During trip to Indianapolis, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem speaks of hope for the Holy Land

By Sean Gallagher

Three weeks ago, Patriarch Fouad Twal of Jerusalem was in Lebanon during the historic visit by Pope Benedict XVI and thousands of Catholics who gathered there from across the Middle East.

The visit took place in a region embroiled in violence—from a civil war raging in nearby Syria to violent protests in front of American embassies in several Middle Eastern countries.

This past weekend, though, Patriarch Twal, who oversees the Latin Rite Church in Cyprus, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian territories, had a very different kind of meeting in a setting that greatly contrasted from Lebanon.

He was in Indianapolis from Sept. 27-30 to meet with hundreds of members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre from across the Middle East, how can I encourage my

Q. Was it encouraging that the pope decided to come to Lebanon in spite of the violence that was so close?

A. “They [people in the pope’s entourage] called me from Rome three weeks ago, asking me what I thought about whether or not the pope should come.

“I said that it was a must. He must come. If the papal delegation was afraid to spend two or three days with us in the Middle East, how can I encourage my faithful not to leave? So his presence was an example of courage and faith.

“But the pope himself personally never put in question his coming or not coming.”

Q. Please speak about your experience of seeing the difficult living conditions there.

Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl says the Year of Faith is a time for Catholics to deepen and share faith with others

WASHINGTON (CNS)—As the Catholic Church prepares to celebrate the Year of Faith and bishops from around the world gather in Rome for a synod dedicated to the new evangelization, Washington Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl called on Catholics to deepen their faith and to share it with others.

“All around us are people who should truly be with us as Mass, who should be with us at church, who should be with us in the parish,” Cardinal Wuerl said on Sept. 30 in an address at the John Carroll Society’s annual brunch following the Red Mass.

The cardinal addressed the group of Catholic professionals and business men and women on the eve of his departure for Rome, where he will attend and serve as “relator,” or general secretary, for the Oct. 7-28 Synod for the New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Christian Faith.

He said the synod—which will draw about 1,000 years, is today made up of clergy and lay Catholic men and women from around the world who show special care for the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

In an interview with The Criterion, Patriarch Twal reflected on both of these trips and his hopes for the future of the Church in the Holy Land despite the many challenges that it faces in the 21st century.

The following is an edited version of that interview.

Q. What is it like to see so many Catholics from so many countries gathered together to worship with the Holy Father?

A. “We were in Lebanon. But really, our thoughts and our prayers were for Syria.

“We already have hundreds of thousands of refugees in Lebanon and in Jordan. We said to the pope, ‘You cannot not mention the atmosphere in Syria.’ That’s why there was an appeal to the politicians to do their best to stop this war.”

Q. Was it encouraging that the pope decided to come to Lebanon in spite of the violence that was so close?

A. “They [people in the pope’s entourage] called me from Rome three weeks ago, asking me what I thought about whether or not the pope should come.

“I said that it was a must. He must come. If the papal delegation was afraid to spend two or three days with us in the Middle East, how can I encourage my faithful not to leave? So his presence was an example of courage and faith.

“But the pope himself personally never put in question his coming or not coming.”

Q. Please speak about your experience of seeing the difficult living conditions there.

Cardinal Wuerl said the Year of Faith is a time for Catholics to deepen and share faith with others
SYNOD

been able to avoid the downside of what has happened in Europe, but for how much longer is a continual question. This synod may be the best opportunity to answer that." Sister Sara Buter, a professor of theology at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Ill., who will serve as a synod expert, said a common American understanding of "tolerance" views "any attempt to share the faith ... as a kind of 'imperialism,'" and the U.S. media celebrate an idea of freedom derived from freedom of any kind.

This leaves many Catholics "shy about revealing their faith, much less sharing it with others," said Sister Sara, a member of the Missionaries of Charity. "They have been able to avoid the downside of what has happened in Europe, but they have never soft-pedal the truth," she said in her maxim that the Church must "graciously" resolve that tension "in a way that harmonizes the universal moral truths" that they may reject. "Love would require that we ... be merciful and conciliatory" toward those who refuse to understand the faith.

The Holy Father announced the Year of Faith begins on Oct. 11 and coincides with the 50th anniversary of the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. "It’s also a natural environment for the start of this yearlong observance, we invite readers to share what they have nurtured your faith over the years. Or the experiences that have touched your life at an important time? Is it the sacraments and the way they have touched your life at an important time? Is it the feeling of community you get at your parish? Is it the blessings of a Catholic education? Or maybe it’s the priests and religious who have nurtured your faith over the years. Or the opportunity to serve others. Or the experiences and faith lessons from participating in the Catholic Youth Organization. Or ... submit your thoughts and stories concerning "what you love about being Catholic" to assistant editor John Shaughnessy by phone or by email in care of The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. Please include a daytime phone number where you can be reached.

Mgr. Peter Vaghi, pastor of the Little Flower Parish in Bethesda, Md., and chaplain to the John Carroll Society, also addressed the brunch. He said that the "two firm anchors" to making the Year of Faith a success are to understand the teachings of the Second Vatican Council and to read the Catechism of the Catholic Church. "Accept and embrace the truth as a way of putting on the whole armor of God," he said.

The start of this yearlong celebration marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council which he first proposed in 2008 and which the Vatican approved for use in the U.S. earlier this year. "The blessing is a first evangelization of the child and a re-evangelization or new evangelization of the family," Archbishop Kurtz said. "It’s also a positive and hopeful-ly way to announce to society our wonderful teaching on the great gift of human life."

As a sacred celebration that emphasizes a widely contested ethical teaching, the blessing reflects the "creative tension" that another synod father, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, has said is inherent in the new evangelization, which seeks to "embracing understanding [and] conciliatory" toward disadvantaged Catholics without compromising on "certain clear moral truths" that they may reject. As the cardinal told CNS late last year, Blessed John Paul II offered a "graceful" resolution of that tension in his maxim that the Church should "preach the truth, always with love."

"Love would require that we never soft-pedal the truth," Cardinal Dolan said. "Truth would require that we never forget compassion and patience."

Official Appointments

In Bloomington, to pastor of St. Paul Catholic Center in Bloomington.


Rev. Kevin J. Morris, administrator of the Richmond Catholic Community parishes of Holy Family, St. Andrew and St. Mary, and chaplain of Seton Catholic High School in Richmond, to pastor of the Richmond Catholic Community parishes of Holy Family, St. Andrew and St. Mary, and chaplain of Seton Catholic High School in Richmond.

Rev. Glenn L. O’Connor, administrator of St. Susanna Parish in Plainfield, to pastor of St. Susanna Parish in Plainfield.

Rev. Todd M. Riebe, administrator of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis, to pastor of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis.

These appointments are from the office of the Most Rev. Charles J. Coyne, S.D.S., apostolic administrator of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

The Criterion (ISSN 0574-4350) is published weekly except the two weeks before Thanksgiving and the two weeks before Christmas, by Criterion Press Inc., 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. Copyright © 2012 Criterion Press Inc. ISSN 0574-4350.

Moving? We’ll be there waiting if you give us two weeks’ advance notice!

Name: _____________________________
New Address: _____________________________
City: _____________________________
State: _____________________________
Zip: _____________________________
Phone: _____________________________
Note: If you are receiving duplicate copies please send both labels.

The Criterion • 1400 N. Meridian St. • Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

Phone: 317-236-1570
Advertising: 317-236-1544
Toll free: 1-800-382-9836, ext. 1570
Circulation: 317-236-1425
Toll free: 1-800-382-9836, ext. 1425
Price: $22.00 per year, 75 cents per copy
Send changes to: The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367
Web site: www.CriterionOnline.com
E-mail: criterion@archindy.org

Published weekly except the last week of December and the first week of January. Mailing address: 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367. Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN. Copyright © 2012 Criterion Press Inc. ISSN 0574-4350.

Last year, Pope Benedict XVI announced a special Year of Faith to begin on Oct. 11, 2012, and conclude on Nov. 24, 2013. The Year of Faith begins on Oct. 11 and coincides with the 50th anniversary of the promulgation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. The Holy Father announced the Year of Faith to help Catholics appreciate the gift of faith, deepen their relationship with God and renew their commitment to sharing their faith with others. As our Church begins this special observance, we invite readers to share what they love about being Catholic.

Is it the way the faith has helped you move closer to God? Is it the sacraments and the way they have touched your life at an important time? Is it the feeling of community you get at your parish? Is it the blessings of a Catholic school education? Or maybe it’s the priests and religious who have nurtured your faith over the years. Or the opportunity to serve others. Or the experiences and faith lessons from participating in the Catholic Youth Organization. Or … submit your thoughts and stories concerning “what you love about being Catholic” to assistant editor John Shaughnessy by phone or by email in care of The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. Please include a daytime phone number where you can be reached.

