



The

Criterion

Serving the Church in Central and Southern Indiana Since 1960



Faith, Hope and Charity

Columnist David Siler says we must do 'something' to assist our brothers and sisters in Africa, page 12.

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Nuncio praises Turkish decision to return some religious properties

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Turkish prime minister's announcement that the government will return hundreds of properties confiscated from non-Muslim religious groups or compensate the groups for properties sold to third parties is "a historic decision," said the Vatican nuncio to Turkey.

"Even though the Roman Catholics will not benefit from this, it is an important step that is a credit to Turkey," said Archbishop Antonio Lucibello, the nuncio.

"It is a sign that is not just good, it's an excellent sign that the government wants to reconstruct the unity of the country so there no longer are first-class and second-class citizens," the nuncio told Catholic News Service on Aug. 30 in a telephone interview from Ankara.



Archbishop Antonio Lucibello

Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced on Aug. 28 that his government would return hundreds of pieces of property—including schools, orphanages and hospitals—that were confiscated by the government in 1936. The properties involved belonged to officially recognized religious minorities—Jews, Greek Orthodox, Armenian Orthodox and Armenian Catholics, Syrian Orthodox, Syrian Catholics and Chaldean Catholics.

Although Pope Benedict XVI, human rights supporters and the European Union have pressed Turkey to recognize all religions, the Latin-rite Catholic community and Protestant Churches do not have official legal standing in Turkey.

Archbishop Lucibello said the decision does not include the Church of St. Paul at Tarsus, now a government-run museum, which Church officials have asked to have back.

"The government has made a commitment to continue looking for a solution, and this decision gives us good reasons to hope," the archbishop said. The case of the Church of St. Paul, he said, is complicated by the fact

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Photo by Megan Fish



Living the faith

One of the many fun things about World Youth Day is connecting with people from other countries. Dana Petricka, left, a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, signs the shirt of a young pilgrim from Paris, France. Behind her, Father Rick Nagel, director of the archdiocesan Office of Young Adult and College Campus Ministry, Catholic chaplain at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), and administrator of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, signs the shirt of another pilgrim.

Young adults from archdiocese embrace the universal spirit of World Youth Day

By Breanna Holder

Special to *The Criterion*

MADRID—In the distance, Kate Eder saw the storm clouds forming as she stood among the 44 young adults from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and Diocese of Lafayette who had traveled to Spain to take part in World Youth Day.

Part of the crowd of 1.5 million people from around the world, the pilgrims waited for the arrival of Pope Benedict XVI, who joined them in eucharistic adoration on Aug. 20.

Shortly after the Holy Father arrived, the wind gusted and the rain drenched the pilgrims, who huddled together at the Cuatro Vientos air base.

Despite the intense rain and strong wind, a

sense of communion and enthusiasm connected the pilgrims. In many languages, cheers and chants poured out. Then the pilgrims began shouting praises of "Benedicto"—Spanish for Benedict—to the Holy Father.

That moment overwhelmed Eder, a member of St. Mary Parish in North Vernon.

"To see more than one million people on their knees in adoration was so amazing," she said. "It showed the Church as one body of Christ."

That scene was one of the most memorable moments for the pilgrims during their 10-day trip to Spain from Aug. 13-22.

Here is a snapshot look at the faith-enriching days of the pilgrimage.

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Benefactor of Marian University medical school says faith calls him to share his gifts with others

By John Shaughnessy

He was shot while serving the United States in the Vietnam War—a life-threatening injury that led him to spend nearly eight months in an Army hospital.

He worked in a steel mill and did road construction to help pay for his college education.

He also founded a health care company in Indianapolis, leading it back from the verge of bankruptcy at one point.

For Michael Evans, all those experiences have shaped his approach to life. He firmly believes that the choices we make, the trials we endure and the dreams we follow will eventually lead us to a defining moment in our lives.

On Aug. 24, Evans lived one of those defining moments when it was revealed that he had donated \$48 million to Marian University—to jumpstart the Indianapolis college's plan to create a medical school that is scheduled to open in the fall of 2013.

During the groundbreaking ceremony, Marian's president, Daniel Elsener, also announced that the building for the new

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Submitted photo



During the Aug. 24 groundbreaking ceremony for Marian University's medical education building, Michael A. Evans, second from left, shakes hands with U.S. Senator Dan Coats. The building will be named in honor of Evans, who donated \$48 million to jumpstart the plan for the university's medical school, set to open in 2013. Also in the photo are Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard and Franciscan Sister Barbara Piller, the congregational minister of the Sisters of St. Francis in Oldenburg, who founded Marian University.

MARIAN

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college for osteopathic medicine and the school of nursing will be called the Michael A. Evans Center for Health Sciences.

Both announcements were reluctantly agreed to by Evans, a 1957 graduate of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in New Albany and 1961 graduate of Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School in Clarksville.

For 18 months, Evans had declined Elsener's request to have his contribution



Michael Evans

made public and have his name attached to the center. But Elsener kept asking Evans to reconsider. The college president finally persuaded the benefactor that it would be beneficial to have the center connected to a person who

believes in the need for another medical school in Indiana.

"This wasn't about me," Evans said. "It's more about educating young men and young women to be doctors and nurses. There's the thought that having my name on it will personalize it. People can identify with it, relate to it and support it. But for me, it's about letting these young people use their talents to give back to our citizens. We have a terrible health care problem in this country. One of the answers is getting more health care professionals out there."

Still, the 67-year-old Evans acknowledges that many of the values and

priorities of his life became connected during the groundbreaking ceremony.

"Everything kind of came together in that moment," said Evans, who has led AIT Laboratories in Indianapolis since 1990. "It really did bring things together in a lot of ways—my love for education, my involvement in health care, my willingness to help others.

"I've been given a lot of gifts in life. My favorite parable in the Bible is the parable of the talents. You're called to use your talents to the best of your abilities, and use them for the betterment of others."

Elsener alluded to those qualities when he talked about Evans during the groundbreaking ceremony.

"Our hope is that every student who is educated here will be inspired by his legacy and understand how they can share their gifts with others as selflessly

as he has," Elsener noted.

Evans says his desire to lead and inspire people came from the moment in Vietnam when he nearly lost his life.

After graduating from St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, Ind., in 1967, Evans was drafted into the Army. Two years later, he was seriously injured when he was shot during combat.

"An inch either way and I'd be dead," he says. "It took a couple hours to get a chopper in and out to help me. I think things happen for a reason. Even when I was in the hospital, I knew I was lucky. I felt blessed when I saw the other injuries that people had in the hospital.



Daniel Elsener



Set to open in 2013, the Michael A. Evans Center for Health Sciences at Marian University in Indianapolis will house the school's new college of osteopathic medicine and the school of nursing.

"I really think that it made me what I am today. I did not want to waste my time. I'm competitive. It made me passionate about being productive, of being of value to other people. Any place I was after Vietnam, I always did the extra stuff."

His faith also guides his life.

"It's a huge part," he says. "It's not the external faith. It's more inside. I grew up as an altar boy. It's part of who I am. You do that by your actions, not your words."

He believes that the faith-based education that shaped his youth is just as important today.

"Faith-based education based on values gives a wholeness to the person that stays with them their whole life," he says.

"That's very important to me."

Important enough that Evans put aside his personal preference to remain anonymous in his support of Marian University's future medical center.

"It's an osteopathic school that has a faith-based approach," he says. "It's a different education. I feel like if I donate the money to it, it will be put to the best possible use.

"We all want to make an impact. It's our nature as humans to want to help one another, particularly if we can make a difference. This is creating something new from scratch, and it will put out 150 new doctors every year. At the end of the day, I think this will be an impact that will carry on forever." †

'Kickball Classic' to raise funds for new school in Greensburg

By Mary Ann Garber

Kickballs will be bouncing on Sept. 17 at the Decatur County Sports Complex in Greensburg to help raise funds for the new St. Mary School, which is under construction and scheduled for completion in time for the start of classes in August 2012.

The "Kickball Classic," sponsored by

St. Mary's Alumni and Friends Association, is coeducational and open to sports enthusiasts of all ages.

Father John Meyer, the new pastor of St. Mary Parish, said the tournament benefits the school, which "should be under roof well before winter."

Construction is progressing on schedule, he said. "Next year, for sure, the opening of school for the present

St. Mary's preschool through sixth grade will be functioning at the new site south of town."

Father Meyer said "a history of deterioration in the older part of the school and need for expansion and growth" motivated the Batesville Deanery parish to begin the building project.

The school's floor plan will enable "all activities to be on the ground level in the new facility," he said, which "will be an awesome change for the students."

The tournament will be a fun way to raise additional funds for construction costs, he said. "I'm not any good at kickball, but I'll try to be a good cheerleader."

Competitive and non-competitive category games for all ages begin at 9 a.m. Refreshments will be available for purchase. Other activities include face painting, rock climbing, a bounce house and hair braiding.

The cost is \$10 per player or \$50 for a family team. Registrations are due by Sept. 6.

For more information or to register, log on to www.stmarysgreensburg.com. †



Construction of the new St. Mary School in Greensburg is progressing on schedule. It will open in time for classes in August 2012. A Sept. 17 "Kickball Classic" will help raise funds for the building project.

Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass is scheduled Sept. 18 at cathedral

Couples from parishes in central and southern Indiana that have been married for 50 years or longer are invited to join Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, auxiliary bishop and vicar general, for the annual archdiocesan Golden Wedding Jubilee Celebration at 2 p.m. on Sept. 18 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis.

Bishop Coyne will represent Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein as the principal celebrant at the liturgy.

A reception for jubilant couples and family members will be held after the Mass at the Archbishop O'Meara Assembly Hall, 1400 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis.

Reservations for the special anniversary Mass, which includes the renewal of matrimonial commitment and a blessing from the bishop, are due by Sept. 8.

To register, call the archdiocesan Office of Family Ministries at 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596. †

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Staff:

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In Mexico City, Blessed John Paul's relics bring hope for peace

MEXICO CITY (CNS)—Julian Salvador and his wife, Paola Rivera, hold fond memories of Blessed John Paul II. The couple saw him during his inaugural visit to Mexico City in 1979.

"It was the most beautiful thing and incomparable to anything [that] I've ever experienced," Rivera recalled.

Holding onto memories and candles, they prayed the rosary on Aug. 24 outside the papal nuncio's office in Mexico City. Inside was blood drawn from Blessed John Paul shortly before his death. It was there to be venerated and taken to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the following day.

Later, it will be taken to all of the country's dioceses as part of a pilgrimage of peace.

Peace in Mexico was on the minds of Salvador and Rivera as they prayed with approximately 100 others on a cool evening.

"[We're] praying that it quiets down, that there's peace. It's important that it [peace] returns to this country," Salvador said.

"We're praying for a miracle," his wife added.

Salvador and Rivera came to pray for peace in a country where drug violence has claimed more than 40,000 lives since December 2006. The Church has confronted the challenges of ministering to populations in violent pockets of Mexico and fending off allegations that cartel kingpins—who are often described as religious—have laundered money through collection plates.

Census data shows the number of Mexicans declaring themselves Catholic has declined, reaching 84 percent in 2010.

That the Mexican bishops' conference would request relics of Blessed John Paul's blood be sent to Mexico at such a troubled time

failed to surprise some Church observers, especially given the late pontiff's enormous popularity and feeling of kinship with the faithful in what had been a country—like his own—where Catholics were persecuted for their faith during the last century.

"John Paul II is a Mexican hero," said commentator and Church observer Bernardo Barranco. "No other person in public, political or social life of the country has had the impact that John Paul had during his five visits to Mexico."

"He's a key person in the contemporary life of this country," he added.

Cardinal Norberto Rivera Carrera of Mexico City mentioned the same thing during Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, where many participating in the liturgy waved paper flags with Blessed John Paul's image and chanted, "Viva!"

"He was our Mexican pope," the cardinal said. "We feel very privileged to have [this relic] here."

Cardinal Rivera focused his homily on promoting peace through strengthening families, saying it was an important topic for Blessed John Paul.

"The main base and the cradle of peace is the family," he said.

Blessed John Paul made Mexico a priority during his papacy, Cardinal Rivera said. The last of his five visits, in 2002, resulted in the canonization of St. Juan Diego, the first indigenous saint of the Americas.

The visits began under less favorable circumstances as Mexico and the Vatican were officially estranged and anti-clerical laws—so strict that priests and nuns were forbidden to wear cassocks or habits—were



People crowd around the casing containing a relic and wax effigy of Blessed John Paul II at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City on Aug. 25. The relic—a vial of blood taken from the Polish pope before he died in 2005—was being taken to all 91 dioceses in Mexico on what is being called a pilgrimage for peace.

still on the books.

Blessed John drew an estimated 20 million visitors during his first visit, and paved the way for the restoration of Church relations with the Mexican state in 1992.

Those outside the nunciature and at the Mass expressed their feelings about venerating the relics.

