis area volunteers returned home on Feb. 20 to visit Father Valery Rebecca and inspect Visitation Hospital in Petite Riviere de Nippes. He also hopes to travel to Belle Riviere to assess damage to the parish buildings there, and volunteer at St. Clare Church in Port-au-Prince.

"They are feeding thousands of people every day," Zelenka said. "I want to go there and help. I also want to try to find Jean Lys [Lorthe], the boy we brought to Indianapolis three years ago for heart surgery. I'm really concerned about Jean Lys because the last I knew he was living with two older sisters in Carrefour, which is just outside of Port-au-Prince. If he was there, that was the epicenter of the earthquake. I may not be able to find out anything about him."

A week before their departure, the medical team received a blessing followed by enthusiastic applause from parishioners at the conclusion of Mass on Feb. 7 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

"The Haiti ministry is very much a part of St. Thomas [Parish]," Father Stephen Schwab, the pastor, said after the Mass. "The parishioners have an extraordinary commitment to the people of Haiti. It's very inspiring to have some of our parishioners on the front line helping the Haitian people. This is something I think they feel that they have to do."

This medical mission marked Dr. Terry Ihnat's 10th trip to Haiti.

The surgeon and member of Sacred Heart Parish in Cicero, Ind., in the Lafayette



The St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Haiti Committee in Indianapolis organized a medical mission to Port-au-Prince on Feb. 13-20 to help care for Haitians injured in the Jan. 12 earthquake. Volunteer medical team members from central Indiana are, left to right, Dr. Stephen Zentner, physical therapist Lois Zentner, Haiti Committee member and mission organizer Joseph Zelenka, registered nurse Kathy Williams, Dr. Tom Williams, pharmacist Ashley Vincent, Dr. Terry Ihnat, registered nurse Rita Ward, registered nurse Chris Sheehan and Dr. Pearl Johnson.

Diocese, said the medical team is eager to help with the critical needs there.

"Whatever they've got for us to do, we'll do it," Ihnat said. "There are so many things they need. When we get there, it will be obvious what we need to do. I say a prayer every day to help the people of Haiti. They're such a faith-filled people. They know that God is going to provide for them."

"Haiti has been ignored for so long," he said. "This disaster has really opened a lot of people's eyes—and their hearts. If any good comes out of this earthquake, it will be the fact that people are aware of the needs there now and how they have been suffering for years. Maybe they will get some much-needed help."

Parishioner Stephen Zentner, a family practice physician, has participated in 16 medical missions to Haiti. His wife, Lois Zentner, a physical therapist, has traveled there 15 times on mission trips.

"Haiti is so poor," he said. "The people have nothing to begin with, and then this [earthquake] happens. But even in a disaster, they still have faith in God. I always pray for

the people of Haiti. We are going to try to do the most we can in the short time we will be there."

Parishioner Chris Sheehan, a registered nurse who has traveled to Haiti on five medical mission trips, said her daily prayer is "that each person in Haiti receives what he or she needs most that day, which is different for everybody. Some days it might be food and water. Sometimes it might be health care. Sometimes it might be shelter from the elements. The people have so little and now they have nothing."

"A lot of prayers will get us through this," Sheehan said. "The trip had already been planned, and I think it worked out that we were supposed to go there now to help the people who didn't receive adequate treatment in the days after the earthquake."

(Log on to The Criterion Web site at [www.archindy.org/criterion/local/2006/10-06/haiti.html](http://www.archindy.org/criterion/local/2006/10-06/haiti.html) to read John Shaughnessy's story about Jean Lys Lorthe's heart surgery in 2006 at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.) †

## Earthquake survivor vows to continue raising funds for Haitian people

By Mary Ann Wyand

"What is it that God is asking you to do?"

After posing that question during his homily on Jan. 18, Father Stephen Schwab said that "it" must include helping the impoverished people of Haiti recover from the devastating earthquake on Jan. 12 that destroyed Port-au-Prince.

The 7.0 magnitude quake flattened buildings in seconds, killed an estimated 200,000 people, injured tens of thousands of survivors, and left more than 1 million Port-au-Prince residents hungry and homeless.



Registered nurse Sue Alexander prepares to help a Haitian boy during one of her medical mission trips to St. Jean Marie Parish in Belle Riviere with St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Haiti Committee volunteers. Alexander miraculously survived the Jan. 12 earthquake in Port-au-Prince.

The pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Indianapolis noted that the Haitian people still living in the capital city desperately need food, water, medicine and medical care.

Red Cross volunteer nurse and former St. Thomas Aquinas parishioner Sue Alexander, who miraculously survived the earthquake, listened from her seat in a back pew as Father Schwab discussed the tragic humanitarian crisis and our calling as Christians to help the poor.

Alexander, a retired registered nurse who now lives in the Lafayette Diocese, traveled to Haiti for a medical mission trip on Jan. 12 and arrived in Port-au-Prince several hours before the massive earthquake leveled the city.

She was standing on a second-floor porch talking with two Haitian girls who lived at the house when the ground began to shake violently and all the buildings started to break apart.

Translator Martin Glesil, a member of her host family, quickly helped Alexander and his relatives down the steps of the shaking house as the powerful quake rocked the ground beneath their feet.

"I saw things starting to fall and I heard Martin call my name," Alexander said. "It was hard to stand. I couldn't walk. I grabbed my backpack, and he pulled me down the steps and out of the house. It was very hard to get out."

"When the house was falling down, I really thought I was going to die," she said. "I began saying the Jesus prayer I use as a mantra—'Oh, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us'—over and over again as soon as I felt the ground rumbling. But the quake passed very quickly. It was over within a minute or two and we got outside safely."

In the street, Alexander said she continued to pray as she provided first aid and wound care to injured Haitians.

Relying on her Red Cross disaster training, Alexander used medical supplies, antibiotics and pain medication she had brought in a suitcase, which Glesil managed to recover from the ruins of his home.

But many of the people trapped in the concrete rubble were so badly hurt that she could not help them.

"A young girl, probably about 10, died in my arms," Alexander said. "All I could do was pray for her. She must have had a lot of internal injuries. Her father was frantic. He picked her up off the ground and started running, but there was no place to run."

Alexander lived in the streets and cared for survivors for four days until all of her medical supplies were gone then decided it was time to return home.

"I had done what I could in the neighborhood as far as wound care," she said. "I didn't want to drink water or eat food that other people needed so I left."

On Jan. 15, Glesil helped her get to the American Embassy in Port-au-Prince, where U.S. officials arranged for her evacuation on a military cargo plane to Homestead Air Force Base in Florida.

A military bus transported her from the base to Miami International Airport, where she booked a flight to Indianapolis.

Now a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Center at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Alexander said she has volunteered on "two or three medical mission trips a year to Haiti since 1994 and lived there for two years."

She wanted to return to Haiti on another medical mission trip, but recently fell and

broke her arm.

As she recuperates, Alexander has had time to reflect on her terrifying near-death experience as well as the suffering of so many injured, scared and grief-stricken people.

"It's just heartbreaking," she said of the suffering in Haiti, which is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

Alexander said she is grateful that a 10-member volunteer medical team organized by St. Thomas Aquinas parishioner Joseph Zelenka of Indianapolis traveled to Haiti on Feb. 13 for a six-day medical mission to help the people in Port-au-Prince.

She has participated in several St. Thomas Aquinas Haiti Committee mission trips.

Alexander hopes that people in the U.S. will care enough to pray for the people of Haiti and donate money to Catholic Relief Services.

"I'm not one to look back," Alexander said. "I have to look forward. That's just my nature. I'm a planner. I knew the best thing for me to do was get out of the country, go home, and work to do what I can from here by raising funds and encouraging people to give to responsible organizations that can help the Haitian people."

Alexander left most of her cash with Glesil, and plans to send more money to him soon to help her host family rebuild.