Mgr. Peter Vaghi, pastor of the Little Flower Parish in Bethesda, Md., and chaplain to the John Carroll Society, also addressed the brunch. He said that the “two firm anchors” to making the Year of Faith a success are to understand the teachings of the Second Vatican Council and to read the Catechism of the Catholic Church. "Accept and embrace the truth as a way of putting on the whole armor of God," he said.

The start of this yearlong celebration marks the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council which he first proposed in 2008 and which the Vatican approved for use in the U.S. earlier this year. "The blessing is a first evangelization of the child and a re-evangelization or new evangelization of the family," Archbishop Kurtz said. "It’s also a positive and hopeful-ly way to announce to society our wonderful teaching on the great gift of human life."

As a sacred celebration that emphasizes a widely contested ethical teaching, the blessing reflects the "creative tension" that another synod father, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, has said is inherent in the new evangelization, which seeks to "embracing understanding [and] conciliatory" toward disadvantaged Catholics without compromising on "certain clear moral truths" that they may reject. As the cardinal told CNS late last year, Blessed John Paul II offered a "graceful" resolution of that tension in his maxim that the Church should "preach the truth, always with love."

"Love would require that we never soft-pedal the truth," Cardinal Dolan said. "Truth would require that we never forget compassion and patience."
Archdiocese honors pro-life supporters for their service

By Mary Ann Garber

Our Lady of Perpetual Help parishioner Sandra Bierly of New Albany and St. Michael parishioner Patrick Stutz of Greenfield will receive distinguished pro-life volunteer service awards from the archdiocese on Respect Life Sunday.

They will be honored at the conclusion of the archdiocesan Respect Life Mass on Oct. 7 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis.

Father Stephen Giannini, vicar general and archdiocesan vicar for clergy and parish life coordinators, is the principal celebrant for the pro-life Mass, which begins at 1 p.m. He will represent Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator, during the liturgy and awards ceremony.

After the Mass, Catholics will participate in the ecumenical Central Indiana Life Chain prayer vigil from 2:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. along North Meridian Street in Indianapolis.

Both Respect Life Award recipients have participated in a number of pro-life projects in recent years.

‘Pro-life to the core’

Bierly will receive the 2012 Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Respect for Life Award for outstanding service to the cause of life.

“Sandra Bierly is pro-life to the core,” Our Lady of Perpetual Help staff members Katelyn Walker and Laurie Slusser of New Albany explained in their nomination letter.

“She, her words, actions and prayers all point to a final goal of greater respect for all human life from conception to natural death,” Walker and Slusser wrote. “… Sandy is constantly thinking of ways to open people’s minds and hearts to the value of life at our parish. Through her efforts, our parish now has a petition that prays for greater respect for life at every weekend Mass.”

Walker, director of music, and Slusser, parish secretary, noted that Bierly has headed “an ever-growing pro-life committee for over five years.”

Bierly also coordinates a media advertising campaign to promote respect for life, student pro-life essay project, Mother’s Day rose sale and baby bottle fundraiser in the New Albany Deanery parish to benefit pro-life organizations.

Each Monday, Bierly helps present an hour of eucharistic adoration and “Rosary for Life” at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. She also devotes many hours to peaceful prayers outside an abortion facility without time off for food or rest.

Last year, Bierly made nearly 500 rosaries to promote the parish’s weekly “Rosary for Life” effort among school families. To facilitate that devotion, she helped the pro-life committee organize a “Meet Me at the Benches” time for parents to gather outside the school on weekday afternoons and pray the rosary before picking up their children.

She also promotes the Life Chain and Respect Life Sunday Mass each year by encouraging parishioners to travel from southern Indiana to Indianapolis for the archdiocesan pro-life observance.

This year, a large group of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parishioners will be at the cathedral to pray for the cause of life and applauded as Bierly accepts her award.

She also participates in the National March for Life in Washington, and volunteers as a pro-life counselor at Choices for Women and the Pregnancy Resource Center in southern Indiana.

Bierly also makes time to help with Right to Life of Southern Indiana projects as well as visit sick and homebound Catholics to bring the Eucharist to them as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion.

She and her husband, Rich, are the parents of three grown children. They have eight grandchildren.

When she learned of her award, Bierly offered her thanks to Bishop Paul D. Etienne, the former pastor and now bishop of the Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyo., who asked her to serve as extraordinary minister of holy Communion.

“… Sandra is constantly thinking of ways to open people’s minds and hearts to the value of life at our parish. Through her efforts, our parish now has a petition that prays for greater respect for life at every weekend Mass.”

Walker, director of music, and Slusser, parish secretary, noted that Bierly has headed “an ever-growing pro-life committee for over five years.”

Bierly also coordinates a media advertising campaign to promote respect for life, student pro-life essay project, Mother’s Day rose sale and baby bottle fundraiser in the New Albany Deanery parish to benefit pro-life organizations.

Each Monday, Bierly helps present an hour of eucharistic adoration and “Rosary for Life” at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. She also devotes many hours to peaceful prayers outside an abortion facility without time off for food or rest.

Last year, Bierly made nearly 500 rosaries to promote the parish’s weekly “Rosary for Life” effort among school families. To facilitate that devotion, she helped the pro-life committee organize a “Meet Me at the Benches” time for parents to gather outside the school on weekday afternoons and pray the rosary before picking up their children.

She also promotes the Life Chain and Respect Life Sunday Mass each year by encouraging parishioners to travel from southern Indiana to Indianapolis for the archdiocesan pro-life observance.

This year, a large group of Our Lady of Perpetual Help parishioners will be at the cathedral to pray for the cause of life and applauded as Bierly accepts her award.

She also participates in the National March for Life in Washington, and volunteers as a pro-life counselor at Choices for Women and the Pregnancy Resource Center in southern Indiana.

Bierly also makes time to help with Right to Life of Southern Indiana projects as well as visit sick and homebound Catholics to bring the Eucharist to them as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion.

She and her husband, Rich, are the parents of three grown children. They have eight grandchildren.

When she learned of her award, Bierly offered her thanks to Bishop Paul D. Etienne, the former pastor and now bishop of the Diocese of Cheyenne, Wyo., who asked her to serve as parish pro-life coordinator in 2006.

“As I look back at the last six years, I see how I have grown as a person and how we have grown as a parish in our awareness of the sacredness of all life and the reality of abortion,” Bierly said. “I am so grateful for our pro-life team, our parishioners and the support of our pastor, Father Eric Augenstein. Without their help, we would not have the vivacious and perseverant, life-promoting parish that we now have.”

‘Truly an advocate for pro-life’

Patrick Stutz, a senior at Greenfield Central High School, will receive the 2012 Our Lady of Guadalupe Pro-Life Youth Award for his exemplary efforts to promote respect for life as a teenager.

He is the son of St. Michael parishioners John and Michelle Stutz of Greenfield, and has four siblings.

Paula Richey, coordinator of youth and family ministries at St. Michael Parish, said Patrick is “passionate about the dignity and sanctity of human life. … very strong in his beliefs [and] truly an advocate for pro-life” who leads other youths by his dedication to service.

Two years ago, he participated in a summer mission trip with the Indianapolis East Deanery parish’s youth group to help impoverished people displaced by floodin Nashville, Tenn.

Patrick and three friends recently organized a concert to raise funds for a local soup kitchen that serves the poor. He keeps busy as a student-athlete, four-year member of the swim team, All-State Honor Choir member and cantor for Masses, Richey said, but always finds time to participate in pro-life projects, including praying outside abortion facilities with his father to try to save lives and souls.

Patrick enjoys studying science, and said the reality that life begins at conception is “a proven scientific fact.”

The Catholic Church teaches the truth about the sanctity and dignity of life from conception to natural death, he said. “I firmly believe that [unborn babies] should be respected as human life just as we respect each other as humans. … We need to stand up for those who don’t have a voice.”
Be Our Guest \textit{Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo}

‘Human life in all its grandeur and beauty’

This October, the Catholic Church throughout the United States will observe Respect Life Month. The annual celebration, which has grown in its influence over the past 41 years, will be kicked off Oct. 7, when Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities for the United States, will open the nationwide Respect Life observance at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

For years, he was in hiding because of a 1989 judgment, or 

tort, by Ayatollah Khomenei, the spiritual leader of Iran at the time, that Rushdie should die because he judged his novel to be blasphemous.

Rushdie made the statement above in an interview with Steve Inskeep on Public Radio. He also said that ‘something’s wrong inside the Muslim world’ that permits extremists to riot and kill whenever they think that the prophet Mohammed has been defamed.