"This is a country deeply rooted in faith," said retiree Patricia Ayala.

"This is about faith, about hope," said banker Ernesto Rowe as he used his phone to take photos of a replica of Blessed John Paul and the glass container of blood. "Maybe we don't demonstrate [our faith,] but it's there." †



A woman joins in a rosary outside the apostolic nunciature in Mexico City on Aug. 25 as a relic of Blessed John Paul II is prepared to be taken across Mexico. The relic—a vial of blood drawn from the Polish pope before he died in 2005—will tour the country on what is being called a pilgrimage for peace.

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that it was built by the Armenians, then taken over by the Greek Orthodox and restored by Latin-rite Catholics.

Otmir Oehring, an expert on religious freedom in Turkey and director of the human rights office of Missio, the German Catholic aid agency, described Erdogan's decision as "a positive and courageous step."

"There wasn't any need for Erdogan to do this because talks with the European Union—which Turkey has been trying to join—are at a standstill. This decision won't restart the talks because the EU has other pressing problems," Oehring told CNS in a telephone interview.

Oehring said several years ago that Erdogan forced the government to return much of the confiscated property it

still owned. The latest decision would have the government compensate religious communities for properties the government has sold to third parties.

"It will be costly for the Turkish state. I've read 700 million euros or about \$1 billion," he said.

The Turkish Constitution proclaims Turkey as a secular country, but its unique brand of secularism involves almost absolute control over religion, including Islam. The government builds and funds mosques, and employs Muslim prayer leaders. It has granted full legal status only to the foundations formed by a few minority religious groups, including the Jewish community and the Greek Orthodox.

Minorities like the Latin-rite Catholic and Protestant communities, "which do not have foundations, aren't affected by the new decision. This means that the Catholic Church is in the same negative position it was in."

Latin-rite Catholic parishes, dioceses and religious orders

"own property, but it's not clear if that ownership will be recognized. Tomorrow the government could say, 'You don't exist legally, so you don't own it,'" he said.

Other Catholic properties are owned by a foreign government, he said. Catholic parishes operate on property owned by the Italian and French embassies in Ankara and the French consulate in Istanbul. The Latin-rite cathedral in Izmir is a protectorate of France, he said.

"For many years, non-Muslims were too afraid to ask for their properties back, but there also is the fact that there no longer are Christian communities in many of those places," Oehring said.

"The Jesuits, Franciscans and Dominicans had many buildings all over Turkey, and they just don't care because they don't have the numbers" of faithful to use them or personnel to staff them, he said. "But they still should seek compensation." †

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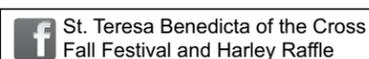
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Editorial



Churchgoers pray the rosary before Sunday Mass at Cantonment Chapel at Fort McPherson in Atlanta on June 7.

What does it mean to be Catholic?

Some estimates suggest that a majority of those who identify themselves as Catholic—54 to 77 percent—do not attend Sunday Mass each week.

How is it possible to call yourself a Catholic, but ignore the most fundamental expression of what it means to be a Catholic—the obligation to attend Sunday Mass?

For us Catholics, Sunday Mass is not optional. It is an essential requirement for all of us, and the Church teaches that unless we have a serious reason, there is simply no excuse for missing Mass on the Lord's Day.

If through our own fault we miss Mass on Sunday, we are committing a serious sin. We should not receive holy Communion until we have gone to confession.

So Catholics who do not attend Mass regularly are not practicing their faith. But are they still Catholic? In other words, are they bad Catholics—serious sinners who have violated their responsibility to practice the faith—or have they lost the right to call themselves Catholic?

Once a Christian has been baptized and has confessed his or her faith, he or she becomes a Catholic, a member of the community of believers, the Church.

In other words, a Catholic is not a solitary individual. A Catholic is a member of the community of faith, a Christian who follows Jesus Christ in communion with all those—living and dead—who make up the one Body of Christ.

There is only one Church. In spite of the fact that the Body of Christ has been wounded by division, we Catholics believe that the Church remains one. In spite of the fact that her members are sinners, we believe that the Church remains holy.

Although dispersed throughout the world, taking on the appearance of many different cultures—and diverse rites and rituals—the Church remains catholic or universal.

Finally, the Church is apostolic—faithful to the teaching of the Apostles dating back 2,000 years to the first Pentecost. Once we join the community of faith that is the Church, we become Catholic. It is part of our fundamental identity as persons.

So what does it mean to be Catholic? To be authentically Catholic means to be an active member of the Body of Christ, to be faithful to the teaching and practice of the Church, and to be engaged personally in a relationship with Jesus Christ that

involves spiritual growth and responsible stewardship of all God's gifts.

In other words, to be fully Catholic we must be actively engaged in the life of the Church—especially by our participation in the Sunday Eucharist, our reception of the sacraments, our commitment to prayer and growth in holiness, our fellowship with other Christians, and our involvement in the Church's outreach to others through ministries of evangelization and social justice.

To be active Catholics, we must be present at Mass each Sunday. And we must take seriously the Church's teaching on matters of faith and morals—living them as best we can in our daily lives, at home, at work and in the public arena. That is the minimum.

So what about our family members and friends who no longer practice their faith? Have they lost the right to call themselves Catholics?

Those who deliberately, publicly or defiantly refuse to follow Church teachings separate themselves from the community of faith in a radical way. We pray for them, and urge them to repent and to return to full communion with the Church.

Fortunately, formal excommunication is rare. It is limited to very specific actions that are outlined in the *Code of Canon Law* (#1364-1389).

Those who drift away for whatever reasons—and are, therefore, called inactive or fallen away—also separate themselves from the Church, often unconsciously. But they remain Catholics. We pray for them, too, and we invite them to “come home” as soon as possible. We miss them, and we care for them.

What does it mean to be Catholic? In the simplest possible terms, it means belonging to the community of the baptized, the Church.

What does it mean to be a good Catholic? It means being present, especially at the Sunday Eucharist. It means being engaged in the Catholic way of life through prayer and the sacraments, through efforts to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ and his Church, through a commitment to reach out to others by sharing our faith—evangelization—and serving those who are in need of our help through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.

We are called to be good stewards of our Catholic identity—by nurturing our faith and by sharing it generously with others.

—Daniel Conway

Letters to the Editor

Surgeon weighs in on brain death and organ transplantation discussion

It has been interesting to read the debate that has occurred in *The Criterion* over the last several weeks regarding the question of brain death and organ transplantation.

It is clear that the people contributing their opinions have all been well-intentioned.

It is important to clarify some misconceptions that people have regarding organ procurement.

Brain death means the cessation of brain activity. A patient who is “brain dead” still has a beating heart and functioning organs. So during an organ procurement operation, the heart is beating.

There is no pain so there is no need for pain medicine.

An anesthesiologist is present during

the organ procurement procedure in order to make adjustments to the ventilator, which is breathing for the donor patient, and to administer drugs to maintain the adequate blood flow to the organs, and to counteract certain chemicals released by the body that may be harmful to those organs.

By doing these things, the best outcome is assured for those transplanted organs and the patients who receive them.

It is important for people to understand these things so they can feel comfortable with the whole process of organ transplantation, and may even someday give the gift of life to another person.

Dr. Stephen O'Neil
general surgeon, Indianapolis

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry needs donations to help hungry families

As happens at this time of year, the food supply at the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, 3001 E. 30th St., in Indianapolis is declining.

We cannot provide the 3,000-plus clients that come to the pantry each week—yes, each week—with a balanced selection that was available just a month or so ago.

This situation is consistent with the reduced donations to food banks and pantries across the country.

Additionally, the food pantry is currently over budget due to unexpected cost increases from vendors, especially for turkeys and hams distributed to clients last Thanksgiving and Christmas.

If any groups within the metro Indianapolis area would like to conduct a food drive to support the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, send an e-mail to Info@SVDPindy.org or call

317-921-1401, ext. 236.

The pantry especially needs the following items that are in perennial shortage—cereal, canned meat or fish, soups (except tomato), canned fruit, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, box dinners and personal care items.

Perhaps Indianapolis area parishes or schools could sponsor a drive for a particular item to increase its availability for client shopping?

Visit the society's website at www.SVDPindy.org for more information on the ministries and services of the society in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Thank you for your prayers and support of Vincentian works.

Don Striegel
St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry
volunteer coordinator
Indianapolis

Problem of immodesty is everywhere in society and must be addressed, reader says

This is in response to the letter with the headline “Why don't all teenagers and men wear their best clothes to meet Jesus at Mass?” which appeared in the July 15 issue of *The Criterion*.

The letter is appropriate for this time of year, but the writer only addresses teenagers and men wearing shorts. The problem is much deeper and broader than this group.

The problem cannot be focused in on any one age group or gender. The problem of immodesty is everywhere, and is very much tied to the widespread impurity in our culture and society today.

On a pilgrimage to Rome this spring, I visited St. Peter's Basilica. Posted at the entrance are pictorial signs explaining the dress code. Swiss Guards routinely turn away

men and women in shorts or with bare shoulders.

Our Lady of Fatima, in 1917, told the three visionaries: “Certain fashions will be introduced that will offend our Lord very much. ... More souls go to hell because of sins of the flesh than for any other reason.”

Can it be that our Lady is talking about our time now? About today?

Today, in our culture and in Church services, less clothing covers the body, not only of young people, but their parents, who should know better.

Instead, they are oblivious to the virtue of modesty and dress in “fashions that offend our Lord very much.”

Paul Kachinski
Indianapolis

Letters Policy

Letters from readers are published in *The Criterion* as part of the newspaper's commitment to “the responsible exchange of freely-held and expressed opinion among the People of God” (*Communio et Progressio*, 116).

Letters from readers are welcome and every effort will be made to include letters from as many people and representing as many viewpoints as possible. Letters should be informed, relevant, well-expressed and temperate in tone. They must reflect a basic sense of courtesy and respect.

The editors reserve the right to select the letters that will be published and to edit

letters from readers as necessary based on space limitations, pastoral sensitivity and content (including spelling and grammar). In order to encourage opinions from a variety of readers, frequent writers will ordinarily be limited to one letter every three months. Concise letters (usually less than 300 words) are more likely to be printed.

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

Send letters to: “Letters to the Editor,” *The Criterion*, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. Readers with access to e-mail may send letters to criterion@archindy.org.

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BUSCANDO LA CARA DEL SEÑOR

The mission of the Church is to seek the face of the Lord

(Editor's note: While Archbishop Buechlein continues to recover from a stroke, we offer some reprints of his various columns for your enrichment. The following column is from the July 14, 2006, issue of The Criterion.)

Our roots as the particular Church known as the Archdiocese of Indianapolis run deep. We are not simply a social organization with the name Catholic.

In order to have a sense of the rootedness of our local Church, we go back to where it all began, namely in God the Creator.

In creating the world, it was God's plan to dignify our human family with a divine destiny.

Even though in the beginning our human family said no to God's marvelous plan, he did not abandon us. Instead, he offered to save us by promising Christ the Redeemer. For centuries, God had been preparing a chosen people for this most complete revelation of his love, his own Son.

The people of Israel were the first to accept God's invitation. In them and through their special leaders whom God had raised up, they came to see the special friendship between them and God signified by the covenant at Mount Sinai. They would be a special people, a holy nation, a sign among all the people of the world of the presence of the one true God.

In the events of their history, God would

begin to reveal his loving plan of salvation. The people of Israel are our ancestors in the faith.

Obviously, we claim the central role of Jesus Christ in God's creative plan and, therefore, in our mission as a local Church. In the fullness of time, God sent his only son. Fully human and fully divine, Christ is "the image of the invisible God" (Col 1:15).

Born of a woman, like us in all things but sin, Christ came on mission for his Father. Christ is the fullness of the revelation of God; God fully dwelling among us.

Yet Christ is also fully human. Therefore in his person, the long desired unity between God and our human family—foreshadowed in the covenant with Israel and proclaimed by the prophets—was finally achieved. Christ is everything God ever hoped to say to us; and Christ is also everything God hoped we would say in return.

"That all things may be made new"—that was Christ's mission—a transformation of all our human family in the spirit of God.

This is our divine destiny, and this is the meaning of the kingdom of God. Christ established this kingdom by his complete obedience to the Father's will.

The foundation of Christ's obedience is love—love of the Father and love for all creation in the unity of the Holy Spirit. The hoped for kingdom consists in this—that eventually all of us may be united to the Father, through Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Each human person ever to be

born would now be united in one solemn bond of love, sealed by the blood of Christ.

Christ's earthly mission, then, was to establish the kingdom of God: "a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace" (*Roman Missal: Preface of Christ the King*).

It is God's goal that someday the fullness of this kingdom would see the unity of all human persons in one magnificent bond of love. This is that "kingdom" where "every tear shall be wiped away" (Eucharistic Prayer III). And we pray, "Thy kingdom come."