"Martin, who saved my life or certainly kept me alive, is in despair," Alexander said. "They have nothing. They're just on the street. They're waiting for help. I promised him before I left that if I did nothing else for the rest of my life I will work to get money in his hands to build a new house." †

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## Priests, Nuns Carry Burden of Haiti's Recovery — Need Support from US Catholics

Father Marc Boisvert has served the poor of Haiti for more than 10 years, but never under the kind of pressures and demands the nation's recent earthquake unleashed.

"Haiti's Catholic missionaries now describe their lives in terms of 'pre-earthquake' and 'post-earthquake'. Ask them when they did a certain thing or started a certain program, and they'll say something like, 'that was a pre-quake project' or 'these orphans were added after the quake.' That is how profound this disaster has been for us," Father Marc said. "It has changed our lives dramatically, and it will impact us for many years to come."

The priest described the days following the earthquake as "tragic," "heart breaking" and "tumultuous."

"Our program for orphans is located in Les Cayes, some distance away from the capital of Port-au-Prince. We were lucky. We felt it, but the shaking didn't bring down all the buildings here," he explained. "That said, the earthquake did have a huge emotional and economic impact in us, and within 48 hours we were dealing with the hardships. We had shortages of food, problems obtaining fuel and the needs of victims to contend with. Almost immediately, a stream of refugees

looking for ways to help him, both in terms of supplying the orphanage and in terms of supporting any work he was doing for the earthquake victims that were pouring in to his area," recalled Jim Cavnar, the president of Cross International Catholic Outreach. "One of the first things Father Marc did was to take in additional children who had been orphaned by the disaster. He knew the crisis would be a major problem for his own program too, but he didn't focus on that. Instead, he made sacrifices to help the refugees. He put their needs first."

All over Haiti, this kind of selfless reaction was repeated over and over, as priests and nuns throughout the crippled nation scrambled to launch new outreaches that would help earthquake victims. Their lives — already difficult — became even more challenging, but they never backed down or faltered.

"These Catholic programs are sharing food. Their clinics are welcoming volunteer doctors and their facilities are available for emergency surgeries. In almost every case, the priests and nuns have set aside their own goals so they can pursue the 'greater good' — doing whatever is asked of them for the benefit of the earthquake victims," Cavnar said.

"Knowing how difficult life in Haiti is



A young man walks through a landscape scarred by earthquake debris. Many travelers use masks to lessen the smell of decaying bodies and to protect from diseases that the aftermath may bring.

\$50 million in aid within the first few weeks of the earthquake, and the priests and nuns who benefited were very grateful. They had asked for food, medicines, fuel for vehicles and assistance providing shelter to those left homeless. We were able to accomplish all of those things, and Catholic donors in America made that possible," he said.

Still, there is one concern — *donor fatigue*.

"Donor fatigue is a phrase coined by the media to describe people who get tired of hearing about a disaster or social problem and turn their backs on the

***"Their lives — already difficult — became even more challenging, but they never backed down or faltered."***

Jim Cavnar, President of Cross International Catholic Outreach

issue," Cavnar explained. "Every time I hear that term, I cringe — not because I don't believe it happens, but because I wonder how people like Father Marc must feel about it. He has cared for hundreds of orphans in Haiti for years, and he is opening his doors to more in response to the earthquake. Imagine if he said, 'Sorry, I have giving fatigue, so I'm not interested in taking these children. In fact, I'm closing this whole program down because I'm tired of helping.' Thank God he would never do that, but imagine how he feels when donors say that kind of thing after dealing with a problem for just a few months. That must be unbelievably discouraging for him and the other priests and nuns serving there in Haiti."

Fortunately, Cross International Catholic Outreach has no intention of slowing its efforts in Haiti or its support of the priests and nuns working in the trenches there. And Cavnar said he believes that Cross Catholic's donors will support that decision with their prayers and gifts.

"American Catholics have strong ties to the priests and nuns working in Haiti

and they're very familiar with the challenges of international mission work. They don't see the Church's mission as just another humanitarian effort. They consider these priests and nuns champions of the faith — special people called by God to serve," Cavnar said. "For that reason, I don't believe they will reject the pleas of the clergy serving in Haiti. They will stand with these priests and nuns for as long as it takes to respond to the crisis."

With food and medical emergencies in Haiti finally beginning to wane, Cross International Catholic Outreach is beginning to plan for the long-term recovery stages of their outreach. This will concentrate on housing, reestablishing educational systems and other community stabilizing projects.

"Thousands are homeless and the entire school system has been disrupted," he said. "These are more complicated and costly issues than our food and medical relief has been, but we fully intend to address those problems with our donors' help."

One feels compelled to ask the question — isn't Cross International Catholic Outreach tired and discouraged on some level by that daunting task? Cavnar answers quickly and with a renewed strength of purpose in his voice.

"God's hand is in this work, and we will all draw from his strength and unending compassion," he said. "Whenever I am tempted to think otherwise, I remember the words one missionary shared with me just days after the earthquake: ***'We trust in our heavenly father to raise up a New Haiti — to bestow on us a crown of beauty, instead of ashes; the oil of gladness, instead of mourning; and a garment of praise, instead of a spirit of despair. We will be called Oaks of Righteousness; a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor.'*** How can you wilt in the face of that kind of faith?"

To make a tax-deductible contribution to Cross International Catholic Outreach and its outreach overseas, use either the enclosed postage-paid brochure or send donations to: Cross International Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00624, 490 White Pond Drive, PO Box 63, Akron, OH 44309-0063.



The children in Father Marc's orphanage gather to pray. They thank God that their own buildings did not collapse and they ask for mercy on behalf of the children who were not as fortunate.

began flooding into our area, and we became part of the outreach to help them."

Back in the United States, one of Father Marc's supportive partners, Cross International Catholic Outreach, was also racing to respond to the crisis and to the unexpected hardships it was producing for the priest and nuns serving in Haiti. Some were struggling with "front line" efforts to save lives and supply food within Port-au-Prince. Others, like Father Marc, were mobilizing to help refugees and preparing for the difficult challenges that the recovery stage would bring.

"As long-time supporters of Father Marc's orphanage, Pwoje Espwa (Hope Village), we realized immediately how devastating this disaster would be for the priests and nuns working with the poor. Within hours of the quake, we were in contact with Father Marc —

for everyone now, I can't help but be proud of the Church and the individual priests and nuns who have redoubled their efforts to help during this disaster," he added. "As a Catholic, I have always appreciated the dedication of the clergy, but this crisis has produced a level of commitment even I didn't expect. The earthquake's aftermath represents a mammoth burden — one no one should have to bear — and yet these priests and nuns accept the hardships in faith, giving everything they have to serve the people in need."

Cavnar is also confident that American Catholics will rise to the occasion as they have so far by contributing generously for the work Cross International Catholic Outreach is organizing in Haiti.

"Thanks to the support we've already received from donors in the U.S., Cross Catholic was able to provide more than

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# Fighting Hunger On The Front Lines

*Catholic missionaries rely on faith and Cross Catholic in their fight against hunger in Latin America*

Two-year-old Alba's screams cut through the early morning air. "She has been crying for hours," her mother, Carmon Garcia, explains. "She's hungry."

The toddler's tears flow down pale, patchy cheeks. Skin hangs from her arms and neck, and her ribs and collarbones protrude as if there is no skin covering them at all. Though empty, her small belly is bloated — a telltale sign of malnutrition. At 2, Alba weighs just 12 pounds, which is half the normal weight for a child her age.

"We hardly have any food," says Carmon, a mother of eight. Her husband works in a factory making \$3 a day, but he has to spend \$1.25 a day taking the bus to work, cutting the family's income nearly in half. "We can't even afford milk," she says.