Muslim extremists have rioted throughout the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.

The most serious incident was the killing of the U.S. ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens, who had been a great friend of the Libyan people, and three colleagues. That riot might or might not have had anything to do with the film. The violence spread to Egypt, with the Christian West makes them fear that the film’s association with a great friend of the Libyan people, and Muslim extremists have rioted in the Middle East because of a film produced by someone in the United States that portrayed Mohammed as a sex-crazed simpleton.
Seventh annual Catholic men's conference set for Oct. 20

By Sean Gallagher

Hundreds of Catholic men from across the state will gather on Oct. 20 at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis for the seventh annual Indiana Catholic Men’s Conference.

This year’s conference will feature several speakers, including George Weigel, distinguished senior fellow at the Washington-based Ethics and Public Policy Center and a biographer of Blessed John Paul II.

Father Michael Lightner, a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, will also be a speaker at the conference. Before discerning a call to the priesthood, Father Lightner was a National Football League prospect as a standout offensive lineman at Eastern Michigan.

A Marian pilgrimage that he went on, however, changed his life forever.

Mark Houck, co-founder and president of The King’s Men, an organization dedicated to helping Catholic men grow deeper in their faith, will also speak at the conference.

Gus Lloyd, host of “Seize the Day” on SiriusXM satellite radio, is another conference speaker.

Although raised in the Catholic faith, Lloyd left the Church for a time. He and his family later returned after one of his daughters almost drowned.

“Mike Fox, a member of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis, has been a conference organizer since its inception. Although he has participated in six conferences, he knows from experience that he will learn something new and be strengthened in his faith with each new gathering,” Lloyd said.

“I have said from the beginning that the conference is Holy Spirit driven, and we are not in charge,” Fox said. “We seem to always have the right speakers for the time and year even though we often wanted to bring in a different speaker. After the talks, we often say, ‘Wow, now we know why that speaker was to be in Indianapolis to give a talk.’”

Fox said he thinks this year’s conference can be especially helpful for Catholic men to respond to the growing challenge to the Church and religious freedom in society and governments at various levels.

“We are seeing a very big challenge to our Church all over the world and, of course, in our country—the Church and its charities as well as schools are under direct attack by the IRS [Department of Health and Human Services] mandate, the demeaning of the institution of marriage and, of course, the taking of innocent of human life,” Fox said. “Many good Catholics do not know why the Catholic Church stands firm with many issues. It is all of our responsibility to learn why. I am sure that some of this will be addressed in some of the talks at the conference.”

The 2012 Indiana Catholic Men’s Conference will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:30 p.m. In addition to the speakers, the conference will also include Mass, eucharistic adoration and the opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation.

True marriage is ‘part of natural law,’ archbishop says in pastoral letter

NEWARK, N.J. (CNS)—Marriage is “not created by law or the state” because it “is a natural and pre-political institution,” Archbishop John J. Myers of Newark said in a pastoral reflection issued on Sept. 25.

“Governments rightly recognize it in law, and protect and support it for the sake of the common good,” but “the truth of marriage is - part of the natural law,” Archbishop Myers said in his reflection.

Titled “When Two Become One,” the document discusses the definition, meaning and sanctity of marriage as a union of man and woman.

A news release said the reflection, which “is consistent with the teaching and tradition of the Catholic Church,” was aimed at helping “the faithful of the archdiocese form their consciences, discern their vocations and, for the married, fulfill their vows.”

He also addressed the push for legalization of same-sex marriage and spoke out against the use of contraception in marriage.

“Many young people today have not experienced permanence and faithfulness in the familial relationships around them,” Archbishop Myers wrote. “This impedes their appreciation of the truth about marriage, and makes it difficult for them to make serious and permanent commitments which overcome self-regard in favor of the good of the others and the common good.”

The pastoral reflection was published in the Sept. 26 issue of The Catholic Advocate, the archdiocesan newspaper.

The archbishop said that although “sexual difference and complementarity” have always been part of God’s plan for marriage, “the current state of marriage in our Church and in our society often acts as a countersign.”

Responding to claims that equality and justice demand the recognition of same-sex marriages, he said, “This argument might be stronger if the Church’s opposition were based solely on religious beliefs, and same-sex relationships were equivalent to conjugal partnerships that have historically been denoted by the word ‘marriage.’ Neither is true.”

(To read Archbishop Myers’ entire pastoral, log on to www.rcan.org/archbishop/jjm_letters/wtbo.pdf.)

BREBEUF

“The Flying Toasters”

Come visit us at one of our Open Houses!

Sunday, October 14

Monday, October 15

Tuesday, November 13

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

BREBEUF JESUIT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

3001 West 56th Street • Indianapolis, IN 46226 • www.brebeuf.org • 317-574-7900

For men who register before Oct. 8, the cost of the conference will be $45 per person or $80 per person for groups of 10 or more. The registration fee increases to $50 on Oct. 9.

Student registration is $25 per person. Seminarians and priests can attend the conference free of charge.

Lunch is guaranteed for all who register before the day of the event.

(For more information about the 2012 Indiana Catholic Men’s Conference or to register, log on to www.indianacatholicmen.com or call 317-924-3982 or 317-888-0873.)†
October 5
Marrian University, chapel, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Lumen Del meeting, Mass. 6:30 a.m., breakfast following Mass. Information: themennon99@gmail.com

October 6
Most Holy Spirit Parish, 89 N. 17th St., Beech Grove. “Day of Reflection: Ignation Spirituality – The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola.” Father Marshall and Mary Schaffner, presenters, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. $38 per person. Information: 317-545-7681 or marcia.johnston@archindy.org

October 7
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5553 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Working Hands and Heeding Hearts – A Prayer Shawl Ministry,” Beth Hirtz, presenter, 2:40-5 p.m. $35 per person. Information: 317-545-7681 or cncw@archindy.org

October 8
Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. “Coffee Talk–The Man Born Blind,” Francescan Sister Chelsea Gelpi, presenter, 7:30-8:30 p.m., free-will offering. Information: 812-933-6437 or frbroderex@archindy.org

October 9
Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. “Men’s Night,” Franciscan Father Carl Hawver, presenter, 7:30-8:30 p.m., free-will offering. Information: 812-933-6437 or frbroderex@archindy.org

October 9
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5553 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Day of Reflection,” Father Michael McKinsey, presenter, $38 per person includes continental breakfast and lunch. Information: 317-545-7681 or cncw@archindy.org

October 10
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5553 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Come Away and Rest Archdi–Silent Non-Guided Day of Reflection,” Margaret J. Nolan, presenter, 4:30 p.m., dinner, entertainment, games, 5:30-8:00 p.m. Information: 317-546-1571.

October 11
St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, 4052 S. 38th St., Indianapolis. “St. Andrew Fest,” homilization, Mass, 4:30 p.m., dinner, entertainment, games. Information: 317-546-1571.

October 11
Marian University, theatre, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Pax Christi Indianapolis and Center for Interfaith Cooperation, public discussion, “Moral Implications of Public Budgets.” Most Graceful Sister Mary Wendelin, presenter, panel discussion following presentation, 7:30-8:30 p.m. no charge. Information: 317-570-1344 or oldenburgfranciscancenter.org

October 12
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5553 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. “Away and Rest Archdi–Silent Non-Guided Day of Reflection,” Margaret J. Nolan, presenter, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., $35 per person includes continental breakfast and lunch. Information: 317-545-7681 or cncw@archindy.org

October 14
Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. “Catholic Identity and Prayer of the Holy Spirit,” session three of four, Benedictine Sister Sharon Bierman, presenter, 6:30-9 p.m., $35 per person includes dinner. Information: 317-778-7851 or programming@oldenburgfranciscancenter.org

October 17
Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. “Contemplative Prayer,” Franciscan Sister Mary Jo Thomas Day, presenter, $35 per person, reservations required. Information: 317-545-7681 or cncw@archindy.org

October 17
St. John Academy Alumnae Reunion will take place on Oct. 14 at St. John the Evangelist Church, 126 W. Georgia St., in Indianapolis. The reunion will begin with Mass at 11 a.m. and continue with a brunch at the Indiana Convention Center across the street from the parish church. Particular recognition will be given to the classes of 1942, 1947, 1952 and 1957 as well as all the early classes up to 1941. Friends of the academy, including clergy, former students and spouses, are invited to attend the Mass and brunch. St. John Academy was opened in 1859 adjacent to St. John the Evangelist Church, and was closed in 1959.

For more information, call Mary Jane (Maxwell) Biro at 317-780-7087.