But what about now? Since Christ ascended into heaven and until he comes again in glory, what happens? What happens until the fullness of that promised kingdom comes?

The mission of the Church is to seek the face of the Lord. When I became a bishop, I chose the motto "Seek the Face of the Lord" from Psalm 27 because I thought it expressed our common mission as the local Church. We seek the face of the Lord in worship and in service to all his people. I thought the motto could be timely.

Christ inaugurated the kingdom of God, but its full realization will take place only over time. Therefore, Christ called together

disciples who would continue his saving mission through the ages until he comes again in glory. From them, he chose 12 Apostles to share his mission in a unique way, and to lead the "new people of God" in their life and work for the saving unity of the human family.

This "new people of God" is the Church. Gathered and led by the college of bishops as successors to the college of Apostles, under the leadership of the bishop of Rome and successor to Peter, the Church is more than just a collection of individual disciples.

Rather, by the power of the Holy Spirit, this "people" is an organic whole. From the earliest days, the Church has been called the body of Christ. †

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 Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

Archbishop Buechlein's intention for vocations for September

Teachers/Religious Education Directors: that they may rely on the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit as they hand on the Catholic faith to our youth and encourage them to consider vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

La misión de la Iglesia es buscar el rostro del Señor

Nuestras raíces como la Iglesia particular conocida como la Arquidiócesis de Indianápolis datan de tiempo atrás. No somos meramente una organización social con el título de Católicos.

Para poder tener arraigo en nuestra iglesia local nos remitimos a donde todo empezó, a saber: en Dios El Creador.

El plan de Dios en la creación del mundo fue dignificar a la familia humana otorgándole un destino divino.

Pese a que al principio nuestra familia humana le dijo no al maravilloso plan de Dios, Él no nos abandonó. En lugar de ello, ofreció salvarnos prometiéndonos a Cristo Redentor. Dios estuvo preparando por siglos a un pueblo elegido para entregarles la mayor y más completa revelación de su amor: su propio Hijo.

El pueblo de Israel fue el primero en aceptar la invitación de Dios. En ellos, y por medio de sus líderes especiales a quienes Dios preparó, vinieron a ver la amistad única que existía entre ellos y Dios, simbolizada en el contrato solemne en el Monte Sinaí. Sería un pueblo especial, una nación santa, símbolo de la presencia del único y verdadero Dios entre todos los pueblos del mundo.

En los acontecimientos de la historia vemos cómo Dios comienza a revelar su amoroso plan de salvación. El pueblo de Israel son nuestros ancestros en la fe.

Obviamente a nosotros nos corresponde el papel principal de Jesucristo en el plan creativo de Dios, y por lo tanto, en nuestra misión como Iglesia local. En la inmensidad

de todos los tiempos, Dios mandó a su único hijo. Completamente humano y completamente divino, Cristo es: "la imagen misma del Dios invisible" (Col 1:15).

Nacido de una mujer, al igual que todos nosotros excepto en el pecado, Cristo vino en una misión enviado por su Padre. Cristo es la total revelación de Dios; el Dios que habita plenamente entre nosotros.

Sin embargo, Cristo también es completamente humano. Por lo tanto, en su persona se logra finalmente la unidad tan vehementemente deseada entre Dios y nuestra familia humana, presagiada por el contrato solemne con Israel y proclamada por los profetas. Cristo representa todo aquello que Dios siempre deseó expresarnos; y Cristo también representa todo lo que Dios esperó que nosotros respondiéramos.

"Que todo se haga de nuevo," fue la misión de Cristo: una transformación de toda nuestra familia humana en el espíritu de Dios.

Este es nuestro destino divino y es el significado del Reino de Dios. Cristo fundó ese reino obedeciendo por completo la voluntad del Padre.

La base de la obediencia de Cristo es el amor: el amor por el Padre y por toda la creación en la unidad del Espíritu Santo. La esperanza del Reino consiste en lo siguiente: en que eventualmente todos nosotros podamos reunirnos en el Padre, por medio de Cristo, por el poder del Espíritu Santo. Toda persona humana nacida quedará unida en un lazo solemne de amor, sellado por la sangre de Cristo.

Por lo tanto, la misión de Cristo en la

tierra fue fundar el Reino de Dios: "un reino de verdad y vida, un reino de gracia y santidad, un reino de justicia, amor y paz" (*Misal Romano: Prefacio de Cristo Rey*).

El objetivo de Dios es que algún día su reino en pleno abarque la unidad de todas las personas humanas en un glorioso lazo de amor. Ese es el "reino" donde "toda lágrima será enjugada" (III oración eucarística). Y oremos "venga tu reino."

Pero, ¿qué sucede ahora? Desde que Cristo subió al cielo y hasta que vuelva con gloria, ¿qué ocurre? ¿Qué pasa hasta que sobrevenga la plenitud de ese reino prometido?

La misión de la Iglesia es buscar el rostro del Señor. Cuando me ordené como obispo elegí el lema "Buscar el rostro del Señor" del Salmo 27, porque pensé que expresaba nuestra misión común como iglesia local. Buscamos el rostro del Señor en la adoración y por medio del servicio a todo su pueblo. Consideré que este lema sería apropiado.

Cristo inauguró el reino de Dios, pero su completa cristalización ocurrirá con el tiempo. Por ello Cristo juntó discípulos que pudieran continuar con su misión salvadora a través de los tiempos hasta que él volviera con gloria. De ellos, eligió a 12 apóstoles para que compartieran su misión de una

manera única, y para guiar al "nuevo pueblo de Dios" en sus vidas y su labor por salvar la unidad de la familia humana.

Este "nuevo pueblo de Dios" es la Iglesia. Congregados y guiados por el conjunto de obispos como sucesores del conjunto de Apóstoles, bajo el liderazgo del obispo de Roma y sucesor de Pedro, la Iglesia es más que una simple asociación de discípulos individuales.

En vez de ello y por el poder del Espíritu Santo, este "pueblo" es una unidad orgánica. Desde sus primeros días la Iglesia ha sido llamada el cuerpo de Cristo. †

¿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 Indianápolis
1400 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

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

La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en septiembre

Maestros/Directores de Educación Religiosa: ¡que ellos puedan contar con la fuerza y dirección del Espíritu Santo cuando pasen la fe Católica a los jóvenes y les den ánimo a ellos a considerar las vocaciones al sacerdocio y la vida religiosa!

Events Calendar

September 2-4

St. Joseph Parish, 1375 S. Mickley Ave., Indianapolis. **"Fall Festival,"** food, rides, games, Fri. and Sat. 6-11 p.m., Sun. 2-11 p.m., Homecoming Mass, 11:30 a.m. Information: 317-244-9902.

September 2-5

Sacred Heart Parish, 558 Nebeker St., Clinton. **"Little Italy Festival,"** Water Street in downtown Clinton, Fri. 6-11 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Mon. 11 a.m.-closing, Italian food, entertainment. Information: 765-832-8468.

September 3

Monument Circle, downtown Indianapolis. **St. Francis Health's Sports Medicine Center and Women's Health Services, Indianapolis Women's Half Marathon and 5K.** Information: <http://www.indywomenshalfmarathon.com>.

Carmelite Monastery, 59 Allendale, Terre Haute. **Helpers of God's Precious Infants,** 7:30 a.m. pro-life Mass, 8:55 a.m. pro-life prayers in front of Planned Parenthood facility, 9:30 a.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet, St. Patrick Parish, adoration chapel, 1807 Poplar Ave., Terre Haute.

Information: 812-877-9251.

September 4

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 5333 E. Washington St., Indianapolis. **"Chili Cook-off,"** music, chili, other refreshments, entertainment for children, contests, voting on chili recipes, noon-3 p.m., \$5 admission, children under 7 free. Information: 317-356-7291.

Slovenian National Home, picnic grounds, 1340 Yates Lane, Avon. **"Slovenian Festival,"** gates open 10 a.m., Mass, noon, food, music, 1 p.m., \$5 per person, children under 16 no charge. Information: 317-292-3505 or Richard.brodnik@sbcglobal.net.

St. John the Evangelist Parish, 9995 E. Base Road, Enochsburg. **Parish festival,** fried chicken and roast beef dinners, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Information: 812-934-2880.

Queen and Divine Mercy Center, Rexville, located on 925 South, .8 mile east of 421 South and 12 miles south of Versailles, Mass, 9:30 a.m., on **third Sunday holy hour and pitch-in,** Father Elmer Burwinkel, celebrant, daily Mass, 9 a.m. Information: 812-689-3551.

September 5

St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 4791 E. Morris Church St., Morris. **"Labor Day Picnic,"** chicken dinner, games, food, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Information: 812-934-6218.

St. Peter Parish, 1207 East Road, Brookville. **"Labor Day Festival,"** 10:45 a.m.-8 p.m., country style chicken dinner, turtle soup, quilts, games. Information and reservations: 812-623-3670.

September 6

St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish, 4720 E. 13th St., Indianapolis. **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults meeting,** 7 p.m. Information: 317-357-8352.

September 7

Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Solo Seniors,** Catholic, educational, charitable and social singles, 50 and over, single, separated, widowed or divorced, new members welcome, 6:30 p.m. Information: 317-370-1189.

Columbus Bar, 322 Fourth St., Columbus. **"Theology on Tap" series, "Why Do Catholics Do That?"** Father Peter Marshall, presenter, 7 p.m. Information: www.indytot.com or indytheologyontap@gmail.com.

September 9

St. Anne Parish, 5267 N. Hamburg Road, Oldenburg. **Turkey supper,** 4:30-7:30 p.m. Information: 812-934-5854.

September 9-11

St. Mary Parish, 212 Washington St., North Vernon. **"Community Festival,"** celebration of 150 years, Fri. fish dinner, 4:30 p.m.-close, Sat. 5K run, 8 a.m., kickball tournament mid-morning, Italian dinner, 4:30 p.m.-close, Sun. 150th anniversary Mass, 10:30 a.m., chicken dinner following Mass, rides, children's games. Information: 812-346-3604.

September 10

St. Joan of Arc Parish, 4217 N. Central Ave., Indianapolis. **"French Market,"** noon-10 p.m., French food, booths, children's activity area, entertainment. Information: 317-283-5508.

Marian Inc., 1011 E. St. Clair St., Indianapolis. **"Feast of the Holy Cross,"** dinner, live band, 6-10:30 p.m., \$50 per person. Information: 317-578-4581.

MCL Restaurant, 5520 Castleton Corner Lane, Indianapolis. **St. Mary Academy, Class of 1956, 55-year reunion,** 11:30 a.m.

Information: 317-467-9308 or 317-846-9473.

St. Roch Parish, Family Life Center, 3603 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Single Seniors,** meeting, 1 p.m., age 50 and over. Information: 317-784-4207.

Geneva Hills Golf Course, Clinton. **Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, 12th annual "SMWC Scholarship Scramble,"** 11 a.m., \$70 per person, registration and lunch, 11 a.m. Information: 812-239-3050 or brugnaux@avenuebb.com.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, 1752 Scheller Lane, New Albany. **"Trivia Night,"** 6:30 p.m., \$50 per couple, \$30 individual, includes dinner. Information: 812-944-1184.

September 10-11

St. Michael Parish, 145 St. Michael Blvd., Brookville. **"Fall Fest,"** Sat. grilled, smoked pork chop supper, Sun. pan-fried chicken dinner, Sat. 4-11 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Information: 765-647-5462.

St. Agnes Parish, 1008 McLary Road, Nashville. St. Agnes Guild, fourth annual **"Applefest,"** apples and apple baked goods for sale. Information: 812-988-2778.

September 11

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. **Concert to mark 9/11 anniversary, "Quatuor pour la Fin du Temps," ("Quartet for the End of Time"),** 3 p.m., free-will offerings accepted. Information: 634-4519.

St. Augustine Parish, 315 E. Chestnut St., Jeffersonville. **"Harvest Celebration,"** chicken dinner, baked goods, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 812-282-2677.

St. Mary (Immaculate Conception) Parish, 512 N. Perkins St., Rushville. **"Community Fall Festival,"** music, dance, Sun. 8 a.m.-4 p.m., chicken dinner. Information: 765-932-2588.

St. Pius V Parish, Highway 66, Troy. **"Fall Festival,"** 11 a.m.-5 p.m., dinners, games, music. Information: 812-547-7994.

Huber's Winery, 19816 Huber Road, Starlight. **New Albany Deanery Young Adult gathering,** concert and wine tasting party, 1-4 p.m. Information: 812-945-2000. †

Retreats and Programs

September 7-28

Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. **"A Thomas Merton Seminar: Bridges to Contemplative Living—Discovering the Hidden Ground of Love," Vol. 4, four-session workshop,** Benedictine Sister Julie Sewell, presenter, Mass, 5:15 p.m., simple supper, 6 p.m., session 6:30-9 p.m., \$85.95 per person includes book and simple supper. Information: 317-788-7581 or www.benedictinn.org.

September 9-11

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 100 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad.