There are tens of thousands of poor families in Latin America facing this same situation. Hunger and malnutrition have become the deadliest killers there, claiming the lives of thousands each day. The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization recently estimated that 1.02 billion people don't have enough to eat — that is one in every six people in the world.

With national attention focused on Haiti recently after the devastating earthquake that demolished most of Port-au-Prince, the intense poverty plaguing the rest of the region has gone virtually unnoticed — but it is staggering. A millennium study by the World Bank found that nearly 40 percent of the 569 million people living in Latin America live below the poverty line. Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Guatemala are often cited among the poorest countries in the world.

"Though our hearts ache for our brothers and sisters in Haiti, we cannot forget their poor neighbors in places like Nicaragua and Guatemala," says Jim Cavnar, president of Cross International Catholic Outreach (Cross Catholic), whose ministry supports several feeding programs in Latin America and Haiti. "There are children literally starving to death. By providing meals, we can save their lives."

Sister Edna runs St. Joseph's, a rescue and nutrition center for severely malnourished children in Guatemala. She has seen firsthand the impact just a few meals can make.

Each day she cares for more than 30 malnourished children, some brought in by desperately poor parents like Carmon Garcia and others who were abandoned in the streets. With love, intensive care, and nutritional meals, she nurses them back to health.

"Serving these children who have no one and nothing brings me closer to God," Sr. Edna says. "In caring for these little ones, I have to trust that Jesus will give me strength. With him, I am able to face the sadness — and through him, I find light where there is so much darkness."

Sr. Edna isn't always able to save all of the children who are brought to the rescue center, which makes her work heart-wrenching, but she is thankful for the many little ones she does save. Children like Oscar Molina.

Though he was almost 1 year old, Oscar



Children are often weak and frail when discovered (above), but Sr. Edna nurses them back to health (below). Hundreds of children need this help.

weighed only seven pounds when he was brought to St. Joseph's — about the size of a healthy newborn. His skin clung to his bones, his hair was falling out, and he suffered frequent and intense fevers. He had respiratory and intestinal infections and was so weak and unsteady that he couldn't sit up. He was even too weak to cry.

Now, Oscar is a healthy, happy toddler, who smiles easily and giggles when Sr. Edna bounces him in her lap. "When I feed and care for a child like Oscar, I see a child, helpless and hungry, but I also see Jesus," she says.

It is this faith that keeps many heroic Catholic missionaries going as they work to fight hunger and poverty in Latin America.

Fr. John Halligan, the founder of a feeding and education program for street children in Quito, Ecuador, admits that at times it is difficult to witness what these poor children go through.

"When you visit their 'homes,' it really turns your stomach to see how they live in such squalor," he says. "Still, God gives us the strength to push on and continue helping these precious children. I am compelled by my faith to help them, and it brings me joy to see them doing better, knowing we've made an impact on their lives."

Sr. Edna and Fr. Halligan are just two of several dedicated Catholic missionaries in Latin America being supported by Cross Catholic. With cash grants raised through its U.S. donors, Cross Catholic is able to partner with Catholic ministries in the field who are running great programs but don't have the funds to sustain them.

"I continue to be amazed by the generosity of our benefactors. Even when the U.S. economy is down, they are still giving to help the poor around the world," says Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic. "They show great faith, and we are seeing the positive returns of



that faith in the lives of the poor."

Those positive returns are especially visible in the fight against world hunger. With monthly financial support from Cross Catholic, Las Mercedes Nutrition Center in Honduras is able to feed more than a hundred poor, malnourished children who they find abandoned in garbage dumps and in the streets.

"Hunger is the most extreme form of poverty. In essence, it is a state where families cannot afford to meet even their most basic need: food," Cavnar

says. "By supporting programs that provide daily meals, we are ministering to the poorest of the poor."

Cavnar says he is continually humbled by the example of the Catholic brothers and sisters his ministry supports and is grateful to aid in their important work.

"The poor have unbelievable faith, as do these Catholic missionaries who are in the field helping them each day. We count it a privilege to help them and, in doing so, live out our faith."

## How to Help:

Your help is needed for Cross International Catholic Outreach to bring Christ's mercy to the poorest of the poor. Use the enclosed postage-paid brochure to mail your gift or send it to Cross International Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC00624, 490 White Pond Drive, PO Box 63, Akron, OH 44309-0063.



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## Jesus' temptation shows he is faithful, God's son

By Fr. Robert Kinast

The Gospel for the first Sunday of Lent is always an account of Jesus' temptations in the desert.

Just as he spent 40 days fasting and praying to prepare for his ministry, so we are invited to spend 40 days fasting, praying and renewing our commitment to follow him in our daily lives. And just as Jesus faced temptations that could compromise his commitment, so do we.

Whereas the Gospel of St. Mark merely mentions the temptations (Mk 1:12), the Gospels of Matthew and Luke provide detailed descriptions, just as they do with their infancy narratives, as a kind of prequel to the themes and events of Jesus' ministry.

This year, St. Luke's version is proclaimed in the liturgy. It is the same as Matthew's except for a reversal of the second and third temptations, a change that fits Luke's overall intention.

The temptation scene follows Jesus' baptism and serves two main purposes. The first is to verify the claim that Jesus is the beloved Son of God upon whom the Spirit of God descended in the Jordan River (Lk 3:21-22). The second is to re-enact with greater fidelity the journey of the chosen people through the desert for 40 years.

The first temptation goes right to Jesus' claim to be the Son of God. It exploits the hunger Jesus felt as a result of his fast: If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread (Lk 4:3). The implication is that, if Jesus can't do this, he isn't the Son of God. The deeper temptation is to use the privilege and power of his relationship with God for himself rather than for others.

Jesus' response anticipates his prophetic mission by invoking the spiritual nourishment of God's word over the physical nourishment of bread. He quotes the Book of Deuteronomy (Dt 8:3) where Moses tells the people that they were tested with hunger in the desert before being fed with manna from heaven as a reminder that they are to live not by bread alone, but by every word that comes from God.

Next, the devil tests Jesus' sonship and fidelity to God by offering him all the worldly power and glory available in exchange for allegiance to him.

Jesus rejects this ploy, assuming a priestly role in quoting again from the Book of Deuteronomy (Dt 6:13): No matter how much earthly power and



The Greek Orthodox Mount of Temptation Monastery overlooks the city of Jericho. It is said that Jesus fasted for 40 days and wrestled with Satan on the desert mountain on which the monastery stands.

material comfort people may enjoy, they must never forget that there is only one God whom they should worship and obey.

Finally, the devil takes Jesus to the top of the temple in Jerusalem, the pivotal city where the ministry of Jesus will culminate and the mission of the Church will begin, as narrated in the Acts of the Apostles.

Switching tactics, the devil now quotes Scripture (Ps 91), urging Jesus to flaunt his beloved-son relationship and force God to save him from a reckless, self-destructive act. In effect, he tries to manipulate Jesus into becoming a temptation for God.

Knowing how God will raise up his beloved Son after his self-sacrifice on the cross, Luke cites the passage in Deuteronomy (Dt 6:16) where Moses tells the people never to test God as they did

when they complained about the lack of water on their journey through the desert (Nm 20:3-5).

Trusting in God when difficulties arise is not the same as expecting God to rescue us from foolish and arrogant risk-taking. Those who are filled with God's Spirit, as Jesus was, know the difference and banish the Bible-quoting devil, if only for a time.

St. Luke's use of Deuteronomy in framing Jesus' responses to the devil is fitting in several ways. Deuteronomy was written as a record of the exhortation from Moses prior to the chosen people entering the Promised Land. It stands between the completion of their desert journey and the beginning of their new life.

In the same way, Jesus stands between the completion of his desert reenactment of Israel's journey and the beginning of

his ministry leading to the new life of redemption. Just as Israel was the chosen people of God, so Jesus is the chosen, beloved Son of God. However, while Israel often failed to live up to its calling, Jesus fulfills that calling perfectly.