November 4

November 5
The archdiocesan Finance Office and Office of Stewardship and Development have consolidated and streamlined the process for awarding grants to the parishes, schools and agencies of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Through the generosity of the parishioners of the archdiocese, there are now three endowment funds that support an annual or twice-yearly grant-awarding process. Applications are now available for the grants.

The three endowment funds are:
• Home Mission Endowment Fund, which is used to support parishes and schools that qualify as home missions;
• Growth and Expansion Endowment Fund, which is used to support growth and expansion initiatives throughout the archdiocese in parishes, schools and agencies; and
• James P. Scott Endowment Fund, made possible by a generous gift from James P. Scott, which will be used to support programs in the archdiocese.

Grant applications for the fall review process are due on Oct. 31.

For more information or to download the grant application form, log on to www.archindy.org/charities

Send questions to Stacy Harris at sharris@archindy.org
### 2012 HOME FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 22</td>
<td>Grand View University</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Homecoming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13</td>
<td>University of Saint Francis in Indiana</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Youth Football, Catholic Schools, and Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana Appreciation Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Concordia University</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Business/Community Leaders, Band Day, and Taste of Fall in Indy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>Menlo College</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Hometown Hero Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Home games are played at St.Vincent Health Field.
- All game times are eastern daylight time.

Find more game dates at [www.marian.edu/athletics](http://www.marian.edu/athletics).

Come enjoy a championship-level college game day!
- $7 adults, $2 children 12 and under

Purchase tickets on campus at the Marian University Business Office or Police Department, or go online to [www.marian.edu/tickets](http://www.marian.edu/tickets).

### GO KNIGHTS!

www.marian.edu

Marian University is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana.
History is alive at 175-year-old St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish

By Sean Gallagher

On Oct. 22, 1840, Mother Theodore Guérin and five other members of the Sisters of Providence arrived in the wilderness of west central Indiana to begin their ministry of education and missionary work among the Catholics along the edge of the American frontier.

The first thing that these women religious did after their long and arduous journey from France was to pray before the Blessed Sacrament in a nearby pouch.

They visited St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish, which had been founded three years earlier by Father Louis Buteux. Scott Thralls, a member of St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish in St. Mary-of-the-Woods, stands next to the tombstone of Joseph Thralls, his great-great-great-grandfather, on the original grounds of the parish, which moved down the hill from the sisters in 1867.

There have also been members of the Thralls family in the parish from its beginning to the current day. Scott Thralls is the sixth generation of his family to be a member of St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish. His great-great-great-grandfather, Joseph Thralls, donated the land for the original parish and helped build its first church.

He also welcomed Mother Theodore and her sisters into his family’s home upon their arrival in western Indiana. Scott Thralls naturally feels pride in his family’s heritage at his parish. But that pride almost turns to awe when he considers how many other parishes in nearby Terre Haute and throughout west central Indiana ultimately grew from it.

“It’s just amazing to think that that happened in a small place like this—outside of the big city, across the woods and the river,” he said. “It’s amazing to think that the Catholic Church (in west central Indiana) all started around here. It’s mind boggling.”

Thralls’ pride about his family’s past also leads him to work toward securing the parish’s future.

“It makes me feel like it’s my duty to keep it up, to make sure the parish keeps going on,” Thralls said. “There’s quite a bit of pride and a little bit of feeling of duty in it.”

In particular, he wants the seventh generation of his family in the parish, and the children and teenagers of fellow parishioners to find life for their faith there like he and his ancestors have over the years.

“We strongly support the kids and all of the children’s activities through the years,” said Thralls, 49, the father of three sons. “We feel strong about making the kids feel welcome at church and know that’s their home. That’s where they belong.”

A story shared by Bob Warn, a St. Mary-of-the-Woods parishioner, shows that at least some of the efforts to reach out to children and youths are working.

Warn and his family became parishioners in 1975 when he was hired as the head baseball coach at Indiana State University in Terre Haute.

After the team made it to the College World Series in 1986, he had the chance to move on to bigger, more prestigious schools.

“But I said ‘No,’” said Warn, who retired from Indiana State in 2006. “And one of the reasons was that our kids didn’t want to leave our parish.”

Warn has helped to organize several events in the parish to mark its historic anniversary. They included a special anniversary Mass and banquet on June 30.

On May 6, various parishioners dressed in costumes as early members of the parish and stood by those members’ graves. As other parishioners walked through the parish’s cemetery, the people in costume told stories about the faith community’s early days.

On Oct. 6, the parish is sponsoring a 5-mile fun run and walk on the grounds of the Sisters of Providence motherhouse to benefit the congregation’s Providence Pantry, a food pantry on the property of the former St. Leonard of Port Maurice Parish in nearby West Terre Haute.

“It’s been a thrill,” said Warn of the anniversary events. “It gives us momentum to get even more people involved. We’re trying to show the way and get them to realize how much fun it is to do things side-by-side. It’s been a major accomplishment so far to show people what we can do as a parish.”

One of the most significant events connected to the 175-year history of the parish was the 2006 canonization of Mother Theodore as Indiana’s first saint.

“It had a tremendous impact on the parishioners,” said Providence Sister Joan Slobig, parish life coordinator of St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish. “It’s like she’s one of our own. She walked these grounds. So be to able to experience that recognition of her—someone that they feel that they know—was quite a profound experience.”

What also deepened this historic event was the close ties that parishioners have had with the sisters over several generations.

“When the years, many of the families who are still active members worked for the Sisters of Providence,” Sister Joan said. “You hear story after story of the interactions between parishioners and the Sisters of Providence.

There is still a close bond,” Sister Joan, who has ministered in the parish since 2005, is proud to be a living symbol of that historic connection that dates back to the parish’s earliest days.

“It certainly is a privilege to serve this community and to be enmeshed in that common history that we share,” she said, “and know that the generations have continued to worship in this parish from the very beginning.”

(Registration for the fun run and walk sponsored by St. Mary-of-the-Woods Parish will begin at 9 a.m. on Oct. 6 on the grounds of the Sisters of Providence motherhouse to benefit St. Mary-of-the-Woods, with the run and walk starting at 10 a.m. For more information, call 812-533-1291.)
Kathryn and Terry Huser  
(317) 255-5700 or 332-8261  
www.HuserHomeCare.com

TRI-COUNTY ASPHALT  
Paving Indiana Since 1948  
CALL FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATES  
• ASPHALT DRIVeways  
• SEALcoating  

DiscouNts FOR SeNIor citiZens AND noN-proFiT oRgAnizAtioNS  
CALL: 317-849-9911  
317-356-1334  
317-862-2967  
LICENSED & BONDED BY THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

Kings, knights and ladies of Holy Sepulchre work half a world away for peace in Jerusalem

By Sean Gallagher

Indianapolis can seem like a world away from Jerusalem. But last weekend, some 400 Catholics from across the Midwest who have been praying that Jerusalem be spiritually close to the Church there gathered in Indianapolis to learn more about the various programs that the Catholic Church in the Holy Land and to pray with Fouad Twal, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.

They were members—known as knights and ladies—of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, an organization in the Church that dates back nearly 1,000 years.

Today, its worldwide members commit themselves to giving spiritual support for the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, which oversees the Church in Cyprus, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian territories.

In a keynote address that he gave on Sept. 30 at the meeting, Patriarch Twal challenged the knights and ladies to "make a difference in the life of the Church."

"Many discourage the Church as irrelevant," he said. "Others say it lacks vitality and dynamism. But you are the evidence that the Church is vibrant and alive."

In particular, Patriarch Twal encouraged the knights and ladies to be advocates for peace in the Holy Land because, he said, America "has the key to the peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"You have a great responsibility toward the implementation of the peacemaking," he said. "It is important, though, to realize that working hard for true peace is to work for everyone's advantage. In our region, the peace is either for all the inhabitants of the Holy Land or for no one."

During a break at the meeting, Twal met Koci of West Bloomfield, Mich., a member of the order, who said she prays for peace in Jerusalem.

"I support the Church in Israel," Koci said. "We’ve reconverts to the Church, so we studied the Old Testament very intensely as Protestants."

Patriarch Twal also asked his listeners to pray for peace in Syria, which has been wracked by more than a year by a bloody civil war.

He also expressed concern about the situation in the United States, including for its financial troubles. He said the Church in America, along with the Arab nations, are keenly watching the Syrian situation and will be watching the United States "as a model for democracy in the Middle East.

"I hope the Syrian people will get their rights and live in dignity."

So one day, we’ll have justice. One day, we will have peace."