"What Did Jesus Know about Eucharist?" Benedictine Father Jeremy King, presenter. Information: 800-581-6905 or MZoeller@saintmeinrad.edu.

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. Weekend retreat, **"Awakening Consciousness—Realizing the Holy and the Whole,"** Jan Novotka, presenter. Information: center@oldenburgosf.com.

September 16-18

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **"Tobit Weekend,"** marriage preparation. Information: 317-545-7681, ext. 15, or cmcsweeney@archindy.org. †

VIPs



Edwin P. and Gail (Hall) Reyling, members of St. Joseph Parish in Crawford County, will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sept. 5. They were married on Sept. 5, 1961, in Fort Knox, Ky. They have three children, Winona Cunningham, Eddie and Patrick Reyling. They also have eight grandchildren. †

St. Thomas More Society to sponsor continuing education program

The St. Thomas More Society, an organization of lawyers, judges and law students in the archdiocese, will sponsor a continuing legal education program at noon on Sept. 9 at the Athenaeum Building, 401 E. Michigan St., in Indianapolis.

During the program, Patrick Olmstead of Hoover Hull LLP will discuss "Avoiding Malpractice Complaints and Grievances."

The program is free to members of the St. Thomas More Society or \$50 for guests. Participants will earn one hour of continuing legal education and one hour of ethics credit.

Attendees can order lunch from the Rathskeller's menu.

To register or for more information, call Judge David Certo at 317-331-3669 or send an e-mail to him at davidcerto@yahoo.com. †

'Angels of Grace' awards recognize three women for service to others

"Angels of Grace—A Celebration of Women," the fourth annual awards luncheon and style show presented by the Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center in Beech Grove, will be held on Sept. 24 at the Holy Name of Jesus Parish Center, 89 N. 17th Ave., in Beech Grove.

The event begins at 10:30 a.m. with registration followed by the fashion show at 11:30 a.m., luncheon at noon and awards ceremony at 1 p.m.

Three women who have made a difference in the lives of others will be honored with community service awards.

Rita Fiorentino, founder of The Gathering Together, a hospice in Plainfield, will be honored with the Angel Raphael Award as "a companion to those in need of assistance."

Fiorentino, who is a nurse, and volunteer

staff support terminally ill patients and their families with meals, guest rooms and bereavement services.

Community philanthropist Marilyn Glick of Indianapolis will receive the Angel Gabriel Award as "a messenger who spreads a word of hope and cheer."

The Gene and Marilyn Glick Foundation assists many not-for-profit organizations and service projects in central Indiana.

Indianapolis resident Sandra Bailey will accept the Angel Michael Award as "a defender of the dignity and goodness of others" for her advocacy on behalf of Laurelwood Apartments, a center-city neighborhood, and Baxter YMCA.

Reservations are \$35 per person and are due by Sept. 16. Checks should be written to the Benedict Inn and mailed to 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove IN 46107. †



Knights of Columbus gift

Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, center, auxiliary bishop and vicar general, accepts a check for \$6,586.35 on Aug. 22 at the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis from Thomas Gawlik, right, Indiana state deputy for the Indiana State Council of the Knights of Columbus. Standing at left is Bob Lynch, past state deputy and current executive secretary of the Indiana State Council. Gawlik is a member of St. Benedict Parish in Terre Haute. Lynch is a member of St. Jude Parish in Indianapolis. The use of the funds will be determined by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein.

Arizona court affirms state abortion limits; seven clinics to stop them

PHOENIX (CNS)—Just two years ago, those attending the annual luncheon of parish respect life coordinators in the Phoenix Diocese were rather discouraged as they faced a new, pro-abortion administration in Washington and the specter of the Freedom of Choice Act that threatened to guarantee abortion rights, and negate federal, state and municipal restrictions on abortion.

But this year's gathering on Aug. 19 came a day after the Arizona Court of Appeals ruled that restrictions on abortion passed by the state Legislature were both reasonable and constitutional.

"We didn't give up, did we? We kept moving and we're certainly not there, but since that time we've been abundantly blessed, especially in Arizona," said Ron Johnson, executive director of the Arizona Catholic Conference. "We really need to give thanks for these great laws."

Following the Court of Appeals decision, Planned Parenthood announced that effective on Aug. 22, it would no longer perform abortions at seven of its Arizona clinics. That leaves Glendale, Tempe and Tucson as the only sites where Planned Parenthood will provide surgical abortions.

Johnson noted that one of the key provisions of the law that was upheld by the Court of Appeals is that only a physician may perform an abortion. With so few doctors willing to perform the procedure, that left nurse practitioners to do so. Not anymore—at least not in Arizona.

Planned Parenthood almost certainly will appeal the court's decision, Johnson said, and has until mid-September

to do so. The Arizona Supreme Court was expected to decide by the end of the year whether to consider the appeal.

Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted of Phoenix said he was pleased with Planned Parenthood's announcement that it would no longer perform abortions at seven of its Arizona clinics.

"I give thanks to God that the killing of unborn children will cease, at least for the time being, at a number of Planned Parenthood's facilities," he said. "This is a small victory in a long struggle, but an important one because each day innocent lives will be saved as a result of it."

Mike Phelan, director of the Office of Marriage and Respect Life for the Phoenix Diocese, said the decision means that "our pro-motherhood, pro-life clinics will be busier helping those in need, and we will need to be ready to support them even more than we have—and this is great news."

Meanwhile, the executive director of the North Dakota Catholic Conference criticized the filing of a lawsuit aimed at blocking a new law requiring that abortion-inducing drugs be taken only in accordance with protocols approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Despite an FDA report that abortion drugs have killed 14 and injured more than 2,000 women, "extreme abortion advocates seek to stop reasonable regulations on the drug's use, thus putting women at greater risk of harm," said Christopher Dodson.

He said a similar law passed in Ohio was recently



Father Matthew Henry prays the rosary with more than 600 Catholics outside a Planned Parenthood center in Glendale, Ariz., in 2010. The Arizona Court of Appeals ruled on Aug. 18 that restrictions on abortion passed by the state Legislature were reasonable and constitutional. Following the decision, Planned Parenthood announced it would no longer perform abortions at seven of its Arizona clinics.

upheld by a federal court.

"Considering the drug's dangerous record, it is shameful that abortion extremists will once again tie up the courts and fight reasonable efforts to protect women's health," Dodson added.

A hearing on the lawsuit was set for Oct. 26. †

Baltimore archbishop named to head Knights of Holy Sepulcher

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Pope Benedict XVI has named Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien of Baltimore as pro-grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem in Rome.

The appointment was announced in Washington on Aug. 29 by Msgr. Jean-Francois Lantheaume, charge d'affaires of the Vatican Embassy to the United States.

Archbishop O'Brien, 72, succeeds Cardinal John P. Foley, 75, a former editor of *The Catholic Standard & Times* in Philadelphia and former director of the

Pontifical Council for Social Communications at the Vatican, who retired in February after being diagnosed with leukemia and anemia.

Also known as the Knights of the Holy Sepulcher, the order is a fraternal organization dedicated to supporting the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and responding to the needs of Catholics in the Holy Land.

The order is usually headed by a cardinal, and past Vatican protocol would call for Archbishop O'Brien's title to become grand master once he is named to the College of Cardinals. †

Bishop Coyne posts podcast about multicultural parishes

The latest podcast of Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, auxiliary bishop and vicar general, is

the final installment of a three-part conversation with Father Robert Murray, pastor of St. James and St. John the Baptist parishes in Haverhill, Mass., in the

Boston Archdiocese, about pastoring multicultural parishes.

In their conversation, Father Murray and Bishop Coyne discuss the importance of building unity in a multicultural parish so that

it can witness to the life and teaching of Jesus as one community of faith.

Father Murray also offers advice to those ministering in multicultural apostolates, and speaks about treasuring parishioners as the people of God as the basis for any ministry, regardless of the number of cultures present in the parish.

Links to this podcast as well as Bishop Coyne's previous podcasts can be found at www.archindy.org/auxiliary. The podcasts can also be downloaded through iTunes. †



Invites you to the

29th Annual Celebrate Life Dinner

Tuesday, September 27th ~ Indiana Convention Center



Featuring **Troy Newman**
Keynote Speaker

President, Operation Rescue

Troy Newman has been involved in pro-life activism since 1991. Through innovative new tactics, Newman helped close over a dozen abortion clinic and saw over 40 abortionists stop killing in San Diego County, California. In 1998, Newman became the leader of Operation Rescue, which he rebuilt into a nationally active organization in just a few years. Newman moved his ministry offices to Wichita, Kansas in 2002. In 2006, Newman bought and closed Central Women's Services, an abortion mill that has been renovated and now serves as Operation Rescue's national headquarters and a memorial to the pre-born. He continues as an innovator of new tactics that have helped close abortion clinics and garner criminal prosecutions for abortionists around the nation. Newman is a well-known spokesperson in the press who has given thousands of interviews and appeared in every major news publication in the nation. Newman is an accomplished public speaker and a published author whose works include the book *Their Blood Cries Out!* Newman also holds a black belt in the Korean martial art of Taekwondo. He and his wife, Mellissa, home school their five children on their beautiful ranch in rural Kansas.

When Tuesday, September 27
Reception: 6 p.m.
Dinner and awards: 7 p.m.
Troy Newman at 8 p.m.

Where Indiana Convention Center
in the Sagamore Ballroom

To register go to www.rtlindy.org or call (317) 582-1526

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Above, pilgrims Alle Owens of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Carmel, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese, and Mary Rozman from St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis pose for a photo beside a statue of St. Teresa of Avila in Avila, Spain, on Aug. 15.

Left, the Love and Life Center in Madrid was the hub for English-speaking pilgrims at World Youth Day in Madrid. Father Rick Nagel, right, poses for a photo at the center with archdiocesan pilgrims, front row, from left, Breanna Holder and Yasmin Navarro, and, second row, Megan Fish, Dayne Holder, Nick Lesch and Kate Eder on Aug. 19 during a break after morning praise and worship, and before Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, began a catechetical session.



Above, World Youth Day provides many great opportunities to meet and get to know people from around the world. Gary Goldsby, a member of Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Beech Grove, reviews pictures on his camera after trading information with other pilgrims.

Left, Father Rick Nagel, center, poses for a photo in Toledo, Spain, with pilgrim Megan Fish, left, a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis and administrative assistant for the archdiocese's young adult and college campus ministry, and Matt Faley, a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish and the archdiocese's coordinator of young adult ministry.

WYD

continued from page 1

Aug. 15

After two days of air travel, the pilgrims arrived in Avila, Spain. Avila is the hometown of St. Teresa of Avila, the founder of the Discalced Carmelites and one of three female saints in the history of the Catholic faith who have been honored as a doctor of the Church.

In the late morning, the pilgrims participated in a Mass at a church dedicated to St. Teresa. A choir spontaneously composed of pilgrims from across the United States filled the church with song.

For archdiocesan pilgrim Maggie Hagenauer, it was a special moment because of her devotion to St. Teresa.

"I fully realized where I was when I was in her church," said Hagenauer, a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. "I looked around and saw all of the images and statues she looked at when she prayed. I felt at peace."

Aug. 16

The day started with a bus trip to Toledo for a tour of that city's castle-like cathedral

and churches.

During the visit, several young adults from Venezuela ran up to the archdiocesan group and began talking in English, asking the pilgrims what they thought of World Youth Day so far. Many had their country's flags wrapped around them as they sang and chanted in the streets.

The Brazilians were another group that couldn't be missed because of their energy and enthusiasm throughout the week. They often gathered together, laughing, singing and dancing.

At eucharistic adoration on this day, it was evident that no matter what a person's nationality or language, the Eucharist was the center of everyone's life.

That connection continued later when the pilgrims returned to Madrid for the World Youth Day opening Mass with more than 1.5 million young adults from around the world.

Aug. 17-18

Catechesis started at the Love and Life Center, a venue for English-speaking pilgrims in Madrid. The events at the center were led by the Sisters of Life and the Knights of Columbus.

The Sisters of Life radiated enthusiasm

and excitement to the crowd of about 12,000 young adults during their talks before the catechetical sessions. On Aug. 18, the sisters and several musicians added rap versions to many of the traditional hymns during Mass.

"The sisters bring such life to the entire room," said pilgrim Yasmin Navarro, a member of St. Anthony Parish in Indianapolis. "I cannot help but feel their joy through their laughter and smiles."

One of the best talks was by Curtis Martin, founder and president of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. His words about striving to be saints touched the hearts of thousands of pilgrims.

"Go out and live the faith," he told the young adults.

On the evening of Aug. 18, the energetic crowd welcomed the Holy Father. People from all parts of the world stood beside each other, talking as friends.

"I may not know your name," an Italian pilgrim said, "but I know why you are here and how important it is to you."