In this respect, the Book of Deuteronomy continues to have relevance for Christians, especially during the Lenten season. As a summation of God's enduring covenant expectations, it is literally a "second law," a review of the responsibilities and rewards associated with living a faithful life.

Almost as significant, it is written in a personal, heartfelt style somewhat as an elder leaving a testament of wisdom for the young or a father passing on life lessons to a son.

If we claim a share in Jesus' relationship with God, we may expect to face tests aimed at our selflessness, our allegiance and our trust. The temptations of Jesus and the Book of Deuteronomy are two valuable resources for responding rightly when those times come.

(Father Robert Kinast is a pastoral theologian in Prairie Village, Kan.) †

*Just as Israel was the chosen people of God, so Jesus is the chosen, beloved Son of God. However, while Israel often failed to live up to its calling, Jesus fulfills that calling perfectly.*

### Discussion Point

## Turn to God when faced with temptation

### This Week's Question

What can we learn from how Jesus responded to Satan's temptations in the desert?

"When we are tempted, we have to turn more to the Lord to resist it because we cannot do it alone. Temptations come in all forms, and not giving in was as hard for [Jesus] as for us." (Judith Irvin, Steubenville, Ohio)

"Christ gave us faith and he showed us that we have to depend on faith when we are tempted. If we trust God, we will have more strength to use daily against the evil one." (Kevin McHugh, Fair Lawn, N.J.)

"The first thing that comes to mind for me is that Jesus rebuked Satan with words from Scripture—showing that Scripture is a great aid in dealing with

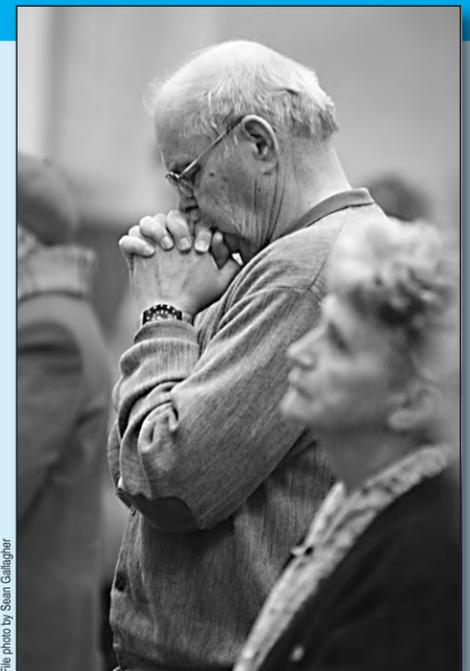
temptation when we are confronted with it. It can help us to discern, define and overcome temptation." (Joan Guenther, Ann Arbor, Mich.)

"We can learn that even the things humans most desire—like power and proving ourselves—are nothing compared to God's love for us, which Jesus understood. He gave us the reassurance that God offers something so much greater than earthly power and possessions." (Daniela McLean, Watkinsville, Ga.)

### Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: Have you ever felt healed after you forgave someone who hurt you deeply?

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



File photo by Sean Gallagher

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

## Psalms are 'the masterwork of prayer'

(Second in a series)

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* calls the psalms "the masterwork of prayer in the Old Testament" (#2585). For poetry lovers, these are the Bible's poems. But more than poems, they are also hymns.

Most of them were probably composed for Jewish liturgical worship, although they are both personal and communal. Many of them are printed with notations that indicate the musical instruments used to accompany them.

For example, the notation above Psalm 4 says "with stringed instruments" while the one above Psalm 5 says "with wind instruments." Psalm 8 is to be accompanied "upon the gittith," but I have no idea what a gittith is.

They were ancient songs. About half of them are attributed to King David, who lived about 3,000 years ago. He might or

might not have actually composed them himself, but his authorship of some is taken for granted in the New Testament.

Some of the titles indicate when he supposedly wrote them. For example, Psalm 3, which is about trust in God in time of danger, is said to have been composed when he fled from his son Absalom (see 2 Sm 15).

Other psalms are attributed to various temple singers with names like "the sons of Korah" or "the sons of Asaph." Four psalms are attributed, respectively, to Moses, Solomon, Herman and Ethan. And some are more recent, composed in the fifth and fourth centuries B.C. after the Israelites' exile to Babylon, but not as late as the Maccabean period about 165 B.C.

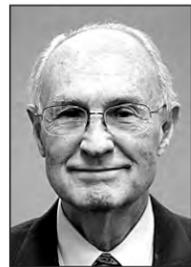
Praise of God is the most common theme of the psalms. Indeed, the psalms were collected into five books of the *Psalter*, which means "Praises," and each of the five books ends with a doxology or psalm of praise. But there are many other forms of prayer, too: lament, contrition, petition, thanksgiving.

They usually are simple prayers and they

sound spontaneous, but some are literary masterpieces, especially Psalm 119. By far the longest psalm in the *Psalter*, it has 176 verses. It is an acrostic. Its 22 stanzas (of eight verses each) are in the order of the Hebrew alphabet and each verse within a stanza starts with the same letter.

St. Ambrose wrote, "A psalm is a blessing on the lips of the people, praise of God, the assembly's homage, a general acclamation, a word that speaks for all, the voice of the Church, a confession of faith in song."

St. Pope Pius X had a great love of the psalms. He wrote: "Who could fail to be moved by those many passages in the psalms which set forth so profoundly the infinite majesty of God, his omnipotence, his justice and goodness and clemency, too deep for words, and all the other infinite qualities of his that deserve our praise? Who could fail to be aroused to the same emotions by the prayers of thanksgiving to God for blessings received, by the petitions, so humble and confident, for blessings still awaited, by the cries of a soul in sorrow for sin committed?" †



The Joyful Catholic/Rick Hermann

## Lent is a time to live our faith joyfully

After journeying late into the night to reach my destination, I awaken before sunrise in one of my favorite places on Earth.



The clanging of the bell in the steeple rouses me from my slumber. It is 3:30 a.m., time for the first prayers of the day at this monastery. My tired body protests, but I insist.

I am greeted with a bracing kiss of cold air upon my cheeks, and my legs are unsteady beneath me yet I smile in quiet anticipation.

Shuffling down the dim hallway, I dip my fingers in holy water and slide into a pew in the dark chapel. I am glad to master my rebellious body.

I bend my knees, fold my hands and bow my head.

Shadowy figures gather around me, shrouded in hoods and silence. Surrounded by these quiet friends, my breathing grows easier and more natural.

Suddenly the light comes on, blinding my tightly closed eyes, and I command myself to stand.

The ancient chord is played, and I join my voice with the others and chant, "Oh Lord, come to my assistance, make haste to help me."

Thus, I find myself at peace in the early mist surrounding the Trappist monks at Assumption Abbey, a monastery deep in the secluded hills of southern Missouri ([www.assumptionabbey.org](http://www.assumptionabbey.org)).

For me, it is a welcome relief from a noisy world. A chance to decompress, recollect and reflect. It helps me find that extra grace to kick free of all those hungry habits that have intruded between me and my Lord.

I must confess that at other times of the year I am more prone to accept suffering grudgingly. I typically avoid picking up my cross.

Lent is different, a special time when I voluntarily decide to die to myself, to pick up my cross daily and follow him.

As I imitate Christ, my spirit soars. In my own small way, I am following in his footsteps, sharing his 40 days in the wilderness.

In Lent, I discover that, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Gal 2:20).

At other times, I am not quite so brave, not so holy.

I think of you in heaven, Jesus, that you did not have to come to Earth or suffer indignity and death. You could have called all the angels to rescue you. But you chose to descend to Earth, to live humbly with your beloved children, sharing all our joys and

sorrows.

Can I do less? I would like to do more. For your sake, for my sake, for the sake of the whole world, I would like to do more, like these holy monks.