For more information, please log on to www.archindy.org/layministry

Online Lay Ministry Formation

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis has partnered with the University of Notre Dame Catholic and Dominican University (CDU) to offer four courses for lay ministry:
• Courses on the Catechesis of the Catholic Church from CDU  
• All 12 classes for a Certificate in Lay Ministry available online  
• 20% discount for all employees, seminarians, and parishioners  
• Employees also receive reimbursement upon course completion

Resurrection

continued from page 1

conditions of the people in your flock.

A. “It is normal for it to be difficult in our region. The fact that there are so many knights and ladies who are identified in this country—the U.S.—Jordan, Palestine, Israel and Cyprus—complicates an already complex situation. I have to work everywhere to assure sensible dialogue with all the political and religious leaders. We have a lack of freedom of movement, which is normal.

“In Bethlehem and in the Palestinian territories, they [often] cannot find any work. And so the first option that they have is to emigrate.

“This joy doesn’t come from the geopolitical circumstances. It comes from a very spiritual dimension, from the spiritual needs that I have. He knew the cross. He knew Gethsemane.

“You have a great responsibility toward the implementation of the peacemaking," he said. "It is important, though, to realize that working hard for true peace is to work for everyone’s advantage. In our region, the peace is either for all the inhabitants of the Holy Land or for no one."

During a break at the meeting, Twal met Koci of West Bloomfield, Mich., a member of the order, who said she prays for peace in Jerusalem.

"I support the Church in Israel," Koci said. "We’ve reconverts to the Church, so we studied the Old Testament very intensely as Protestants."

Patriarch Twal also asked his listeners to pray for peace in Syria, which has been wracked by more than a year by a bloody civil war.

He also expressed concern about the situation in the United States, including for its financial troubles. He said the Church in America, along with the Arab nations, are keenly watching the Syrian situation and will be watching the United States "as a model for democracy in the Middle East.

"I hope the Syrian people will get their rights and live in dignity."

So one day, we’ll have justice. One day, we will have peace."

Patriarch Fouad Twal, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, touches Jerry Hasty with a sword in an investiture ceremony that made Hasty a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. The ceremony took place during a Sept. 30 Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church in Indianapolis. Hasty is a member of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis.

I pray daily for the Church in the Holy Land,” he said. “I offer daily sacrifices so my brothers and sisters living there will have the strength and perseverance to continue to live the faith and keep Christ’s presence there alive—knowing that my sacrifices are nothing in comparison to theirs.”

Paving Indiana Since 1948

CALL FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATES

- ASPHALT DRIVeways  
- SEALcoating

For more information on the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, log on to http://en.lac.org. For information about the American University of Madaba, log on to http://aum.edu.jo/en

Q. When you are far away from your home and you meet with the knights and ladies of the Holy Sepulchre, do you find hope for the Church in the Holy Land?

A. “Before I find hope, I am a family with them. They are my knights. They are my ladies. They are my order. And I am their patriarch. The link must be strong more than ever.

Q. The knights and ladies, as well as other supporters of the Church in the Holy Land, work to support various projects in the Holy Land, such as the American University of Madaba, the first Catholic university in Jordan, which was established in 2009.

What are the prospects for that school? How is it going to be an important institution for the Christians in the Holy Land?

A. “It is, in a certain way, a continuation of the education we’ve given for 150 years with the primary and secondary schools that we operate.

“Second, this university can be a center for more dialogue. In Jordan, we have a more or less unique country among the Arab countries with no problems. The Church there continues to be relevant.

“Third, this university can be a center for more advocacy about the situation. When you go to Jerusalem or Jordan, you see the suffering of the people. You can’t help them, but you can help in the international community and to the universal Church gives us this credit.”

Q. How can the Catholics in central and southern Indiana help the Christians in the Holy Land and elsewhere in the Middle East?

A. “The answer is not only for the Catholics but for the others, for non-Catholics. They must think about the Holy Land where we have our roots, where we have our mother Church. All are invited to think about us.

“We often talk about the ways that they can help. First of all, prayer, prayer, prayer, prayer.

“Second, advocacy about the situation. When you go to Jerusalem or Jordan and come back here, speak about your experience, speak about what you saw, what you felt. We need this advocacy because a lot of people are ignorant about the situation.

“And third is solidarity. Help us go on with our situation, with our projects, with our Church, with our schools, with our hospitals, with our new American University of Madaba.”

(For more information on the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, log on to http://en.lac.org. For information about the American University of Madaba, log on to http://aum.edu.jo/en)
Religious freedom at home and abroad is election-year issue for many

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Over the past several months, the U.S. Catholic bishops and other religious leaders have urged Americans to defend religious liberty in the United States and in the face of what they see as threats to that freedom.

And the issue continues to gain momentum as the November election draws near.

It has been at the forefront for the Catholic bishops since the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced in January that it would require most religious employers to provide free contraceptives coverage, abortifacients and sterilization against their moral objections. The bishops have repeatedly described the mandate, which violates Church teaching, as a restriction on religious liberty.

Theologians and Catholic leaders discussed the issue of religious freedom at recent seminars at The Catholic University of America and Georgetown University in Washington, and a forum at St. John’s University in New York.

At both of the national political conventions this summer, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, mentioned religious liberty in his closing prayers.

At the close of the Republican National Convention on Aug. 30 in Tampa, Fla., he gave thanks for the “singular gift of liberty,” and prayed for a renewed forum at St. John’s University in New York.

The pope said peace requires a pluralistic tradition at the same time that we unequivocally proclaim that violence—violence in the name of traditions and other religions—be combated.

The broader implications of religious freedom were addressed by Pope Benedict XVI in his mid-September visit to Lebanon, where he called religious freedom a “basic human right and a prerequisite for social harmony.”

The pope said peace requires a pluralistic society based on “mutual respect, a desire to know the other and continuous dialogue.” He also said that “religious freedom is the basic right on which many rights depend.”

Meanwhile, Missouri voters in their August primary approved a similar measure which guaranteed that people could pray and worship in all private and public areas, including schools, as long as the activities are voluntary and subject to the same rules and regulations that apply to all other types of speech.

Missouri legislators voted to override the governor’s veto of a religious liberty bill specifying that no one should be forced to pay for abortion drugs and similar items in their health insurance when it violates their religious beliefs.

The Missouri law addresses the federal contraception mandate that became effective on Aug. 1.

The Missouri Catholic Conference noted that federal law supersedes state law. However, several lawsuits challenging the HHS mandate as unconstitutional have been filed in various federal courts, and if the mandate is ultimately found to be unconstitutional, the new Missouri law will stand.

In November, Florida will vote on a constitutional amendment to prohibit discrimination against individuals and institutions on the basis of religious beliefs, and remove a long-standing ban on public funding “in aid of any church, sect or religious denomination or in aid of any sectarian institution.”

Supporters of the amendment say it is necessary to ensure that social service organizations with religious affiliations can compete on an equal footing with other organizations providing similar services. Opponents have argued the amendment is an attempt to lay the groundwork for Catholic school vouchers when faith-based organizations already receive government funding for public services they provide.

Both political parties mention religious liberty in their platforms. The Democratic Party platform states the Affordable Care Act “ensures that women have access to contraception in their health insurance plans,” adding that President Barack Obama “has respected the principles of religious liberty.”

The HHS mandate does have a religious exemption, but its critics say it is so narrow it would protect only those religious employers who seek to cultivate their religion, and who primarily employ and serve people of their own faith.

The GOP platform uses the phrase “war on religion” to describe the Obama administration’s “attempt to compel faith-related institutions as well as believing individuals to contravene their deeply held religious, moral or ethical beliefs regarding health services, traditional marriage or abortion.”

The U.S. Catholic bishops, in their document “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship”—which outlines Church teaching on contemporary issues for Catholic voters—speaks broadly on the issue of religious freedom by stating, “U.S. policy should promote religious liberty and other basic human rights.”

As moms, sometimes we are moving through life so fast that we forget to really enjoy each season in the lives of our children. Join Mary Jo Thomas Day, Director of Religious Education at St. Monica Parish since 1977, for this morning of reflection on the treasures God has bestowed upon us!

$35 per person includes meals, the program, Liturgy, and materials. Childcare is available but space is limited!

Contact Cheryl at (317) 545-7681 ext 15 or cmcsweeney@archindy.org to register your children.

5353 E. 56th Street • Indianapolis, IN 46226
Phone (317) 545-7681 • Fax (317) 545-0095
www.archindy.org/fatima
Second Vatican Council engaged the world in a pro-active manner

By Edward P. Hahnenberg

On Jan. 25, 1959, before a small group of cardinals gathered in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls, the newly elected Pope John XXIII announced his intention to call an ecumenical council to solve the conflicts in the See of St. Peter.