Aug. 19

A group from the archdiocese sat in the front row of the center for the catechesis and Mass with Archbishop Timothy



Above, pilgrim Yasmin Navarro, a member of St. Anthony Parish in Indianapolis, sings along with street musicians on Aug. 19 at the Plaza de Sol in Madrid.

Left, archdiocesan pilgrims pose for a group photo in front of a statue of Blessed Pope John Paul II at the Almudena Cathedral in Madrid. The pilgrims included Father Rick Nagel, Breanna Holder, Jen Hoying, Alle Owens, Kate Eder, Dana Petricka, Jeff Russ, Megan Fish, Lindsey Neita, Charlotte Leach, Kelly Ertel, Alex Kirchner, Father Andrew DeKeyser, Reshma Sekhar, Pauline Kattady, Nicole Morgan, Laura Coons, Dan Capes, Father Jonathan Meyer, Karlee Greives, Jodi Justak, Elizabeth Rozman, Mary Rozman, Dan Bedel, Andy Syberg, Andrew Torrella, Gary Goldsby, Dayne Holder, Peter Jansen, Adam Ahern, Theresa Racanelli, Courtney Seiwert, Jessica Blackport, Maggie Hagenauer, Annie Ertel, Abbey Kirchner, Genevieve Furtner, Christine Leipertz, Matt Faley, Brian Lee, Anne Marie Brummer, Logan Cox, Nick Lesch and Anthony Erlandson.



Pilgrim Nick Lesch, left, a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, leads the pilgrims in the responsorial psalm during an outdoor Mass on Aug. 20 at a hotel courtyard in Madrid. Father Jonathan Meyer, left, Father Andrew DeKeyser and Father Rick Nagel preside during the liturgy.

M. Dolan of New York.

During the Mass, young people waved their country's flags as they sang.

"Love the Church and every aspect of it," Archbishop Dolan said. "It is more than living for one's self, but also to invite others."

In the afternoon, the 44 pilgrims formed smaller groups to weave through the streets of Madrid for the vivid, life-size Stations of the Cross. The stations were collected from many of the churches throughout Spain. As the pope traveled the path in his popemobile, young people walked alongside his vehicle.

"It was very inspiring to see so many young people journeying through the Lord's Passion with the Holy Father," said pilgrim Dayne Holder, a student at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, and a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. "It was a very spirit-filled event."

Aug. 20-21

As the afternoon of Aug. 20 approached, the archdiocesan pilgrims geared up to make the four-hour journey by foot to the site of the vigil and Mass with the Holy Father. The group prayed the rosary along the way.

"[It] was a great opportunity to evangelize through the streets of Madrid," said Dana Petricka, a member of St. John the Evangelist Parish. "It was a true witness of living out our Catholic faith."

The vigil with the Holy Father had a short weather delay, but carried on into the night with pilgrims participating in eucharistic adoration and the sacrament of reconciliation. As the night drew to a close, many people tried to catch a few hours of sleep to be ready for Mass with the Holy Father on Aug. 21.

After a rainy, cold night, the sun rose to clear skies, and the Holy Father arrived with a warm and humble greeting for the young pilgrims.

"Amigos, amigos," he addressed the young adults, thanking them for weathering the storm.

Father Rick Nagel was among the priests who concelebrated the Mass.

"Looking out from the stage, all you could see was a sea of people," said Father Nagel, director of the archdiocesan Office of Young Adult and College Campus Ministry, Catholic chaplain at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), and administrator of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. "It was very joyful to see all

the people in the crowd." At the end of the Mass, the Holy Father gave a blessing to all the pilgrims and to their families and loved ones at home. Many of the pilgrims phoned home to share the news that the pope had just included them in his blessing.

Aug. 22

Before leaving for the airport, the group celebrated Mass in the courtyard at the hotel.

"I do not think anyone can go on this trip and not come back changed," said Hagenauer, expressing the group sentiment of the 44 pilgrims.

World Youth Day ended in Madrid, but it will forever be in the hearts and minds of the pilgrims. It will also remain in the hearts and minds of the more than 1.5 million young adult Catholics from around the world who came together to celebrate their faith, and are already excited about World Youth Day 2013 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

(To see more photos from the archdiocesan pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Madrid, log on to www.CriterionOnline.com.) †



Above, archdiocesan pilgrims wear matching red T-shirts during the hike to Cuatro Vientos air base for the feast day vigil on Aug. 20 and the World Youth Day Mass on Aug. 21. The shirts featured a quotation from St. Irenaeus, which read, "The glory of God is man fully alive." Pilgrims Megan Fish and Reshma Sekhar, both members of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, watch as the huge crowd of international pilgrims gather to welcome Pope Benedict XVI at Cuatro Vientos air base for Mass on Aug. 21.



Pilgrims Dayne Holder of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis; Peter Jansen, an archdiocesan seminarian from Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish in Greenwood; and Kelly Ertel from St. Mary Parish in North Vernon participate in a catechesis session at the Love and Life Center on Aug. 17 in Madrid.



Right, thunderstorms swept through Cuatro Vientos air base in Madrid on the evening of Aug. 20, leaving many pilgrims tired and wet the following morning. Pilgrim Pauline Kattady rests on the lap of a friend, Dana Petricka. Both are members of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis.



Left, the opening Mass on Aug. 16 in the streets of Madrid was celebrated in Spanish so Laura Coon, a member of St. Mary Parish in North Vernon, follows along with her English liturgy guide.



Catholic News Around Indiana

- Diocese of Gary
- Diocese of Evansville
- Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana
- Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

Compiled by Brandon A. Evans

DIocese OF EVANSVILLE

Tulsa crash claims priest and seminarian with Indiana connections

EVANSVILLE—Father Jorge Gomez, a Tulsa, Okla., priest who had been active in Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Evansville during his seminary years at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, was killed in a traffic accident on Aug. 21 in Tulsa.

Also killed was Stanley Kuriuki, a seminarian originally from Kenya who would have been starting his third year of theology studies at Saint Meinrad. Both men were 32.

“The hearts of all at Saint Meinrad go out to the families of these wonderful young men,” said Benedictine Father Denis Robinson, president-rector of Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology. “Their loss is a tragedy for the Diocese of Tulsa and the whole Church. Both of them will be sincerely missed.”

The priest and the seminarian were pronounced dead at the scene of the three-car accident in Tulsa, according to reports in the *Tulsa World* newspaper. The newspaper reported that their car was struck by a car driven by a

woman who was frightened by gunshots in the area and was speeding through an intersection. The car of the priest and the seminarian was proceeding through a green light when it was struck and pushed into a third vehicle.

Father Gomez, who graduated in May, was ordained to the priesthood on July 1.

During his four years of priestly formation, he was very active in the Spanish-speaking ministry, volunteering with Benedictine Sister Karen Durliat in activities coordinated by the Guadalupe Center in Huntingburg.

“Jorge was very involved in the Hispanic community throughout his four years at Saint Meinrad,” said Sister Karen, director of diocesan ministry to the Spanish Speaking.

“He was always willing to offer his time and talent or to organize other seminarians when a group was needed for an activity,” Sister Karen said. “He enjoyed visiting families throughout the diocese, and supporting them in their faith and in their transition to the U.S. culture.”

The seminarian also assisted Father Gene Heerdink, the former director of the Guadalupe Center, who continues in retirement to serve the Spanish-speaking community.

(For more news from the Diocese of Evansville, log on to the website of *The Message* at www.themessageonline.org.) †

DIocese OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

Longtime organist Rosina Harber was born with music in her soul

ARCOLA—Rosina Harber has been an organist at St. Patrick Church in Arcola for more than 60 years, and has played for the 7:30 a.m. Sunday Mass as long as anyone can

remember. It is no wonder, then, that she is finally planning to take it a little easier and retire from active duty in the choir loft.

Harber was very likely born with music in her soul.



Rosina Harber

“It’s a family thing,” which has been handed down through the years, said her daughter, Annette Lamle, who is also a member of St. Patrick Parish.

Lamle says that the family’s musical talent first took root in her grandmother, Luella Hinen, who was organist at St. Patrick Church in the mid-1900s, and taught her young daughter, Rosina, those skills as well.

By the time that Harber was a sixth-grade student at St. Patrick School, one of the teaching nuns there, Sister Dolorita, recognized her musical abilities.

Harber is a lifelong member of St. Patrick Parish, having received all her sacraments at the small rural church. Appropriately, she even chose St. Cecilia, the patron saint of musicians, as her confirmation name.

Though Harber has suffered progressive hearing loss and is a cancer survivor, she has put aside those personal difficulties and continued to share her time and her love of music with St. Patrick parishioners, said her daughter.

These days, Lamle always sings at the Masses when her mom plays and helps out at the organ as well.

“I love music so much,” she said. “It’s a gift from God that we share.”

(For news from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, log on to the website of *Today’s Catholic* at www.todayscatholicnews.org.) †

What was in the news on Sept. 1, 1961? A request to return religion to public schools, and German sister’s cure at Lourdes ruled a miracle

By Brandon A. Evans

This week, we continue to examine what was going on in the Church and the world 50 years ago as seen through the pages of *The Criterion*, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Here are some of the items found in the Sept. 1, 1961, issue of *The Criterion*:

• Asks return of religion to U.S. public schools

“CINCINNATI—A way must be found to restore religion to public education, Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati said here. Addressing the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae at its 47th anniversary convention in Cincinnati, he said that the removal of religion from public schools and colleges has made most Americans ‘religiously illiterate.’ ‘The

consequence is a low but inevitable erosion of Christian principles and a concomitant deterioration of morals,’ he added. The archbishop predicted that, in the next 50 years, the American people ‘will demand some new approach to the moral and spiritual training of their children.’”

• Enrollment soars: School bell to ring September 6

- ‘Silence indefensible’: Says race prejudice must be condemned
- Labor Day Masses set in three communities
- Stresses teachers’ duty to ecumenical movement
- The lay apostolate and the

coming Council

“Around the world, hopes are running high that the Fathers of the forthcoming Ecumenical Council will have something positive to say about the role of the

layman. And there is good reason to believe that these hopes are well-founded. In response to the calls of modern popes, laymen have begun to shoulder more and more responsibility for action.

Indeed, the question is no longer whether laymen can bear the responsibility of carrying the Christian message into everyday life, but how far to go.”

- Conference set in Greece: Unity, lay participation are on Orthodox agenda
- Feels Catholic lay groups are not apostolic enough
- Biblical scholars warned by prelate
- Finland’s third priest since Reformation set for ordination
- Believes atheism spells Red doom



- Deplores ‘cult of vulgar’ in U.S. religious art
- Issue Handbook of Regulations for schools
- British government aids Catholic schools
- German sister’s cure at Lourdes ruled a miracle
- Warns individualism hurts the Church today
- Christians lecture Jewish congress
- Sister Formation project lauded by Vatican official
- Lutherans bypass school aid issue
- Heed Pope’s teachings, Latin America urged
- He made up own mind, Delaney says
- Too much for Reds to believe
- Greater stress on liturgy is seen among Protestants
- Ask Kennedy to free jailed freedom riders

(Read all of these stories from our Sept. 1, 1961, issue by logging on to our archives at www.CriterionOnline.com.) †

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\$20 per high school student

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‘Composing a Life’
A Morning for Moms with Alice Steppe
9:00 am – 1:00 pm • \$31 per person

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An overnight retreat with Sr. Angela Jarboe
7:00 pm Friday – 4:00 pm Saturday
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A Date Night presentation by Fr. Todd Goodson
6:00 pm • \$52 per couple

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Monumental task: Catholics hope new memorial prompts reflection, action

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Sister Antona Ebo, an 87-year-old Franciscan Sister of Mary, does not want Washington's new memorial to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. to just be a quick tourist stop.

She hopes visitors take time to reflect on the words of the civil rights leader carved in stone at the memorial, which opened to the public on Aug. 22.

Or better yet, she hopes these words and the 30-foot likeness of King carved in stone will prompt some soul searching.

"If we have to keep talking about keeping the dream alive, then what have we been doing for it still to be a dream?" said Sister Antona. "Martin was our dreamer. His dream was for his time. Who are our dreamers today? You have to search kind of hard to find people with new dreams appropriate for our time," she told Catholic News Service in an Aug. 24 telephone interview.

Sister Antona isn't one to mince words, showing the same spirit that she demonstrated in 1965 when she marched with King in a legendary protest for voting rights in Selma, Ala. The march took place just days after what has been called "Bloody Sunday" when state troopers assaulted demonstrators with clubs and tear gas.

Although she lives in St. Louis, Sister Antona visited the King memorial a month before it opened during a special preview for members of the National Black Sisters' Conference and the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus.

The official dedication was scheduled to take place on Aug. 28—48 years after Rev. King's famous "I have a dream speech"—but it was postponed until September or October when weather forecasts showed Washington to be in Hurricane Irene's path.

The memorial has been in the works for more than two decades. It cost \$120 million, most of which has already been raised through private and corporate donations. It is the only memorial on the National Mall not dedicated to a war or a U.S. president.