These men, who have set themselves apart from the world, are inexplicably some of the most joyful men I have ever met.

They spend their lives in work and prayer for you and me and all souls.

They harken back to ancient times when the world was lit only by fire. By candlelight, they kept the sacred words of our Lord alive with pen and ink and voice and song.

They also herald the future when everything will be illuminated by our Lord and made new by his holy presence.

They are living signs of that glorious future which is our heritage and destiny.

I find it a privilege to share their life and bread for a time, especially during Lent. They show me how wonderful it is to fast, pray and die to myself, as Christ did, in order to live more joyfully and help redeem the world.

Lent is one of my favorite times of the year, and it can be enjoyable for you, too.

(Rick Hermann is a popular columnist, conference speaker and author. His e-mail address is [rh222@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rh222@sbcglobal.net).) †

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

## What we can learn through God's creatures

After receiving positive feedback from readers following my December column

about the book *Will I See My Dog in Heaven?* by Franciscan Father Jack Wintz, I wasn't at all surprised when, almost immediately, I found another animal-related book.

Perhaps God—or St. Francis of Assisi—serendipitously put these books in my path.

The second book is *Animals Taught Me That: Memoirs of my life from cradle to present on the life lessons learned through the animals who've graced it* by Dr. Kim Bloomer, a doctor of veterinary naturopathy in Santé Fe, N.M.

Bloomer's encounters with animals throughout her life led to her vocation. What is remarkable about the book is that she is brutally honest about her faults when she took care of animals in earlier years. She noted that those situations gave her a better understanding of excellent veterinary care.

She admits at first to struggling about

sharing personal stories that expose her failures. In 2008, she wrote a three-part piece titled "Come to the Edge" inspired by Guillaume Apollinaire's poem.

Bloomer claims that what she wrote "was probably the most passionate article I've ever written expressing my complete angst about all that we as human beings have perpetrated upon animals and the factions that divide us."

I have felt that angst now and then because I have seen the results of mistreatment of animals. My family has rescued or helped dogs, cats, birds and an assortment of other critters. Once, I even wrote a column about the time I rescued a little white mouse. A pet store manager found a home for it with a young boy who is allergic to other animals. Even that effort was worthwhile.

Bloomer is a devout Christian who has experienced life in amazing ways. However, she pulls no punches when admitting the mistakes she made, and is wonderfully open about her faith and trust in God.

Each chapter of her book begins with a quotation from the Bible. She also admits that the most important aspect of her book is

how selflessly animals are in teaching us about life. She takes readers on a journey through her experiences with animals, both wild and domestic. The book's many delightful animal sketches are the work of Barbara Hilford.

Bloomer hosts a weekly online radio show called "Animal Talk" with a like-minded colleague, Dr. Jeannie Thomason.

Her Web site is [www.AspenbloomPetCare.com](http://www.AspenbloomPetCare.com).

Parents and children who want to know more about the best approaches when caring for animals will learn much from this extraordinary book published by CrossBooks.

Bloomer ends her book with Psalm 148, which reads, in part, "Praise the Lord from the earth, ... you animals wild and tame, you creatures that crawl and fly; ... You kings of the earth and all peoples. ... Let them all praise the Lord's name, for his name alone is exalted, majestic above earth and heaven" (Ps 148:7, 10, 13).

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

Catholic Education Outreach/

Ken Ogorek

## Challenges can help evangelize

Catholic high school religion is about to change. One of these changes will help equip young people for evangelization.

A few months back, our U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a document with a long name and a clear purpose. The document, "Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of

Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age," addresses the teaching of high school religion.

Several publishers of high school religion textbooks had asked our bishops to offer guidance on what topics within religion will be taught at which specific grade level. This helps publishers know what reading level to aim for in producing various textbooks as the reading level of a first semester freshman often varies greatly from that of a second semester senior.

The end result of this process is what amounts to a national scope and sequence for the teaching of religion in Catholic high schools as well as parish youth ministry programs. This document is available at the USCCB Web site at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) on the Evangelization and Catechesis Department page. It is labeled "High School Curriculum Framework."

At the end of each course in this framework is a section called "Challenges." This is a brilliant addition by our bishops, and is sure to live up a few high school religion classes.

After studying each of the core topics in these curriculum guidelines (for example, "Who Is Jesus Christ?" or "Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ"), students are presented with challenges that often arise when these topics are discussed.

In the sacraments course, for example, these questions are among those raised: Can't a person go directly to God without the help of the Church or a priest (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1538-1539)? Can't God forgive us directly when we are sorry for sin (CCC, #1434, #1440-1445)? Aren't the sacraments just celebrations to mark significant moments in our life (CCC #1066, #1070)?

The CCC references are paragraph numbers in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* where these questions are addressed.

The framework document contains ways of addressing these questions pastorally, accurately and effectively. So students not only learn content and benefit from the witness of their catechists about the power and beauty of our Catholic faith, but also get help in answering what may be some of their own questions and certainly number among those they are encountering in our culture. Thus, what skilled catechists in our archdiocese have done intuitively for years is now incorporated formally in each high school's religion curriculum.

What, then, does this have to do with evangelization?

Part of our evangelizing effort often finds us conversing with others about faith, life, God and other important matters.

By preparing young people to engage in substantial conversations about their Catholic faith, we are not only helping to evangelize them by God's grace, but are also helping to equip them for the ministry of evangelization—an effort that each of us by our baptism is called to incorporate into our daily life.

Each Catholic high school in our archdiocese is in the process of planning to implement these revisions to our current curriculum guidelines. These changes will be phased in as textbooks supporting this new scope and sequence slowly but surely become available. Discussions are also under way as to how this resource will help the evangelization and catechesis components of parish youth ministry.

Changes. Challenges. All with an eye toward more effective evangelization and catechesis. Stay tuned.

(Ken Ogorek is director of catechesis for the Office of Catholic Education in the archdiocese. He can be reached at 800-382-9836, ext. 1446, or by e-mail at [kogorek@archindy.org](mailto:kogorek@archindy.org).) †

First Sunday of Lent/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

# The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Feb. 21, 2010

- Deuteronomy 26:4-10
- Romans 10:8-13
- Luke 4:1-13

The Book of Deuteronomy provides the first reading for this first Sunday of Lent.



Deuteronomy recalls the flight of the Hebrews from Egypt, where they had been slaves. This trip, called the Exodus, was filled with risks and hardships. The Egyptians pursued them. The Sinai Peninsula, through

which they passed, was unforgiving, harsh and sterile of the necessities of life.

Even so, Deuteronomy is not a story of doom and gloom. It is hopeful. Always ahead is the Promised Land. Always God intervenes with mercy, provisions and guidance.

But God's unfailing mercy was not always accompanied by the people's faithfulness. They rebelled against God, and they doubted God. Nevertheless, God came to their aid again and again.

For its second reading this weekend, the Church provides us with a reading from St. Paul's powerful Epistle to the Romans.

The Apostle wrote this epistle, or letter, to the Christians living in Rome, the imperial capital and the center of the Mediterranean world in the first century A.D.

These Christians of Rome, a group of converts from Judaism and former pagans, lived in a culture that was utterly at odds with the Gospel. The conflict was decidedly more pronounced since Rome literally was the center of the culture. In a short time, the political and legal order turned against Christianity.

Paul urged these people to be strong by uniting themselves to God through faith in Jesus. Reassuringly, and strong with his own determined faith, Paul tells the Romans that if they trust in the Lord, none will be put to shame.

Paul expressly mentions the Resurrection, the miracle by which Jesus, who had been crucified and died, rose again to life.

Finally, Paul insists that God's mercy and life, given in Christ, are available to all, Greeks or foreigners, as well as to Jews, who were part of the Chosen People.