The announcement caused a great excitement. First of all, an ecumenical or “worldwide” council, such as Vatican II, is a rare event in the life of the Church. Catholics count only 21 such councils in the Church’s 2,000-year history. Since the Protestant Reformation 400 years ago, there have been only two such councils. An announcement like Pope John’s does not come along every day.

Another cause for surprise had to do with the reason for a new council. Previous councils were all called in response to some threat facing the Church.

The Council of Nicaea, for example, was convened in 325 to address the Arius heresy that was tearing the Church apart. Similarly, the Council of Trent (1545–63) was an attempt to answer the challenge of the Reformation.

When Pope John made his announcement, no such threat loomed on the horizon. No obvious enemy mobilized by the Council. Instead, Pope John said that the idea for the council came to him as a divine inspiration, “like a flash of heavenly light.”

In the announcement, he chose not to identify problems. Rather, he named two positive goals. The first was to reach out to other Christians in a spirit of charity, not to identify problems. Rather, he named two positive goals. The first was to reach out to other Christians in a spirit of love, the second was to reach out to other religions in a spirit of truth of our teaching and not of severity.”

Pope John said that the idea for the council was to present the Church as a bulwark against the world. At the grass-roots level, the Catholic Church was said to be a rich devotional life, regular sacramental practice and consistent catechesis. Vocations clanged, religious life flourished. The postwar boom, particularly in the United States, brought a period of construction and institutional expansion for schools, hospitals, seminaries and parishes.

If this grass-roots vitality fed the faith of thousands, it also kept Catholics somewhat on the margins, separated from the broader society within which they lived. At the upper levels of the Vatican, the Council took a form of a defensive and reactionary stance toward all things “modern.” Ever since the French Revolution, when its violent and anticlerical cast, the papacy had thrown up defenses. Statements from the Vatican condemned new democratic movements, new scientific theories, and new currents in art and culture. All of these developments were seen as an assault on the authority of the Church and a threat to the ancient truths of tradition. Such a siege mentality continued well into the 20th century.

When Pope John’s vision came as a breath of fresh air. In his opening speech at the council’s first session on Oct. 11, 1962, Pope John disagreed with those “prophets of gloom” around him who saw in modern times only “prevacuation and nunc.”

Instead, the pope believed, God was moving humanity to a new order of human relations. The Church needed aggiornamento—“updating”—not because the Church felt threatened, but because of its great desire to share Christ with others.

Pope John’s vision was driven by the desire to create a new friendship with the non-Christian world. What is remarkable is that Pope John—by extension the Second Vatican Council—did not retreat from the challenges of the times. His experience taught him that the Church could not escape the world or simply pronounce judgment on it.

Instead, the Church must engage the world in a positive way. He encouraged the council to use “the medicine of truth” to present the Church’s message. Pope John believed that the truth of our teaching and not simply condemn those who disagree, he thought.

In the end, he said that the Church should “show herself to be the loving mother of all, benign, patient, full of mercy and goodness” toward all.

16 documents were approved by Church leaders during Second Vatican Council

The Second Vatican Council approved the following 16 documents:

“Decree on the Sacred Liturgy” (“Sacrosanctum Concilium”)—One of the four major documents of the council, it ordered an extensive revision of worship so people would have a clearer sense of their involvement in the Mass and other liturgical rites.

“Decree on the Instruments of Social Communication” (“Inter Mirifica”)—This decree called on members of the Church, especially the laity, to instill “a human and Christian spirit” into all newspapers, magazines, books, films, radio and television.

“Dogmatic Constitution on the Church” (“Lectura Gentium”)—Another of the council’s four principal texts, it presented the Church as a mystery, as a communion of baptized believers, as the people of God, as the body of Christ and as a pilgrim moving toward fulfillment in heaven, but marked on Earth “with a sanctity that is real, although imperfect.”

“Decree on the_orientation of Church” (“Unitatis Redintegratio”)—This document said that ecumenism should be everyone’s concern, and genuine ecumenism involves a continued renewal of institutional laws and norms.

“Decree on Eastern Catholic Churches” (“Orientalium Ecclesiarum”)—This decree stated that variety within the Church does not harm its unity and that Eastern Catholic Churches should retain their traditions.

“Decree on the Bishops’ Pastoral Office in the Church” (“Christus Dominus”)—In this document, the council participants taught that each bishop has full ordinary power in his diocese, and is expected to present Catholic doctrine in ways adapted to the times. It urged conferences of bishops to exercise pastoral direction jointly.

“Decree on Priestly Formation” (“Optatam Totius”)—This decree recommended that seminaries pay attention to the spiritual, intellectual and disciplinary formation necessary to prepare priesthood students to become good pastors.

“Decree on the Appropriate Renewal of the Religious Life” (“Perfectæ Caritatis”)—This document provided guidelines for personal and institutional renewal of the Church’s religious orders and their individual members.

“Declaration of the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions” (“Nostra Aetate”)—In this document, the council participants taught that the Catholic Church rejects nothing that is true and holy in non-Christian religions, called for an end to anti-Semitism and said any discrimination based on race, color, language or religious creeds was foreign to the mind of Christ.

“Declaration on Christian Education” (“Gravissimae Educationis”)—This document affirmed the right of parents to choose the type of education that they want for their children, upheld the importance of Catholic schools, and defended freedom of inquiry in Catholic colleges and universities.

“Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation” (“Dei Verbum”)—The third of the council’s major documents, it said the Church depends on Scripture and tradition as the two channels through which God reveals himself, and commended the use of modern scientific scholarship in studying Scripture.

“Decree on the Apostle of the Laity” (“Apostolicam Actituum”)—This decree said that the laity should influence their surroundings with Christ’s teachings.

“Declaration on Religious Freedom” (“Dignitatis Humanæ”)—This document said that religious liberty is a right found in the dignity of each person and that no one should be forced to act in a way contrary to his or her own beliefs.

“Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests” (“Sacerdotum Ordinis”)—In this document, the council participants taught that the primary duty of priests is to proclaim the Gospel to all, approved and encouraged celibacy as a gift and recommended fair salaries.

“Decree on the Church’s Missionary Activity” (“Ad Gentes”)—This decree said that missionary activity should help the social and economic welfare of people and not force anyone to accept the faith.

“Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World” (“Gaudium et Spes”)—This document laid out the four major documents of the council, that it taught that the Church must talk to atheists, a continual campaign must be waged for peace, nuclear war is unthinkable and aid to underdeveloped nations is urgent. It said that marriage was not just for procreation, condemned abortion and urged science to find an acceptable means of birth regulation.
Biblical readings: Romans, Ephesians and Acts

This is the last of a series of columns about the biblical readings in the Office of Readings. Next week I plan to begin a new series of columns concluding with the beginning of the “Year of Faith” on Feb. 11.

Pope Benedict XVI

The Office of Readings includes six readings: today’s is St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans as the biblical readings for some feasts—Easter, Pentecost and feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Sacred Heart, martyrs during Ordinary Time and Holy Tuesday.

Patti Lamb’s Letter to the Romans is his masterpiece of theology, which is one of his books that is among the New Testament letters. It stresses the importance of faith in Jesus Christ, which, he says, has been given by God to both the Jews and the Gentiles.

Patti Lamb wrote this letter to introduce himself to the Christians in Rome. He longed to go there and then be sent by that community to present-day Spain. First, though, he had to make himself known to the Christians there. Therefore, he sent his associates Priscilla—or Prisca—and Aquila ahead as part of his advance team. The married couple were among Jews who had been forced out of Rome by the Emperor Claudius 13 years earlier so they were anxious to return home.

After he heard from Prisca and Aquila the names of the leaders in the Roman community, he wrote this letter. It ends with greetings to 26 individuals, 24 of whom, by name, that he learned about from Prisca and Aquila.

Five excerpts from St. Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians are included in biblical readings in the Office of Readings for certain feasts.

Ephesus was a great seaport on the Aegean Sea in modern Turkey, where Paul labored for more than two years. Today, it is a popular tourist destination because its restored ruins are among the most interesting in the world.

Paul wrote the letter while he was in prison, probably in Rome near the end of his life. There is doubt, though, that the letter was sent only to the Ephesians, despite the fact that it is more than too impersonal. It might have been sent to several local churches in Asia Minor with a particular bishop or pastor designating each place in the greeting.

The letter is about the Church. Its six sections discuss the unity of the Church in Christ, the Church’s world mission and Christians’ daily conduct. What seems so important is that the letter includes excerpts from the Acts of the Apostles on special feasts—those for the Church on Feb. 22, St. Lawrence on Aug. 10, St. Luke on Oct. 18, St. Stephen on Dec. 26 and those of a pope or bishop.