It includes a 450-foot curved wall with quotations from King's speeches, but snippets from the March on Washington address are missing from the wall because its designers wanted to promote his lesser-known statements.

Words from that famous speech set the tone though since visitors enter the memorial by going through a passageway of two granite rocks, one of which is inscribed with the words: "Out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope."

After the passageway, visitors come to the huge statue of Rev. King, which appears to have been carved out of a pushed-out section of the two rocks.

The symbolism was not lost on Msgr. Ray East, pastor of St. Teresa of Avila Parish in Washington, who said it was powerful to walk through the passageway and come to the other side where crowds assembled at the foot of the King statue.

He likened it to walking through despair to new life or finding light in darkness and love in hate to view a statue that conveys the sense of greatness of a "preacher who rose up when no one else would and spoke of hope and healing."

King's strong sense of hope even amid racism has long inspired Father Patrick Smith, pastor of St. Augustine Parish in Washington, the oldest black Catholic faith community in Washington and a parish that housed many of the marchers that came to Washington in 1963.

Father Smith, who was born two months after the March on Washington, said he was always inspired by King "for believing in something so much that he was willing to die for it."

He also said King's words have had staying power because his dream was "clearly not just something for the African American community," but instead a "vision of the kingdom of God. That's why it's endured," he told CNS.

And today, nearly 50 years after King



A 30-foot sculpture of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. is seen on Aug. 22 at a memorial to the civil rights leader on the National Mall in Washington. The memorial's Aug. 28 dedication was postponed because of Hurricane Irene.

spoke of his hope for racial equality, Americans are closely divided about the extent that dream has been fulfilled.

According to a USA Today/Gallup poll released on Aug. 26, 51 percent feel this vision has been achieved while 49 percent say it has not. The poll, with a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points, was conducted on Aug. 4-7 surveying 1,319 adults.

Just visiting the memorial provides a pointed reminder of the work that still needs to be done, some say.

"We've come a mighty long way," said Sister Roberta Fulton, a member of the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur and president of the National Black Sisters' Conference, "but there is still a lot of work to be done."

Sister Roberta, who is principal of St. Martin de Porres School in Columbia, S.C., took part in the preview tour of the memorial this summer, and said she intends to visit it every time she comes to Washington.

She described the memorial as a

"blessing to African-American people and to the nation" because it will enable people to "see what tremendous strength and faith Dr. King really had to keep moving forward."

Now she said the key to keeping that momentum going is to inspire young people with King's message.

Msgr. East agreed, and said he is urging people to visit the memorial as part of a pilgrimage. Personally, he knows he "stands on the shoulders" of his parents and other relatives who attended the 1963 March on Washington, and he asks himself what he needs to do to continue King's work, which echoes so many aspects of Catholic social teaching.

Beverly Carroll, assistant director of the Subcommittee on African-American Affairs for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, likewise said the work that King started remains undone.

She said King's "presence on the National Mall reminds us the job is not finished, and calls us to leadership through service and love." †

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From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

Wisdom of the saints: St. Gregory the Great

St. Gregory the Great, whose feast is on Sept. 3, was pope from 590 to 604. He held the civic office of prefect of Rome



before giving up secular life, becoming a Benedictine monk and converting his home into a monastery. He also founded six monasteries on his estate in Sicily.

Ordained a priest, he represented the pope in Constantinople before being elected abbot and then pope. As pope, he conducted a massive reform of the clergy, reformed the liturgy—the Gregorian Chant is named after him—sent 40 monks to convert England, and concluded a peace treaty with the Lombards.

He is considered the last of the Fathers of the Church, and was one of the original four Doctors of the Church from the West. The others are Sts. Augustine, Ambrose and Jerome. He was a copious writer. His most important

work was *Pastoral Care*, a book about the qualities and duties of a bishop, read for centuries after his death.

In one of his homilies, he spoke about our use of temporal goods. He advised those of us who cannot give up everything of this world, “at least keep what belongs to the world in such a way that you yourself are not kept prisoner by the world. Whatever you possess must not possess you; whatever you own must be under the power of your soul; for if your soul is overpowered by the love of this world’s goods, it will be totally at the mercy of its possessions.”

In other words, he said, we make use of temporal things, but our hearts must be set on what is eternal.

“Temporal goods help us on our way,” he said, “but our desire must be for those eternal realities which are our goal.”

We must utterly eradicate whatever is vicious, he said. “No carnal pleasure, no worldly curiosity, no surge of ambition must keep us from the Lord’s Supper. But further, our minds should merely skirt even the good deeds we perform in this

life. In this way, the physical things which give us pleasure will serve our bodily needs without hindering the soul’s progress.”

He said that he dared not tell us to give up everything. However, he said, “you can give everything up even while keeping it, provided you handle temporal things in such a way that your whole mind is directed toward what is eternal.”

The secret is to not let external needs dominate our souls. For those who can do that, he said, “everything in this world is there for their use, not to be desired. Nothing should interfere with your soul’s longing. No created pleasure in the world should ensnare you.

“If the object of love is what is good, then the soul should take its delight in the higher good, the things of heaven. If the object of fear is what is evil, then we should keep before ourselves the things that are eternally evil. In this way, if the soul sees that we should have a greater love and a greater fear about what concerns the next life, it will never cling to this life.” †

It’s All Good/Patti Lamb

Remember that with God, everything will be OK

A friend recently told me that her husband has encountered some serious health concerns and a plethora of tests were needed.



Later that same week, their basement flooded, which required major restoration efforts accompanied by a hefty price tag. She asked me to look at

carpet samples and weigh in with my color vote.

At first, we kept the conversation light, but then she began talking about her frustrating string of days. I asked what I could do to help besides saying prayers.

When I said that I would pray, she made no comment but simply stopped talking for a few seconds and looked at me intently. After a somewhat awkward pause, I assured her that, one way or another, it would all work out in the end.

Rather candidly, my friend said, “Thanks for the vote of confidence, but how do you know it’s all going to be OK?”

She suggested that maybe she just needed to get in touch with her inner cheerleader. Then she made a comment that I vividly remember.

“I just wish I could understand where your eternal optimism is rooted,” she said. She implied that if she could find the source of such optimism, she would surely tap into it and breathe easier.

Our conversation was interrupted when she received an important phone call, and she dashed off to pick up her son. Our schedules in the following weeks were not in sync. We didn’t connect for some time.

Meanwhile, I composed the answer to her questions in my head.

How do I know that it’s all going to be OK? Where is my “eternal optimism” rooted?

Simply put, it is God. God is my source of optimism. My faith is what keeps me going. If I woke up every morning and thought that this world was all there is, that suffering and sickness were our final fate, and that cruelty reigned, then I would be discouraged.

But I’ve heard the “good news.” Now I more fully understand why that is what it is called.

I didn’t realize that my faith gives me such peace. My life is not perfect by any means. But believing that I will work my way back to God, and be reunited with him in a place where there is no more suffering and sadness, helps me to endure days that make no sense. Our faith is a gift. It’s a bridge to an eternal life of love.

My friend and I come from different backgrounds. She was not brought up with

any sort of religion and does not attend church. This does not make her a bad person.

In fact, she is one of my favorite people. She’s witty, and her sense of humor is unmatched. We share an affinity

for lots of the same things, and time spent with her is always uplifting. She has just never been properly introduced to God.

My Catholic faith is a bit of a foreign concept to her. Still, I assured her of my prayers and did my best to deliver a message of encouragement rooted in Christ.

Last night, I received an e-mail from her, and it was one sentence.

“[My husband] goes in for his MRI in the morning, but I just wanted to let you know that, although I’m frightened, your faith, your conviction—it buoys me.”

I learned that we can introduce others to God, and reacquaint them with hope by the simple

promise of a prayer and the steadfast belief that, with God, everything will be OK.

(Patti Lamb, a member of St. Susanna Parish in Plainfield, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.) †

I didn't realize that my faith gives me such peace. My life is not perfect by any means. But believing that I will work my way back to God, and be reunited with him in a place where there is no more suffering and sadness, helps me to endure days that make no sense. Our faith is a gift. It's a bridge to an eternal life of love.

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister

Even after death, there is peace beyond understanding

Not too long ago, a *Criterion* staff member sent me two books that the newspaper received.



They both deal with death. One book is *Peace Beyond Understanding: Consoling One Another* by Father Terence P. Curley.

Father Curley has ministered extensively in grief ministry for

three decades. He is a licensed mental health counselor, writer and lecturer, and has served as president of the board of directors for the National Catholic Ministry to the Bereaved in St. Louis. His workshops have been presented throughout the country.

Father Curley wrote his book for Catholic parish staff members as well as funeral directors and planners.

I read it as a Catholic who—thank

God!—has not had much personal experience with how funerals are planned. However, I have attended many blessed and meaningful funerals at our parish church and at other parishes.

My sister and I had little information about funeral planning when we buried our parents in our Belleville, Ill., hometown.

Father Curley’s book about bereavement and grief ministry is an amazingly “good read.” He can be contacted at T-Curley@comcast.net, 781-592-7693 or via his website at www.createspace.com/3492430. I highly recommend his book.

The funerals I’ve attended through the years have all been special, but one that I remember well was the May 25, 2010, Mass of Christian Burial for James Courtland Marsh Jr., a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis.

His then 12-year-old grandson, Noah, wrote a tribute in his honor.

“Life. What do we think when we hear this wondrous word? Do we think of a family or a dove flying over a golden prairie?”

“When life begins, it is a wonderful sight to behold. And when it ends, it is truly heartbreaking.

“But how will we fulfill our purpose if we do not die?”

“He knew God was with him. It was as if God was an old friend to comfort him. My grandfather knew one of the secrets to true happiness, which is that if you find the light of God, the darkness in your life will be no more.

“Life, when it ends, is truly tragic, but when you die in peace like my grandfather, you shall live forever in the kingdom of God.”

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

Faith, Hope and Charity/

David Siler

We must do ‘something’ to assist our brothers and sisters in Africa

Last fall, I wrote about my journey with Catholic Relief Services to Eastern Africa where 12 of us from the United States



visited the countries of Ethiopia and Tanzania, with a brief stop in Kenya.

The people of eastern Africa left an indelible imprint on my heart. Because of that experience, I have been especially saddened by the

recent drought and resulting famine in this part of the continent known as the “Horn of Africa.”

The United Nations has officially declared a famine in parts of Somalia, the eastern-most country of Africa that borders Ethiopia and Kenya, the first such declaration in decades. The famine is being called the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today.

Because of the drought and resulting famine, in addition to the horrible political circumstances in Somalia, Somali citizens are migrating out of their home country to Kenya and Ethiopia. Every day, 1,500 people are crossing the border into Kenya looking for food, water and shelter.

The Dadaab refugee camps in Kenya were built for 90,000 people 20 years ago, and today they are home to more than 400,000! It is estimated that there will be an additional 160,000 people arriving in the near future.

The majority of the refugees are women and children who travel by foot for several days or weeks, and are subject to bandits who rape them and rob them of what little they carry. Many of the refugees are attacked by hyenas and lions. Thousands are dying of starvation and dehydration as they make the journey.

Having seen firsthand how much of the population of eastern Africa lives, it is easy to understand how a sustained drought can have such devastating consequences.

The vast majority of residents are subsistence farmers, meaning they farm enough to provide for their family and some just a bit more to sell at market to buy food and supplies. Therefore, when it doesn’t rain, the crops don’t grow and the animals that they raise starve and die, cutting off their entire food supply and livelihood.

Recently, in a conversation with one of our Catholic Charities refugee resettlement staff members, Helen Sanders, who is originally from Kenya, I remarked about the thousands dying.

“It is just NOT OK,” I said.

She looked up with tears in her eyes and said, “That’s right, it’s not OK—and we need to do something about it!”

The two very real “somethings” that we can do from half a world away are: 1) pray for the people suffering, for those offering relief and for political reform in Somalia, where they are actually blocking aid workers from entering the country; and 2) join with Catholic Relief Services, which is on the ground in Kenya and Ethiopia providing food, water, hygiene and shelter for many of the refugees.

To donate to CRS, call 800-736-3467 or log on to their website at www.crs.org.

(David Siler is executive director of the archdiocesan Secretariat for Catholic Charities and Family Ministries. E-mail him at dsiler@archindy.org.) †

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011

- Ezekiel 33:7-9
- Romans 13:8-10
- Matthew 18:15-20

The Book of Ezekiel is the source of the first biblical reading for this weekend.



Ezekiel's name was apropos. It was, in effect, a prayer—"May God make [him] strong."

Ezekiel needed strength to be a prophet in a time of great tension for his people.

Seeing the misfortunes and tragedies that had come upon God's people, Ezekiel never would have asked, "Why does God let this happen?"

Rather, he would have asked, "Why do people sin and therefore bring such chaos and meanness into life?"

While accusing the nation of sin, Ezekiel also reassures the people that, despite all, God will protect them.