St. Luke's Gospel gives us a scene also seen in Mark's Gospel and Matthew's Gospel, namely a story of the temptation of Christ by the devil.

Here the two figures, Jesus and the devil, stand in contrast. The devil, so often depicted at least in myth and lore as so very powerful, as indeed the devil is powerful, is indecisive and struggling.

While the devil himself clarifies the identity of Jesus, Satan cannot grasp the full meaning of Christ's identity. The devil foolishly seeks to tempt Jesus not to be faithful to God, but rather to worship Satan.

Jesus is "full of the Holy Spirit." He is serene and strong. He is in control.

He is the Son of God. He also is human because the devil used food to tempt Jesus. Fasting was a discipline for Jesus.

Nevertheless, defeated for the moment, the devil does not relent, but only lies in wait for another opportunity.

## Reflection

Several days ago, on Ash Wednesday, the Church invited us to use the season of Lent as a means to holiness.

In so doing, it is not asking us to begin a walk along an imagined primrose path. Rather, it is frank in telling us what holiness requires of us in daily life. It clearly unfolds reality before us. We live in a world in which evil abides among us.

The devil is real. Popular lore in this time has taken to the image of the devil. The occult fascinates people. There are here and there darker implications of this interest in Satan.

The reading from Luke's Gospel clearly presents to us the fact of evil. It reveals the devil. It also shows the conflict between Jesus and the devil. Finally, it shows that in this tension Jesus prevails.

Jesus alone offers strength and life. No evil can outdo the Lord. Nothing offers greater reward.

Lent invites Christians to use the next six weeks to fortify ourselves to live in a conflict between good and evil. It calls us to Jesus. †

## 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 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206 or e-mail to [criterion@archindy.org](mailto:criterion@archindy.org). †

## Daily Readings

**Monday, Feb. 22**  
The Chair of Peter, Apostle  
1 Peter 5:1-4  
Psalm 23:1-3a, 4-6  
Matthew 16:13-19

**Tuesday, Feb. 23**  
Polycarp, bishop and martyr  
Isaiah 55:10-11  
Psalm 34:4-7, 16-19  
Matthew 6:7-15

**Wednesday, Feb. 24**  
Jonas 3:1-10  
Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19  
Luke 11:29-32

**Thursday, Feb. 25**  
Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25  
Psalm 138:1-3, 7c-8  
Matthew 7:7-12

**Friday, Feb. 26**  
Ezekiel 18:21-28  
Psalm 130:1-8  
Matthew 5:20-26

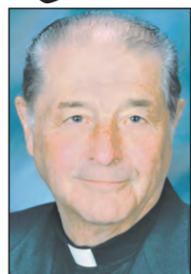
**Saturday, Feb. 27**  
Deuteronomy 26:16-19  
Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8  
Matthew 5:43-48

**Sunday, Feb. 28**  
Second Sunday of Lent  
Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18  
Psalm 27:1, 7-9, 13-14  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
or Philippians 3:20-4:1  
Luke 9:28b-36

Question Corner/Fr. John Dietzen

## Lenten regulations specify fasting and abstaining from meat on Friday

Q Could you define the present Lenten regulations for fast and abstinence?



We have observed them unchanged for several years, but now there seems to be confusion again.

Catholic friends tell us that in their church they fast only until noon. Which is right? (Pennsylvania)

the Lent of the Holy Apostles in June, Mary's Lent in August, and the Lent before Christmas in November and December.

Q In my 16 years of Catholic education many years ago, we were told to avoid reading books listed in the "Index of Forbidden Books."

But we were never told what they are. Is there such a list today? If so, where could we find it? (Pennsylvania)

A The rules for fast and abstinence in the Latin Church are the same as they have been for many years.

In most places in the United States, perhaps in all dioceses now, Catholics age 14 and over are obliged to abstain from eating meat as well as soup and gravy made from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

On two days, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, those Catholics age 18-59 should fast. This means taking only one full meal—or two smaller meals not to exceed one full meal—and only liquids like milk and fruit juices between meals.

The size of the full meal or the two smaller meals depends on the individual's physical needs. One is excused from the whole obligation if his or her health or work would be seriously affected by abstaining or fasting.

While fast and abstinence remain a powerful and obligatory Christian spiritual discipline, the Church's Lenten emphasis today is on prayer, participation in the liturgy, good works and voluntary self-denial much more than in former years.

From your question, I'm certain that your friends are members of one of the many Eastern-rite Catholic parishes in your area.

Traditionally, Lenten observances in these Churches are as your friends told you. No food or drink—except water and medicine—may be taken on fast days from midnight to noon for everyone between 18 and 65 years of age. Abstinence means no meat or soup and broths made from meat for people between age 14 and 65.

Interestingly, in most Eastern Churches the Great Lent begins two days earlier on Ash Monday instead of Ash Wednesday, and ends on the Friday before Palm Sunday.

The pre-Easter season is called the Great Lent because three other Lents have been observed in the Eastern Churches—

A Almost from its beginning, the Catholic Church has recognized that people's faith can be greatly influenced, for good or bad, by what they read.

This is one reason why, for example, Catholic leaders took intensive care to assure that translations and copies of sacred Scripture were as accurate and faithful to the original texts as possible.

By the fifth century, this concern extended to other writings and eventually to what became the "Index of Prohibited Books." The index was a list of publications relating to religion, Christian religion particularly, that the faithful were not to read without sufficient preparation and background, perhaps requiring permission from proper Church authorities.

The index continued in one fashion or another up to our own day. Gradually, particularly in the last century, this prohibition against selling or reading certain books was mitigated until it was effectively repealed altogether by two decrees of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in 1966.

The present *Code of Canon Law* contains no such provision for the prohibition of books.

As it should, of course, the Church retains a concern for the integrity of the ways Catholic teaching is handed down by the media. Approval by proper Church authorities is still required for certain types of Catholic publications either before or after they are printed. These mainly include editions of the Bible, liturgical and devotional manuals, and books intended for use as texts for religious instruction. (See especially canons #824-#828.)

(Catholic Q&A: Answers to the Most Common Questions about Catholicism is a 530-page collection of columns by Father John Dietzen published by Crossroad Publishing Company in New York. Questions may be sent to Father Dietzen at Box 3315, Peoria, IL 61612 or by e-mail to [jjdietzen@aol.com](mailto:jjdietzen@aol.com).) †

## My Journey to God

### You Filled My Emptiness

Lord, You filled my emptiness.  
You showed me heaven's bliss.  
You are the giver of all good gifts.  
Lord, You filled my emptiness.

What shall I give You?  
What shall I do?  
I'll give you my heart  
That the Spirit made new.

Take all that I am.  
I give it freely to You  
For You filled that emptiness.  
Thank you, Lord, for your love and kindness.

By R.J. Miller

(R.J. Miller is a member of St. Mary's Parish in Greensburg. A man holds a picture of Jesus during a church service held outside a displacement camp in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on Jan. 24. The government said more than 1 million people were left homeless by the catastrophic Jan. 12 earthquake.)



CNS photo/Tomas Bravo, Reuters

# Rest in peace

Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Thursday before the week of publication; be sure to state date of death. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in *The Criterion*. Order priests and religious sisters and brothers are included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connections to it; those are separate obituaries on this page.

**CAMPBELL, Mary Louise**, 85, St. Joseph, Sellersburg, Feb. 4. Mother of Mary Rose Malott, Theresa Wolford, Bimbo, Henry and Paul Campbell. Sister of Dorothy Vick. Grandmother of seven. Great-grandmother of seven.

**CANDLER, Mary Ann**, 81, St. Barnabas, Indianapolis, Jan. 31. Mother of Mary Eckert, Linda Grow, Joan Himebrook, Karen Parrish, Julie Perigo, Chuck, Donnie, Ken and Steve Candler. Grandmother of 22. Great-grandmother of 21.