We should all be familiar with Acts since it is the earliest history of the Church. Written by the same author as the Gospel of St. Luke, it picks up the story told in his Gospel. It begins with Christ’s ascension into heaven, and continues until St. Paul’s first imprisonment in Rome—a period of about 35 years.

I suggest that as Catholics seeking to make the Church present in our time, we should revisit this most interesting in the world. Today, it is a popular tourist destination because its restored ruins are among the most interesting in the world.

Paul’s spirituality of caring for the frail and sick is also part of being pro-life.

It’s a good idea to be reminded, or to realize for the first time, that caregiving is part of our life. What seems so obvious can be overlooked, especially if you are young. So busy—at times so overwhelmed—your caregiving duties, you may tend to think that you no longer have much to do at normal duties. But you can also fail to notice what you are doing.

The world needs this “light”—the example of love and selfless giving—that family caregivers offer to loved ones.

The growing darkness doesn’t solely refer to promoters of euthanasia and assisted suicide in our time. It also refers to the public’s increasing willingness to accept that a human life is never perfect, remains a tremendously important part of your life. You are now being given the opportunity and challenge to be a mother and father, to love your spouse, or to care for your child or friend in a different, and more demanding way.

Caring is pro-life. The “culture of life” includes providing care for a loved one who is suffering from disease or frail. A cornerstone of respect for human life is compassionate care for the most vulnerable among us: the frail from the moment of conception until natural death.

The spirituality of caregiving—Caring for a loved one is a vocation, a calling from God. It is a ministry and a role that a caregiver accepts in the name of love, and it is love itself which accompanies both the caregiver and the receiver of this loving care.

An awareness of the presence of God, fostered by a turning to formal and informal prayer, helps you offer loving and compassionate care.

Faith, Hope and Charity/

Brewing up good reasons to support fair trade

As I type this column, I am enjoying a piece of delicious fair-trade chocolate. This morning, my wife, Cathy, and I were in the mood for a daily ritual that is shared by a large majority of people all over the world—a cup of coffee. At that, a particular cup—also a fair-trade product—was brewed by coffee grown by small coffee farmers in Sumatra, Indonesia.

I think we all know where your coffee or cocoa beans were grown and by whom? Do you know if the coffee and cocoa farmers were paid a fair price for their beans or if the pickers of the beans were treated fairly?

This month, in the Fair Trade Month, a great opportunity to raise awareness about how some of our buying decisions have a direct impact on our brothers and sisters in all over the world. So just what does fair trade mean?

I have read about the two most common products that are often associated with this term—coffee and chocolate. Did you know that following fair trade is one of the most traded commodities in the world? In addition to coffee and chocolate, arts, crafts and clothing have become widely traded fair-trade products.

Fair trade is a term which indicates that the owners of a farm or company and their employees are paid a fair price for the products they create and a fair share goes to the farmers and workers. We all impact the economy by how we spend our money. We all impact the economy by how we spend our money. We all impact the economy by how we spend our money.

Only 1 out of 10 of the coffee and cocoa beans we buy in the United States are grown and distributed in a socially responsible manner. This morning, my wife and I decided to purchase Sumatra, Indonesia. This morning, my wife and I decided to purchase Sumatra, Indonesia. This morning, my wife and I decided to purchase Sumatra, Indonesia.
The Sunday Readings

**Sunday, Oct. 7, 2012**

- **Genesis 2:18-24**
- **Hebrews 2:9-11**
- **Mark 10:1-16**

The Book of Genesis is the source of the first reading for this weekend. Among the first five books of the Bible, Genesis reveals great facts. God is the Creator of all. He gives life.

God created humanity in the image of God, male and female. God willed that the two genders complement each other and live with each other. Marriage was, and is, the most perfect union of a man and woman. Unfortunately, the Scriptures at times are accused of belittling women. Certainly, the Scriptures were ore developed with varying cultural contexts, and to an extent they were influenced by these different cultures.

Both the Old Testament and New Testaments are nothing less than revolutionary in their revelation that all humans, regardless of gender, possess equal dignity because all are created by God and infused with an eternal soul. Throughout the history of salvation, from Genesis to the last moment recorded in the New Testament, paganism was a factor. Among pagans, women were considered as little better than animals. The dignity of women, equal to that of men, is the meaning of the story that Eve was created from Adam's rib.

This reading also is a powerful factor. Among pagans, women were considered as little better than animals. The dignity of women, equal to that of men, is the meaning of the story that Eve was created from Adam's rib.

This reading also is a powerful factor. Among pagans, women were considered as little better than animals. The dignity of women, equal to that of men, is the meaning of the story that Eve was created from Adam's rib.

He put the question in its proper context. Marriage is God's creation, created for a man and woman to unite with each other ultimately in serving God. In the same prestige, on no one and no society has the right to demean or compromise this dignity. It is especially a powerful thought in the face of legalized abortion on demand and the movement to allow euthanasia. Secondly, marriage comes from God. Children are indispensable in any concept of marriage drawn from Christian Tradition. The increasingly accepted option of divorce has clouded popular views of marriage. Years of accepting contraception has dulled for us the sense that children are God’s gift and come from God. We are called to see life, marriage and procreation in the light of God’s will.†

Lightning of unity candle during wedding is part of Vatican-approved marriage rite

**Daily Readings**

- **Monday, Oct. 8**
  - Galatians 1:6-12
  - Psalm 111:1-2, 7-10
  - Lk 10:25-37

- **Tuesday, Oct. 9**
  - St. Denis, bishop
  - companions, martyrs
  - St. John Leonardis, priest
  - Galatians 1:13-24
  - Lk 10:13-15
  - Lk 10:38-42

- **Wednesday, Oct. 10**
  - Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14
  - Lk 11:1-4

- **Thursday, Oct. 11**
  - Galatians 3:1-5
  - (Responsorial) Lk 19:9-7
  - Lk 11:5-13

**Question Corner**

**Friday, Kenneth Doyle**

Lighting of unity candle during wedding is part of Vatican-approved marriage rite

Q: I’ve heard that the Vatican does not approve of the lighting of the unity candle at wedding ceremonies. Is this true? (Albany, N.Y.)

A: For those unfamiliar with this practice, the ritual of the unity candle is sometimes inserted into a Catholic wedding ceremony following the exchange of vows and rings. The bride and groom each take a smaller lighted candle. Using those candles, they together light the larger candle in the middle. That is referred to as the “unity candle.”

The bride and groom then light out the smaller candles, showing in a symbolic way that their two lives are now blended into one.

Some parishes, though, do not permit it because they view it as a secular incursion into a sacred ceremony.

The origins of the unity candle ritual are unclear, but it seems to have developed in America over the past 30 to 40 years. One theory is that the practice took off after it was done in a wedding on the TV soap opera “General Hospital” in 1981. Another theory is that diabetes unit or unity candle argue that it takes the focus away from the central ritual, which is the exchange of vows, and they advise couples who want to use the unity candle to do so at the wedding reception rather than during the ceremony.

My approach is not to suggest the unity candle to couples, but to accede to their wishes, so please raise the issue. I have the couple place the candles on a smaller table rather than on the altar so as to keep the altar table only for the Eucharist.

I take the same approach with couples who raise the possibility of bringing a floral bouquet to a Marian side altar after they exchange their vows and rings in honor of the Blessed Mother.

In general, I think the Church fares best when we can grant a couple’s wishes on their special day. Sometimes, though, a line needs to be drawn.

I had one couple who thought it would be “nice” if their dog could carry the wedding rings up the aisle in the bridal procession.

I said I thought that might be inappropriate and that I would not be comfortable with it, which was my way of saying that I wouldn’t allow it in a million years. They caught my drift.

Q: I have a question about the behavior of children at Mass. In my old parish, the priest would stop Mass and have the ushers assist a mother with a crying baby to a separate—and soundproof—“cry room,” which I thought was a good practice.

In my parish, there are moderate toddlers—not so much crying infants—are forever making noise and causing disruptions, and nothing seems to happen.

Our priest is young and new to the parish, and I think he doesn’t want to rock the boat. Could there be a particular area of the church set apart for parents with children? (Iowa)

A: I think that having a “cry room” is a good idea, both for crying babies and disruptive toddlers.

In our parish, the entire gathering area serves as a “cry room,” with a speaker system and large glass doors offering a full view of the interior of the church. If I were leery though of stopping Mass and asking ushers to escort a noisy family to the cry room. Most parents, I think, would be grandly embarrassed at being singled out this way and might never come back to church.

In an ideal world, all parents would exercise infallible discretion as to when to take their child out during Mass, but nothing human is perfect.