St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans supplies the second reading.

An educated Jew, fully versed in the teachings of Judaism, Paul knew the Commandments well. While he saw a special vocation in his outreach to gentiles, he knew that God had revealed through Hebrew agents in the past. The Ten Commandments were from God.

Paul set the Commandments in context. People should obey God because they love God. People should treat others well, according to the Commandments, because they love others.

For its last reading, the Church this weekend offers a passage from the Gospel of St. Matthew.

It is an appeal by Jesus for the disciples to admonish anyone among them who somehow is at fault.

The Lord gives a progression of steps.

First, a Christian should call a wayward brother or sister to task.

Then, if this step fails, the Christian should seek the aid of others in calling the wayward person to task.

Finally, if this step also fails, the disciple should tell the Church.

Obliquely, but still quite clearly, this reading is about the Church. The Lord speaks to a believing community and to

the Apostles.

If the wayward people will not reform, the Church should dismiss them. A pattern is given as to how this must occur. But, behind it all, are the facts of the Church, the Church's authority and its place as the repository of all that the Lord has taught and given.

Being a follower of Jesus is a serious matter. No disciple utterly can live as he or she chooses. Each person must resemble Christ, obedient always to the perfection of God's law.

God's law was revealed, a gesture of God's love for us, that we might have eternal life.

The Church has the right to judge a member's behavior, even a member's sincerity, according to this revealed law. The Church is not simply a convenient, occasional gathering in which people think and act on their desires.

Reflection

Ezekiel's name in essence was a prayer for God's strength. Ezekiel knew his limitations and also the challenges that he would face as a prophet. He needed strength from God.

For weeks, and again this weekend, we have heard advice about being good disciples. To be genuine disciples, we will need strength from God.

We also need direction. The Gospel reading reveals to us that satisfaction for this need in our lives comes in, and through, the Church.

In 1943, Pope Pius XII published a marvelous encyclical about the Church, "*Mystici Corporis*" ("The Mystical Body of Christ"). This encyclical significantly inspired the Second Vatican Council, which came not long after Pius XII's papacy.

The Church, according to "*Mystici Corporis*," was founded by God and blessed by God, but it is composed of limited, and at times sinful, human beings.

When members sin, through the Church they may be reconciled with God if they humbly choose to be. The Church speaks in the name of Jesus, conveying to us divine truth, God's law. It defines what discipleship means—"binding" and "loosing" in the process.

This guidance is not intrusive or oppressive. It is God's gift, God's support, to us. Assured that the Church guides us, we are strengthened in faith. †

Daily Readings

Monday, Sept. 5
Colossians 1:24-2:3
Psalm 62:6-7, 9
Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday, Sept. 6
Colossians 2:6-15
Psalm 145:1-2, 8-11
Luke 6:12-19

Wednesday, Sept. 7
Colossians 3:1-11
Psalm 145:2-3, 10-13
Luke 6:20-26

Thursday, Sept. 8
The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Micah 5:1-4a
or Romans 8:28-30
Psalm 13:6
Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23
or Matthew 1:18-23

Friday, Sept. 9
Peter Claver, priest
1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14
Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11
Luke 6:39-42

Saturday, Sept. 10
1 Timothy 1:15-17
Psalm 113:1-7
Luke 6:43-49

Sunday, Sept. 11
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sirach 27:30-28:9
Psalm 103:1-4, 9-12
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35

Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle

Church hopes for the salvation of people who take their own life

Recently, a friend committed suicide. He struggled with depression for years, and the depression won in the end. He had a beautiful soul, but just could not love himself as much as others loved him.



He told me in the past that he did not believe in God.

When a person has truly lost his way from the Lord and takes his own life, does that person still have a chance at redemption in the afterlife? (Cape May Court House, N.J.)

Your question is really two questions.

First, can someone who commits suicide ever get to heaven?

And second, can an atheist get there, too?

The answer to both questions is yes.

First, let us consider the suicide.

In #2280 to #2283, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* sets forth the Church's position. To begin, the catechism explains that suicide is gravely contrary to the moral law since God is the sovereign master of life and we are only stewards, not owners.

But #2283 then says explicitly: "We should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance."

In saying so, the catechism suggests that the Church's approach to those who take their life ought always to be open to the possibility that God has granted them salvation.

The Church's *Code of Canon Law* agrees, no longer specifically citing suicide as an impediment to funeral rites.

Canon #1184 notes only three cases that do present an impediment: "a notorious apostate, heretic or schismatic; those who requested cremation for motives contrary to the Christian faith; and manifest sinners to whom a Church funeral cannot be granted without causing public scandal to the faithful."

These restrictions apply only if the deceased person showed no sign of repentance before death.

The desire for self-preservation is so strong that for someone to overcome that instinct by taking his own life may well indicate severe mental or emotional disturbance that mitigated the person's subjective guilt.

We will never know what turmoil was coursing through the person's mind for him to be driven to such desperation. The moral judgment is best left to God, which is why the

Church prays for the salvation of a suicide victim and offers a Christian burial.

You said that your friend did not believe in God, but even that does not rule him out of heaven.

The Second Vatican Council's "*Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*" ("*Lumen Gentium*") says in section #16 that people are eligible for salvation who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or the Church, but who try by their lives to do God's will.

Significantly, that same section goes on to say, "Nor does Divine Providence deny the helps necessary for salvation to those who, without blame on their part, have not yet arrived at an explicit knowledge of God and with his grace strive to live a good life" (#16).

You describe your friend as having a "beautiful soul," which I take to mean that he was a person of moral probity who tried to live unselfishly and with compassion.

So I would think there's a good chance that you will meet him in heaven, and I will pray that you do!

Please shed some light on burial in Catholic cemeteries versus those cemeteries of a public nature.

I have encountered quite a few older Catholics who are fervent in their religion, but who nevertheless intend to be buried in a public cemetery "because it is prettier."

Is there any added blessing or grace for being buried in consecrated ground? (Dublin, Ohio)

Catholics are encouraged to bury their dead in Catholic cemeteries, in ground blessed and consecrated by the Church.

At the same time, there is no prohibition against burial in a public cemetery. Often, for example, Catholic veterans are buried in military cemeteries in committal services conducted by priests.

An advantage of a Catholic cemetery is that it is more than just a gravesite. The whole place speaks of our faith in the resurrection of Jesus—and ours, too.

Crosses, statues and other Christian reminders decorate Catholic cemeteries as a testimony to our core beliefs.

Being buried in such surroundings, it seems to me, leaves a legacy of faith to family members and succeeding generations who will visit those graves.

Another important aspect is that, in most Catholic cemeteries, Masses and other services are offered periodically for all who are buried there. †

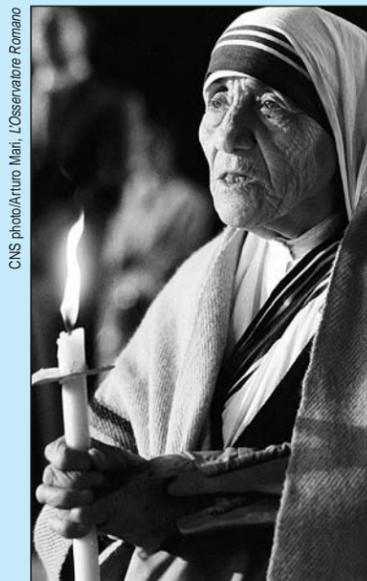
My Journey to God

Deepest Center

There is a "deepest center"
That dwells in our soul—
Where God waits for us,
Desiring to unite with us,
What mystics wrote about
And experienced.
What else is prayer
But to discover and rest
In this "deepest center" and
Touch tenderness
Taste relevance
Smell essence
Hear eloquence
See luminance,
And remove all thought, reasoning and intellect,
And solely with our senses
Absorb Presence—
To just be
In this "deepest center."

By Cathy Lamperski Dearing

(Cathy Lamperski Dearing is a member of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis. She wrote this poem after reading "*The Living Flame of Love*," a poem written by St. John of the Cross. In this Catholic News Service file photo from October 1994, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta holds a candle at a gathering for families in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican. Sept. 5 is the 14th anniversary of her death.)



CNS photo/Arturo Mari, L'Osservatore Romano

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.

CLARK, James G., 85, St. Paul, Tell City, Aug. 2. Father of Pat and Rich Clark. Stepfather of Joe Neyenhaus. Grandfather of five. Step-grandfather of two. Great-grandfather of five. Step-great-grandfather of four.

ECKSTEIN, Paul G., 44, St. Louis, Batesville, Aug. 22. Husband of Karen (Meer) Eckstein. Father of Claire, Jillian, Sylvia and Matthew Eckstein. Son of Rose Eckstein. Brother of Beth Stone and Steve Eckstein.

ERLENBAUGH, Gerald, 80, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus

(Little Flower), Indianapolis, Aug. 3. Husband of Mary (Cox) Erlenbaugh. Father of Cynthia Akens, Sharon Corman, Jan Gaddis, Beverly Short, Carl, Kenneth and Thomas Erlenbaugh. Brother of James Erlenbaugh. Grandfather of eight.

FARRELL, Daniel, 44, St. Michael, Greenfield, July 21. Husband of Karen (Shewman) Farrell. Father of Daniel Jr. and Joshua Farrell. Brother of Christine Levy, Colleen Walsh, Brian, Kevin, Mark, Patrick and Tony Farrell.

FOHL, Ruth C., 90, St. Michael, Brookville, Aug. 15. Sister of Virginia Monroe and Carolyn Pratt.

FOX, Michael, 64, St. John the Baptist, Dover, July 28. Husband of Darlene Fox. Father of Julie Evans, Lisa Powell, Dawnielle, Darren and Doug Gagne, Mike and Ralph Fox. Brother of Rene Dillard and Amy Johns. Grandfather of 14.

FUCHS, Lincoln, 81, St. John the Baptist, Dover, Aug. 14.

Husband of Janet Fuchs. Father of Janice Jordan, Jean Pennington, Joan, Jeff and Joseph Fuchs. Brother of Frank, Paul and Stanley Fuchs. Grandfather of 10. Great-grandfather of one.

FULNER, Robert Vincent, 83, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Jeffersonville, Aug. 5. Husband of Marie (Schulz) Fulner. Father of Mary Ann Arms, Jane Cromwell, Nancy Draper and Terri White. Brother of Dorothy Oerther. Grandfather of eight. Great-grandfather of one.

HARDEN, Ann, 90, St. Patrick, Terre Haute, Aug. 11.

HALE, David Lindsey, 78, SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood, Aug. 5. Husband of Evelyn Hale. Father of Debra Guidotti, Dennis Hale, Darel, David, Dennis, Doug and Duane Heyne. Brother of Tom Hale. Grandfather of 17. Great-grandfather of 13.

HENTRUP, Shirley J., 77, St. Mary, New Albany, Aug. 12. Mother of Pamela Foster, Ruth Happel, Chris Ketchem, Michael and Paul Hentrup. Sister of Barbara Crum, Charles and Donald Luther. Grandmother of 12.

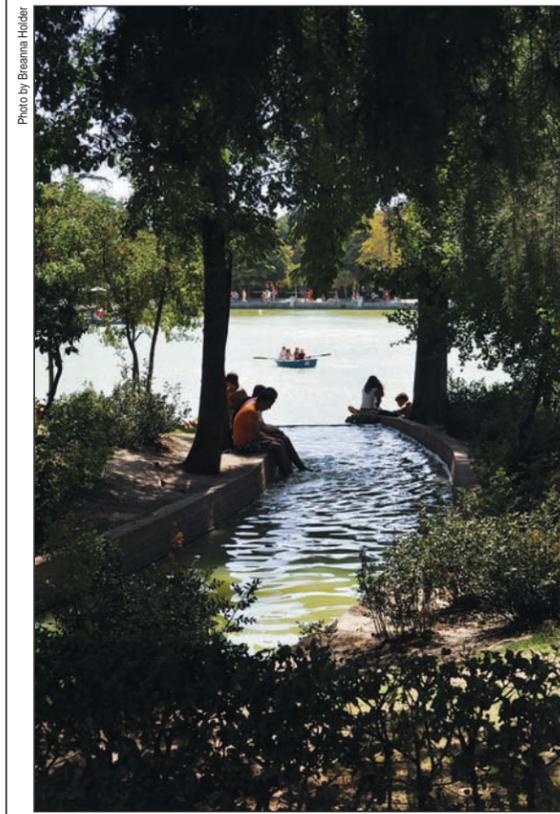
HUDKINS, Mary P., 89, St. Patrick, Salem, Aug. 7. Mother of Mary Hacker, Judith Turner and Jack Hudkins Jr. Grandmother of 25. Great-grandmother of 12.

HUGUENARD, Donald J., 87, St. Michael, Brookville, July 9. Husband of Ruth Huguenard. Father of Judy Murphy and John Huguenard. Brother of Helen Bandelier, Delores Bowers, Teresa Butt, Rita Fry, Joan Pranger, Lavon Squier, Mary Ann Summey, Judy, Regina, Bernon, Joe, John, Louis and Virgil Hugenard. Grandfather of 15.