**CANNADAY, Anna B. (Keane)**, 85, Our Lady of Lourdes,

Indianapolis, Feb. 4. Mother of Carolyn Leffler, Maureen Rowe, John, Joseph and Patrick Cannaday. Grandmother of 12. Great-grandmother of six.

**CARTER, Joe F.**, 82, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Feb. 8. Husband of Bridget (Hogan) Carter. Father of Barb Axum, Lisa Garber, Debbie Perkins, Brian, John, Kevin, Mark and Steve Carter. Grandfather of 21. Great-grandfather of 19.

**DUGLE, Eileen C.**, 85, St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg, Jan. 20. Mother of Janis Dugle and Charla Schleter. Grandmother of one.

**EZZO, Beth Lori (Stern)**, 48, St. Mary, North Vernon, Jan. 29. Wife of Bret Ezzo. Mother of Kaylee and Gabe Ezzo. Sister of Anita Gauger.

**FERNANDEZ, Trinidad C.**, 80, Holy Cross, Indianapolis, Jan. 30. Mother of San Juanita Laird and Steve Fernandez. Sister of Louis Mendez. Grandmother of three. Great-grandmother of two.

**GARDNER, Retta D.**, 75, Sacred Heart, Jeffersonville, Jan. 17. Mother of Sharon

Gardner, Mary Gaynor, Kathryn Marshall, Charlotte Palmerton, James and John Gardner Jr.

Grandmother of 15. Great-grandmother of 11.

**HALL, John Philip**, 71, Nativity, Indianapolis, Feb. 5. Husband of Jeanette (Mader) Hall. Father of Anne Shupe-Scurry, James, John, Tim and Tom Hall. Brother of Joseph Hall. Grandfather of 10.

**HUFFMAN, William E.**, 85, St. Charles Borromeo, Milan, Dec. 11. Husband of Helen Huffman.

**KAVANAGH, Lucille M.**, 92, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Indianapolis, Jan. 13. Mother of Grace Buchheit, Rita Campbell, Sharon Hurley, Maureen Murphy, Marianne Whitcomb, Bernard, John, Kevin, Richard and Thomas Kavanagh. Grandmother of 23. Great-grandmother of 14.

**KITTLE, Peggy S.**, 87, formerly of St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg, Feb. 2. Mother of Kathy Conway, Margaret Foster, Jan Hunt, Pat Ritzmann, Sarah Schoenle, Susan Wright, John and Tom Kittle. Grandmother of 18. Great-grandmother of eight.

**KNIES, Doris**, 67, St. Paul, Sellersburg, Jan. 30. Sister of Linda and David Knies.

**LOGAN, Margaret M. (McGuinness)**, 81, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Jan. 31. Sister of Judy Strawn. Aunt of several.

**MENARD, William P.**, 89, St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg, Jan. 29. Husband of Mary (Maher) Menard. Father of Susan Allender, Meg Bernstein, Mary Carol Custer, Ellen Lopez and Thomas Menard. Grandfather of seven. Great-grandfather of three.

**NORTHAM, Patricia Ruth**, 81, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, Feb. 6. Mother of Julie Elliott, Patrick and Paul Northam. Sister of Mary Dumeyer, Margie Patterson and Kenny Graham. Grandmother of eight. Great-grandmother of one.

**SPETH, Mary**, 98, Sacred Heart, Jeffersonville, Jan. 17. Mother of Nancy Hoerter, Jo Jones, Karen Kester, Brenda Sweet, Mary Kathleen Voyles, Gary, Mark and Paul Speth. Sister of Mary Schroder. Grandmother of 42. Great-grandmother 71. Great-great-grandmother of 12.

**STRICKER, Pearl Margaret**, 80, St. Anne, New Castle, Feb. 4. Wife

of Dr. Paul Stricker. Mother of Elizabeth and Mathew Stricker. Sister of Helen Vaughn.

**SWEENEY, Joseph P.**, 84, St. Rose of Lima, Franklin, Jan. 31. Husband of Patricia Sweeney. Father of Cheryl Halik, Maureen Sweeney-McCoige and Michael Sweeney. Grandfather of two.

**SZAKEL, Louis M.**, 78, St. Joseph, Indianapolis, Feb. 3. Husband of Catherine Szakel. Father of Mary Bruce, Barbara Daughtery, Theresa Farrell, Chris Kelly, David and Tony Szakel. Brother of Carolyn Smith, Jim and Joe Szakel. Grandfather of 14. Great-grandfather of nine.

**THOMPSON, Gertrude (Kern)**, 73, Sacred Heart, Jeffersonville, Jan. 5. Mother of Jackie Stroud, Mike Herchelbeck and Charles Thompson. Sister of Marty Renckineugh, Stella Roberts, Joe and Richie Kern. Grandmother of three.

**THORNBURG, Darren**, 31, St. Roch, Indianapolis, Jan. 31. Husband of Rachel Schaad. Father of Faith Schaad. Son of George and Susie Thornburg. Brother of Derrick Thornburg.

**VELDHAUS, June**, St. Pius, Ripley County, Nov. 1.

**WENNING, Robert J.**, 86, St. Mary, Greensburg, Feb. 5. Husband of Lucille Wenning. Father of Diane Saler, Mark and Stephen Wenning. Brother of Marjorie Herbert, Marie Kesterman, Rose Ann Sturgis, Betty Vandembosch, Carl, Leo and Louis Wenning. Grandfather of 11. Great-grandfather of eight.

**WETZELBERGER, Gaye**, 79, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Indianapolis, Jan. 20. Aunt of several.

**WILSON, Theresa Anne (Gibbons)**, 77, Holy Spirit, Indianapolis, Jan. 30. Wife of James Wilson. Mother of Janice Frazier, Peggy Mazza, Mary Rojowski, Angela Tuohy, James and Paul Wilson. Grandmother of seven. Great-grandmother of three.

**YOHLER, Martha Jane**, 91, St. Bernadette, Indianapolis, Feb. 5. Mother of Patricia Petty, Barbara Schura, Dennis, Gary and Mark Yohler. Grandmother of 14. Great-grandmother of 12. †



## World Day of the Sick

Pope Benedict XVI walks near a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes during Mass marking World Day of the Sick on Feb. 11 at St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican. Relics of St. Bernadette Soubirous were placed at the altar during the Mass celebrated on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

## Ann Marie Donohoo was the mother of a priest and an active volunteer

Ann Marie Donohoo, the mother of Father Daniel Donohoo and a resident of St. Augustine Home for the Aged in Indianapolis, died on Feb. 9. She was 90.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Feb. 12 at St. Pius X Church in Indianapolis. Burial followed at Our Lady of Peace Cemetery in Indianapolis.

The former Ann Marie Barrett was born on Feb. 19, 1919, in St. Louis.

She married Joseph Donohoo on Feb. 19, 1949. He preceded her in death in 1982.

She was active in Church

and community activities when she lived in St. Louis as well as Orange County, Calif., and Indianapolis.

Her volunteer activities in Indianapolis included St. Augustine Guild, St. Vincent Hospital Guild, Meals on Wheels, Helping Hands School and the Newman Center Guild.

In addition to Father Donohoo, she is survived by two daughters, Kathleen Drew and Colleen Bowen; two sisters, Fran Gallagher and Reggie Lewis; and three grandchildren.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the St. Augustine Home for the Aged, 2345 W. 86th St., Indianapolis, IN 46260. †

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# Pope, at homeless shelter, says Church will not abandon poor

ROME (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI paid a visit to a Church-run shelter for the homeless and said concrete acts of charity were essential expressions of the Christian faith.

“Know that the Church loves you deeply and will not abandon you because it recognizes in each of you the face of Christ,” the pope said at a Caritas hostel and medical center near Rome’s main train station on Feb. 14.