An occasional notice in the parish bulletin can help with a simple reminder. In our parish, the entire gathering area serves as a “cry room,” with a speaker system and large glass doors offering a full view of the interior of the church. If I were leery though of stopping Mass and asking ushers to escort a noisy family to the cry room. Most parents, I think, would be grandly embarrassed at being singled out this way and might never come back to church.

In an ideal world, all parents would exercise infallible discretion as to when to take their child out during Mass, but nothing human is perfect.

An occasional notice in the parish bulletin can help with a simple reminder. In our parish, the entire gathering area serves as a “cry room,” with a speaker system and large glass doors offering a full view of the interior of the church. If I were leery though of stopping Mass and asking ushers to escort a noisy family to the cry room. Most parents, I think, would be grandly embarrassed at being singled out this way and might never come back to church.

In an ideal world, all parents would exercise infallible discretion as to when to take their child out during Mass, but nothing human is perfect.

An occasional notice in the parish bulletin can help with a simple reminder. In our parish, the entire gathering area serves as a “cry room,” with a speaker system and large glass doors offering a full view of the interior of the church. If I were leery though of stopping Mass and asking ushers to escort a noisy family to the cry room. Most parents, I think, would be grandly embarrassed at being singled out this way and might never come back to church.

In an ideal world, all parents would exercise infallible discretion as to when to take their child out during Mass, but nothing human is perfect.

An occasional notice in the parish bulletin can help with a simple reminder. In our parish, the entire gathering area serves as a “cry room,” with a speaker system and large glass doors offering a full view of the interior of the church. If I were leery though of stopping Mass and asking ushers to escort a noisy family to the cry room. Most parents, I think, would be grandly embarrassed at being singled out this way and might never come back to church.
The Criterion   Friday, October 5, 2012

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 the 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.


HENSELY, Mary Elizabeth, 92, St. Denis, Jennings County, Sept. 11. Mother of Sharon Brubaker, Barbara Burroughs and Jimmy Harshman. Grandmother of 15. Great-grandmother of 14.


To see if you or your child qualifies, call:

The Clinical Research Center of Indiana 3266 North Meridian St., Suite 900 Indianapolis, IN 46208

Principal Investigator: Clinical Research Center of Indianapolis Phone: (317) 924-8224 M-F 9:00am-5:00pm

ASTHMA RESEARCH STUDY

Do you have asthma?

The Clinical Research Center of Indiana is conducting a asthma research study for individuals with asthma.

Adults may qualify for one of these studies if they:

• Have been diagnosed with asthma for at least 12 months

There are other study requirements that will determine whether you may participate in this research study:

• Qualified study participants will receive study medication at no charge
• Reimbursement for time and travel may be provided.


The Criterion   Friday, October 5, 2012

Our Lady of Lebanon

People visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon on Aug. 26 in Harissa, east of Beirut. Pope Benedict XVI visited Lebanon on Sept. 14-16.

People visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon on Aug. 26 in Harissa, east of Beirut. Pope Benedict XVI visited Lebanon on Sept. 14-16.
Indiana superintendent of public instruction weighs in on issues

(Editors’ note: During the month of October, the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC), the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Indiana, is offering area Catholics a three-part series of articles prepared by state-wide elected officials, including the candidates for Indiana governor, U.S. Senate and Indiana superintendent of public instruction.

In each article, the candidates are asked pertinent questions that relate to the office which they seek to hold. The questions and answers will appear in their entirety. The articles are designed to serve as a resource for Catholics.

This week, we share a question-and-answer interview with incumbent Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Bennett, a Republican.

After repeated attempts to contact Democratic challenger Glenda Ritz’s campaign manager and the Indiana Democratic Party press staff—including offering a two-day extension to our deadline—Ritz did not provide any responses to the ICC’s questions.)

By Brigid Curtis Ayer

The 2012 election brings an opportunity for Catholics to shape public policy.

“...The Catholic Church does not and cannot tell voters which candidates or political parties in which to vote,” said Glenna Tebb, Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) executive director. “Rather, the Church encourages people to form their conscience on basic Church moral teachings, fulfill their moral duty and exercise their right to vote.

The Indiana superintendent of public instruction, in cooperation with the governor and state lawmakers, drive education policy,” Tebb said. “Education has a far-reaching impact on families and children and society as a whole, and, because of that, it’s an important issue for the Church to address.”

Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Bennett shares his responses to questions posed by the ICC on education issues and policy.

Q. What role does the Department of Education (DOE) have in ensuring that quality educational opportunities are available in urban and rural areas?

A. “I believe we must evaluate the academic achievement and career preparation of all Indiana students to be the best in the United States and on par with the most competitive countries in the world.

“Through the hard work of Hoosier students and educators, we have achieved success—and I’m pleased to report that by every measure, our students are achieving more today than they were four years ago.”

“Almost 86 percent of Indiana students graduated high school in 2011—the highest mark in Indiana’s history. Student test scores have improved by more than 8 percentage points, and Indiana is second in the nation for student performance gains on advanced placement exams.”

“We must continue to ensure that more quality educational opportunities are available to students in every area of the state.”

Q. How do the Catholic and other non-public schools contribute to the common good and public instruction?

A. “As an alumnus of [Our Lady of] Providence High School [in Clarksville], Catholic education has had a profound impact on my life. This experience is a daily reminder for me that both non-public schools and Catholic schools are integral to the future of Indiana.

“We are especially indebted to the multitude of great educators that serve in Catholic and non-public schools. There’s nothing more critical than ensuring every Indiana classroom has a great teacher.

“Your system of schools serves students well by sharing this focus and priority.”

Q. What is the proper relationship between the superintendent or Department of Education and non-public schools?

A. “I believe it’s my job to make sure that we have the best education system in the United States for the public of Indiana.

“My definition of public is all children of Indiana. Public education is not limited exclusively to public schools. It is every child in the State of Indiana who receives an education. With that in mind, I do believe that decisions are best made at the local level. It is the state’s job to set high expectations, provide a menu of best practices, explain the consequences for success and failure, and then get out of the way so local schools and educators can get the job done.”

(Brigid Curtis Ayer is a correspondent for The Criterion. For more information about the Indiana Catholic Conference, log on to www.indianacatholic.org. For more information on Democratic candidate Glenda Ritz, log on to www.ritzed.com. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is again offering “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States.” For more information on the document, log on to www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/.)

© 2012 The Criterion, Inc. All rights reserved.
Advent pilgrimage includes exhibit of Dead Sea Scrolls

By Mary Ann Garber

An archdiocesan Advent pilgrimage to Cincinnati and northern Kentucky on Dec. 12 will give pilgrims an opportunity to view some of the Dead Sea Scrolls, priceless relics from the Holy Land that have been described as “the most significant archaeological find of the last century.”

Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator, will lead the one-day pilgrimage on the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The pilgrimage will include a visit to the Cincinnati Museum Center to view the “Dead Sea Scrolls—Late and Faith in Ancient Times” exhibit. More than 600 items on display in the “once-in-a-lifetime exhibit” include the oldest known copies of the Hebrew Bible as well as iconic objects from daily life, artifacts from the City of David and a 3-ton stone from the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

“I am looking forward to visiting Cincinnati and spending the day with some good folks from the archdiocese,” Bishop Coyne said of the pilgrimage. “It should be both informative and fun.”

The exhibit opens on Nov. 16 and continues through April 14, 2013. In 1947, a shepherd found a hidden cave along the shore of the Dead Sea then discovered ancient scrolls inside it that had not been seen in more than 2,000 years. Archaeologists excavated the site and other caves in the area from 1947 through 1956, and uncovered 972 scrolls which are remarkably well preserved.

These handwritten manuscripts date back to the development of Judaism and Western Judeo-Christian civilization. Carolyn Noone, associate director of special events for the archdiocese, said the Advent pilgrimage is “a wonderful way to begin to participate in the Church’s international Year of Faith and prepare for the celebration of Christmas.”

The pilgrimage begins with Mass celebrated by Bishop Coyne at the historic St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, an ornate Gothic church dedicated in 1901 in Covington, Ky. The cathedral is one of only 82 stained-glass windows.

The cathedral was dedicated on Jan. 27, 1901, and the facade was completed in 1910.

St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption is among the ornate religious artwork at St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington, Ky.

Above, the 12th Station of the Cross depicting Jesus on Calvary is among the ornate religious artwork at St. Mary’s Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington, Ky.

The basilica has 82 stained-glass windows. It was dedicated on Jan. 27, 1901, and the facade was completed in 1910.

Left, this copper scroll is the only Dead Sea Scroll written on copper. It is among 972 scrolls discovered in 11 caves along the northwestern shores of the Dead Sea in Israel.