ISOM, Derek V., 49, SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood, July 30. Father of Chelsy Wynne. Son of Jean (Eckstein) Isom. Brother of Kirk Isom. Grandfather of three.

JASTRAUB, Michael Stephen, 49, SS. Francis and Clare, Greenwood, July 29. Father of Evan Jastraub. Son of Stephen Jastraub and Barbara Shay. Brother of Terrie Hedeem and David Jastraub. Stepbrother of Andrew Shay.

KARRES, Jimmy, 29, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Aug. 5. Husband of Jessica Foxworthy. Father of Jenna, Olivia and Victoria Karres. Son of Jim Karres and Melinda McMillan. Stepson of



Reflection time

World Youth Day pilgrims relax at Parque del Retiro in Madrid on Aug. 16 during a break from catechetical sessions and other programs. Two hundred temporary open-air confessionals were constructed throughout Madrid's main park so the pilgrims could go to confession.

Bob McMillan and Cheryl Karres. Brother of Sarah and Brian McMillan, Jason Meyer, Brad, Damian and Evan Sullivan. Grandson of Sally Foster.

KEOUGH, Mary Ann, 74, St. Andrew the Apostle, Indianapolis, July 31. Mother of Delores Irvin, Mary and Paul Keough. Sister of Sarah Banks, Rita Humphries, Joella, Larry, Ron, Thomas and William Keough. Grandmother of four.

KING, Culmer, 88, Holy Trinity, Indianapolis, Aug. 5. Father of Cindy Young, Beth, Chris and Don King.

LaMAR, June Merle, 76, American Martyrs, Scottsburg, Aug. 14.

LEISNER, Joe Ed, 80, St. Paul, Tell City, Aug. 5. Husband of Mary Helen Leisner. Father of Lesa Ranger. Grandfather of two.

LUCKETT, Lydia (Rinani), 79, Holy Trinity, Indianapolis, Aug. 11. Mother of Connie Jones and Nancy Luckett. Grandmother of one. Great-grandmother of four.

LYONS, Isabelle (Mackenzie), 1, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, July 27. Daughter of Christopher Lyons and Sabrina Stroud. Sister of Gage Stroude. Granddaughter

of Rick and Karen Lyons and Mary Merrill.

McCURDY, Margaret, 86, St. Matthew the Apostle, Indianapolis, Aug. 8. Mother of Kathy June, Maribeth Marcheggianna, Frank, John and Paul McCurdy. Sister of William Bechtol. Grandmother of 14. Great-grandmother of 13.

MURPHY, Elizabeth (Halligan), 91, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Aug. 13. Mother of Daniel and Patrick Murphy. Grandmother of five. Great-grandmother of two.

NEYLON, Robert, 81, Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, Indianapolis, July 22. Husband of Patricia (Foster) Neylon. Father of Lisa Buchanan, Cheryl Davis, Danny, Jim, Kenny, Mike and Tom Neylon. Brother of Patty Dowling, Joan Overton, Kenny, Phil and Tom Neylon. Grandfather of 15. Great-grandfather of six. (correction)

PETER, Mary Lee, 93, St. Paul, Tell City, Aug. 2. Mother of Larry, Ralph and Raymond Peter. Grandmother of 11. Great-grandmother of 13.

SCHMIDT, Mary L., (Bachman), 88, St. Mary, Navilleton, Floyds Knobs,

Aug. 20. Mother of Sharon Gossman, Linda Miller, Diana Williams, Janice, Lisa, Gerald, James and John Schmidt. Sister of Herman Bachman Jr. Grandmother of 10. Great-grandmother of seven.

SCHMIDT, Rena, 86, St. Joseph, Shelbyville, Aug. 18. Mother of Valerie Jackson and J. Allen Bennett. Stepmother of Jody Jones and Richard Schmidt. Grandmother of five. Great-grandmother of eight.

VEERKAMP, Mary (Meyer), 89, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, Aug. 12. Mother of Dianna Deputy, Elaine Jerrell, Beverly Moore, Gary and Steve Veerkamp. Sister of Henry Meyer. Grandmother of seven. Great-grandmother of nine.

VENNE, Theodore E., 81, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs, Aug. 14. Husband of Mary Venne. Father of Eva Andres, Sara Edwards, Jane, Ernest, Mark and Tim Venne. Brother of Martha Ederer, Mary Hollkamp and Charles Venne. Grandfather of six. Great-grandfather of four.

WRAY, James M., 89, St. Vincent de Paul, Bedford, Aug. 17. Father of Bob, Ed, Joe and John Wray. Grandfather of six. Great-grandfather of three. †

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Msgr. Richart keeps 'running the good race' in his ministry

(Editor's note: Three archdiocesan priests are celebrating their 50-year jubilees in 2011. This week, we feature Msgr. Paul Richart.)

By Mary Ann Garber

Msgr. Paul Richart is a "people person." The pastor of St. Paul Parish in Sellersburg smiles often in the course of his daily ministries as a priest—smiles that are enhanced by the sparkle in his eyes, his frequent laughter and his delightful jokes. These days, the retired Air Force chaplain who achieved the rank of colonel is still shaking his head in amazement after Pope Benedict XVI named him a monsignor on April 11 for his distinguished service to God, the Church and the country.

On Aug. 14, Father Richart and four other priests—one posthumously—were honored as monsignors by Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, auxiliary bishop and vicar general, during an Evening Prayer liturgy at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

The ecclesiastical honor coincides with Msgr. Richart's 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood by Archbishop Paul C. Schulte on May 7, 1961, at Saint Meinrad Archabbey Church in St. Meinrad.

"You never know when lightning will strike," the 76-year-old priest said during a phone interview on Aug. 11. "That's how I feel about the monsignorship. I really had no idea anything like that would happen. That was in the furthest corner of my mind. It was quite a surprise. ... I think there are plenty of other priests who deserve it more than I do. It's an honor of the Church, and it's much appreciated. Archbishop Daniel [M. Buechlein] is very kind, and I appreciate his confidence in me."

He often looks to his patron saint for inspiration in his priestly ministry. "St. Paul said, 'I fought the good fight and I ran the good race' (2 Tim 4:7)," Msgr. Richart explained. "That's kind of what I'm trying to do—keep running the good race. ... I have not done that much. Mostly, it's been the people that I served and worked with, like down here at St. Paul's. I've got such good parishioners that they take care of the parish, they take care of me, and the staff here are the ones that really do the work. I just cover the sacramental needs."

Looking back on his five decades of ministry, Msgr. Richart said he has enjoyed his life as a priest and 29 years of military service as an Air Force chaplain.

The Seymour native, who grew up in St. Philip Neri Parish in Indianapolis, said

he hasn't thought too much about his retirement at an as yet undecided date. Instead, he simply tries to help make people's lives better and bring them closer to God.

"Every day you wake up," he said, "you hope that the devil says, 'Oh God, he's still alive! Watch out!'"

His Christ-centered life as a Catholic priest has taken him all over the world in his military assignment as an Air Force chaplain.

"That wasn't my plan," Msgr. Richart said. "It was God's plan."

He will never forget the day that Archbishop Schulte summoned him to the chancery in 1967—during the Vietnam War—when he was serving as assistant pastor of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis.

"Father John Wright and I were there, and Archbishop Schulte called us in and said he felt that we might be good military chaplains," Msgr. Richart recalled. "In those days, it was called the Military Ordinariate, and it was under [the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese of] New York. He asked us to step out in the hall to think about it a little bit then come back in and tell him which branch of the service we would like to go in. When we stepped out in the hall, John said he would like to go in the Navy. ... So I picked the Air Force."

His first assignments took him to Air Force bases in Washington state and Greenland.

Next, he served at the Air Force Academy's Community Center, the parish at the academy, in Colorado Springs, Colo., where he also traveled with the football team as the Falcons' chaplain.

Following an assignment in Hawaii, where he also helped refugees from South Vietnam, he completed a master's degree in religious education at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

That master's degree helped prepare him for service on the Chaplains Resource Board in Alabama, which published religious education materials for enlisted men and women in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Later, as a command chaplain, he ministered to chaplains at Air Force bases across the U.S. as well as in Europe, Iraq and Somalia.

During those years, he logged countless air miles flying around the globe.

"I enjoyed serving in the military," Msgr. Richart said, with people who focus on their love for God, country and family.

His special mementos include an



Msgr. Paul Richart, right, pastor of St. Paul Parish in Sellersburg, greets Joyce Gambrell, a member of the New Albany Deanery faith community, during an Aug. 14 reception at the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center Assembly Hall in Indianapolis after he was honored as a monsignor by Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, auxiliary bishop and vicar general, during an Evening Prayer liturgy at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral. Msgr. Richart served as an Air Force chaplain for 29 years and achieved the rank of colonel.

autographed racing helmet from Indianapolis Motor Speedway drivers from his time at St. Christopher Parish, a signed football from the Air Force Falcons, an ice axe used to cross glaciers in Greenland and folk art from the Philippines.

He is glad that he has given his life in service to God and God's people, which he said has truly been an adventure.

"Every day that I celebrate the Eucharist is an honor and a privilege," Msgr. Richart said. "That is the center—being able to be the instrument of that. When you say, 'This is my body' and 'This is my blood,' and something so miraculous happens. Everything else circles around that in the parish, and with

the people I have served both in the military and the archdiocese. It's all been focused around the Eucharist."

Since he was named pastor of the New Albany Deanery parish in 1996, Msgr. Richart has enjoyed fishing with two priest friends—Father John Geis and Father William Ernst—as well as several St. Paul parishioners.

"Some of the men in the parish and I have a seniors' fish fry in the first part of July so we had to hustle a little bit this spring," he said. "We were out fishing quite a bit in the ponds and lakes around here."

As for the future, he said, "I want to live the rest of my life as close to God as I can." †



Msgr. Paul Richart

- **Age:** 76
- **Parents:** Aloysius and Clara (Schneider) Richart
- **Parish where he grew up:** St. Philip Neri Parish in Indianapolis
- **Seminary:** 12 years at Saint Meinrad Seminary in St. Meinrad
- **Hobbies:** Fishing, gardening and watching horse races
- **Favorite author:** St. Paul the Apostle
- **Favorite Bible verse:** "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Tm 4:7).

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Youth volunteer effort assists Brown County residents

Special to *The Criterion*

BROWN COUNTY—At the beginning of August, a group of nine teenagers from St. Agnes Parish in Nashville, and 11 teenagers from St. Ann, St. Benedict and Sacred Heart of Jesus parishes in Terre Haute came together with 16 youth ministry leaders to help people in need in Brown County.

Indiana Nazareth Farm is an annual service camp sponsored by St. Agnes Parish and the three Terre Haute parishes. It is based on four cornerstones—community, prayer, simplicity and service.

Each teenager and adult leader provided more than 28 hours of intensive hard labor in just three and a half days, equaling 1,008 hours of volunteer service. Team leaders were youth ministry coordinator Adrienne Spahr from St. Agnes Parish and Janet Roth, the youth ministry leader at the three Terre Haute parishes.

This year, the youths and their leaders reached out to the Brown County community, and provided their spiritual and physical strength to make the lives of some Brown County residents easier.

In one case, a huge roof was built along the side of a trailer to provide a shady place for the family who lives there, especially for one member who uses a wheelchair, so he can sit outside under shelter. The roof took three days to construct, and significantly increases the space

used by the family.

Another project involved building steps into a greenhouse attached to the home of an elderly couple. The greenhouse is an important part of their home because they use it to grow vegetables and flowers.

In addition, the volunteers stained a large deck attached to the house to preserve the surface.

Other projects included laying railroad ties to create a water runoff system, mowing, washing windows, cleaning gutters, moving dirt and weeding yards.

Although the volunteers spent many hours working, the youths and adult leaders set aside time for prayer and reflection every morning and evening as a group.

The original Nazareth Farm was formed as an association of the Catholic Church, and is located in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston in West Virginia. Its purpose is to organize volunteer service to help the people of Appalachia.

In 1994, the program was started in Brown County by youth leaders in Nashville and Terre Haute.

As in years past, the youths came away from the experience exhausted but energized, and looking forward to participating again.

Brown County residents who need assistance are encouraged to keep this outreach in mind when they have repairs that can wait until next summer.

The project is held annually at the beginning of August. †



Above, teenagers and youth ministry leaders from St. Agnes Parish in Nashville, and St. Ann, St. Benedict and Sacred Heart of Jesus parishes in Terre Haute spent three days in early August assisting people in need in Brown County.



Right, volunteers work on a Brown County home during Indiana Nazareth Farm, an annual service camp sponsored by St. Agnes Parish in Nashville, and St. Ann, St. Benedict and Sacred Heart of Jesus parishes in Terre Haute.



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