The doctors, nurses and some 300 volunteers at the center applauded the German pontiff as he toured the complex during a 90-minute visit.

In a speech, the pope noted that the tough economic times had made Church-run social services even more necessary. Over the last two years, the Caritas center has seen a 20 percent increase in the number of people seeking help.

The pope said the center was “a place where love is not only a word or a sentiment, but a concrete reality that allows the light of God to enter into the life of people and the civic community.”

He said the Church’s actions in favor of the needy were a natural expression of faith in Christ, who identified in a particular way with the poor.

“In its service to people in difficulty, the Church is motivated solely by the desire to express its faith in God who is the defender of the poor and who loves people for what they are, and not for what they possess or accomplish,” he said.

The pope cited his social encyclical of 2009, “Charity in Truth,” saying that charity was a necessary principle not only in personal relations but also in larger economic dealings. That is an urgently needed principle “in a world in which, instead, the logic of profit and the search



Pope Benedict XVI greets people as he arrives to visit the Caritas homeless center in Rome on Feb. 14.

for self-interest seems to prevail,” he said.

Before leaving the center, the pope accepted the gift of a restored crucifix from the town of Onna, which suffered severe damage in the 2009 earthquake in central Italy. The crucifix had belonged to the Church of St. Peter, which was destroyed in the quake.

Later in the day, speaking at his noon blessing at the Vatican, the pope said the Caritas shelter was an example of the beatitudes in action.

When Christ said, “Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours,” he was speaking of divine justice that will come at the end of time, the pope said. But that justice can also be manifested in this world, he said.

“This is the task that the disciples of the Lord are called to carry out in today’s society,” he said. He expressed appreciation to the many people who donate their time and effort to social service centers around the world.

The pope, who dedicated his Lenten message this year to the theme of justice, encouraged people to read the message and meditate on it.

“The Gospel of Christ responds in a positive way to the human thirst for justice, but in an unexpected and surprising way. He does not propose a social or political revolution, but one of love, which he has already realized through his cross and resurrection,” he said. †

## Desire for sacraments is not sufficient reason for annulment, Holy Father says

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—True pastoral charity and concern can never lead the Church to grant an annulment to a Catholic whose marriage is valid according to Church law, Pope Benedict XVI said.

“One must shun pseudo-pastoral claims” that look only at the desire of divorced Catholics to return to the sacraments, the pope said on Jan. 29 during his annual speech to officials of the Roman Rota, a tribunal that deals with appeals filed in marriage annulment cases.

The pope said helping Catholics be able to go to confession and receive the Eucharist is important, but it cannot be done without taking into account the truth about their Church marriage.

The Church cannot act charitably toward its faithful without upholding justice and truth, he said.

Charity without justice is “only a forgery because charity requires that objectivity that is typical of justice and which must not be confused with inhumane coldness,” the pope said.

For the Catholic Church, he said, a marriage celebrated with the full consent of the couple and following the correct form is always presumed to be valid, and a valid marriage is indissoluble.

Pastors and those who work in Church tribunals must beware of “the widespread and deeply rooted tendency” to see justice and charity as totally competing values, the pope said. †

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# Irish-Vatican summit on sex abuse ends with call for courage, honesty

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—

Pope Benedict XVI said priestly sexual abuse was a “heinous crime” and a grave sin, and he urged Irish bishops to act courageously to repair their failures to deal properly with such cases.

At the end of a two-day Vatican summit on the sex abuse scandal in Ireland, the Vatican said in a statement on Feb. 16 that “errors of judgment and omissions” were at the heart of the crisis. It said Church leaders recognized the sense of “pain and anger, betrayal, scandal and shame” that those errors have provoked among many Irish Catholics.

“All those present recognized that this grave crisis has led to a breakdown in trust in the Church’s leadership and has damaged her witness to the Gospel and its moral teaching,” the statement said.

“For his part, the Holy Father observed that the sexual abuse of children and young people is not only a heinous crime, but also a grave sin which offends God and wounds the dignity of the human person created in his image,” it said.

“While realizing that the current painful situation will not be resolved quickly, he challenged the bishops to address the problems of the past with determination and resolve, and to face the present crisis with honesty and courage,” it said.

The Vatican said the pope also had expressed hope that the Vatican summit would help the bishops unify and “speak with one voice” as they identify concrete steps to bring healing to those who have been abused and restore the Church’s moral credibility.

Vatican spokesman Father Federico Lombardi said the meeting produced no specific policy decisions, nor was it intended to do so. He said the encounter, which included 24 Irish bishops and 10 top Vatican officials, was aimed at dialogue and direction-setting, and in that sense was

a success.

The recovery from the scandal will be “a very long process,” he added.

Father Lombardi said he thought one of the most significant outcomes was the public recognition that there had been a failure “in leadership, in the governance of the Church” in dealing with the sex abuse cases.

The spokesman said the meeting did not directly address some controversial aspects of the Irish situation, including the call for additional resignations of Irish bishops. Nor did the meeting discuss the idea, suggested by some in Ireland, that Pope Benedict add Ireland to his planned visit to England and Scotland in September and meet with some of the abuse victims.

The pope convened the bishops in response to the continuing fallout from the scandal, following an independent report that faulted the Church for its handling of 325 sex abuse claims in the Archdiocese of Dublin in the years 1975-2004. The report said bishops sometimes protected abusive priests, and were apparently more intent on protecting the Church’s reputation and assets than on helping the victims.

With the pope presiding, each of the 24 Irish bishops spoke for seven minutes, in effect giving the pope an account of themselves and their own actions, and reflecting on ways to best bring healing. The Vatican participants included officials who deal with doctrine, Church law, bishops, clergy, religious life and seminaries.

The pope had earlier expressed his sense of outrage over the revelations, and was writing a special pastoral letter to Irish Catholics on the subject. Participants at the Vatican meeting discussed a draft of the letter, which was expected to be published during Lent, Father Lombardi said.

The Vatican statement said the Irish



Pope Benedict XVI meets with Irish bishops at the Vatican on Feb. 15. The two-day, closed-door meeting was to assess responsibility in the Irish Church’s handling of priestly sex abuse cases and explore ways to heal wounds left by the scandal.

bishops had already helped put in place significant measures to ensure the safety of all children in Church activities. It emphasized the bishops’ commitment to cooperate with civil authorities in Ireland and with the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland.

But even as the Vatican meeting wound down, a new controversy was erupting in Ireland over the refusal of the Vatican’s apostolic nuncio to the country, Archbishop Giuseppe Leanza, to appear before a parliamentary foreign affairs committee. One member of the committee called the archbishop’s decision regrettable and incomprehensible.

Asked about Archbishop Leanza’s refusal, Father Lombardi said an apostolic nuncio, like all ambassadors, may be

precluded by the normal rules of diplomacy from answering parliamentary commissions.

Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, set the tone of the meeting at an opening Mass on Feb. 15 with the Irish and Vatican participants. He said the most difficult trials for the Church were internal ones, especially, as in this case, when the Church sees “some of its own men involved in particularly abominable acts.”

The cardinal said renewal can be the outcome of this trial, as long as people take responsibility for their failings.

Cardinal Bertone compared the Church to a ship in a storm, and said the prelates need to put their trust in Christ. The “more dangerous storm,” he said, was “the one that touches the hearts of believers, shaking their faith.” †

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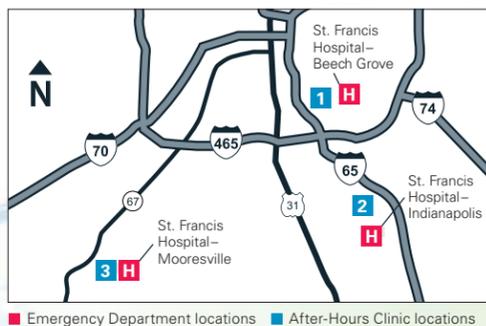
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