In the ancient Mediterranean world and in medieval Europe, a chair was a symbol of a teacher. In those cultures, teachers sat in chairs, and their students sat at their feet to learn from them.

The Catholic Church continues this traditional symbol in the cathedra, the seat of a diocesan bishop in a local Church’s cathedral.

When Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin sat in the cathedra for the first time at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on Dec. 3, he did so to teach the Catholic faithful of central and southern Indiana how to love and respond to Christ’s love for them.

In a homily he delivered during the Mass in which he was installed as the sixth shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Archbishop Tobin reflected on how St. Paul saw himself as obligated to preach the Gospel because Christ loved him first.

“And so, for us Catholics of central and southern Indiana, if someone asks us, ‘Why do you do what you do?’, it’s not simply because we’re obeying rules,” Archbishop Tobin said. “In fact, on at least four different occasions, I heard Pope Benedict XVI say that the Gospel cannot be presented first and foremost as a list of moral obligations.

“It is rather an encounter with a person, someone who has loved us first and someone who asks us to continue his loving presence in the world. And so all of us who belong to this particular Church are under an obligation—the obligation of love.”

Archbishop Tobin said that he and the Catholics of central and southern Indiana are to express that love with the passion that drove St. Francis Xavier, a patron saint of the archdiocese whose feast day is Dec. 3, to preach the Gospel in India—halfway around the world from his home in Spain.

“What we will do together as a Church, we will do with passion, the passion that characterized our patron saint, Francis Xavier,” Archbishop Tobin said. “And we will do whatever the Lord asks us to do in bringing the Good News, especially to those who have the least chance of hearing it, for those who live on the margin of things, for those who have been hurt by the Church, for those who feel themselves to be forgotten.”

Archbishop Tobin also called upon the
Archbishop Tobin is welcomed to cathedral during Evening Prayer

By Sean Gallagher

Knocking on a door. That simple gesture began the welcoming of Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis.


Father Noah Casey, rector of the cathedral, welcomed Archbishop Tobin when the door was opened and he entered. Father Casey also offered a crucifix for Archbishop Tobin to venerate. Next, the archbishop blessed himself and those around him with holy water.

Gathered in the cathedral’s vestibule to welcome Archbishop Tobin were Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, apostolic administrator, and members of various Catholic fraternal organizations in central and southern Indiana.

In his homily during the Evening Prayer liturgy, Bishop Coyne compared the welcoming of Archbishop Tobin at the door of the cathedral to similar rituals that take place during an infant baptism, the welcoming of a new catchphrase and the welcoming of the removals of a deceased person at the start of funeral rites.

“In each of these moments when we truly greet people at the door of the church, a new status, a new way of life in Christ, is being initiated,” Bishop Coyne said. “... And so it is tonight. When we welcomed Archbishop Tobin at the door of this church this evening, we, the local manifestation of the universal Church, recognized and acknowledged him as our new archbishop, our new shepherd, a successor of the Apostles, named by the Holy Father to govern this local Church to help us to manifest the living presence of Jesus Christ in this world.”

Bishop Coyne assured Archbishop Tobin of the strength of the faith of the Church in central and southern Indiana.

“Archbishop Tobin, here in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis so many men and women of incredible Catholic faith are living [a] deep relationship with Jesus Christ,” Bishop Coyne said. “As someone who has been fortunate to be a part of this local Church for almost two years, I can say to you that there is a sure foundation of Catholic faith here that is yours to build upon.”

Bishop Coyne later addressed the hundreds of priests, deacons, religious and lay Catholics from the archdiocese who filled the cathedral.

“My brothers and sisters with me here in this cathedral tonight, our brother Joseph, named by the Holy Father as Archbishop of Indianapolis, has accepted the responsibility of proclaiming the Good News of the Catholic faith by teaching us to love God and neighbor,” Bishop Coyne said. “Now I ask you and myself—are we ready to help him fulfill his duty as our new archbishop? Can we answer with a resounding ‘Amen’?”

The cathedral soon echoed with a loud “Amen.”

Following the homily, Archbishop Tobin made a profession of faith and took an oath of fidelity to the Holy See in the liturgy. Archbishop Viganò blessed a new miter, crosier, episcopal ring and pectoral cross given to Archbishop Tobin as gifts from the priests and deacons of the archdiocese.

Bishop Coyne was also surprised when he was given his own new episcopal ring.

Since his ordination as a bishop on March 2, 2011, Bishop Coyne had worn Cardinal Joseph E. Ritter’s episcopal ring.

Archbishop Tobin thanked Bishop Coyne for his ministry in the archdiocese during the past 18 months, and the episcopal ring.

The recently refurbished cathedra of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis sits empty during the Dec. 2 Evening Prayer liturgy that welcomed Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, second from left, as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis.

Cards were sent to Father Joseph H. Pazderski, chairman of the diocesan Council of Priests, said after the liturgy that he was pleased to see Archbishop Tobin receive his new insignia, which were gifts from archdiocesan priests and deacons. He also noted that they will likely stay in the archdiocese for the use of future archbishops.

“They will always have [Archbishop Tobin’s] touch on them,” Father Godecker said. “I think that’s a joyful thing.”

Helen Deppe, a member of St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus, was a representative of the Daughters of Isabella at the liturgy. She enjoyed being able to pray with her new archbishop.

“It was fantastic,” Deppe said. “It was so moving just to be here and to be able to celebrate it with him. I’ve never experienced anything like this before. He’s a down-to-earth person. He’s an archbishop who’s not going to talk over people.”

In remarks at the end of the Evening Prayer liturgy, Archbishop Tobin expressed gratitude that it occurred on “the evening of the first day of the week,” the same time that the Apostles on the first Easter encountered the risen Lord.

“And so on the evening of the first day of the week, the Lord forgives among us a new bond, a bond that is to recognize the Lord among us, a bond that leads us to an audacious gesture of lighting candles, even as the sun disappears, because we know who is the Light of the world, the Light of our hearts and the Light of the Church of Indianapolis,” Archbishop Tobin said. “Together, we will remember each other of that. And our hearts will burn. And we will recognize him in the breaking of the bread.

For the love that you have shown this evening, may God bless you and know that your brother, Joseph, thanks you.”

The recently refurbished cathedra of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis sits empty during the Dec. 2 Evening Prayer liturgy that welcomed Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, sitting second from right, as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis. Accompanying him are Deacons Wayne Davis, left, and Francis Klauder.

Left, Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States, blesses with holy water the episcopal insignia—a miter, crosier, episcopal ring and pectoral cross—given to Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin during the Evening Prayer liturgy. Watching Archbishop Viganò are members of various Catholic fraternal organizations in central and southern Indiana that participated in the liturgy.

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Plane crash victims remembered for commitment to family, Church

By John Shaughnessy

Decatur County community."

Barbara, and the two sons of Stephen and Barbara Horan—always kept their children near them. Their Christmas cards were always signed "Love, Mom and Dad." Their kids, like their parents, were devoted to their faith. They celebrated the Mass, prayed the rosary and observed the feasts of their faith together.

The stories, memories and tributes followed the heartbreaking news that the two couples were killed in a plane crash near Greensburg, where they lived. "They celebrated as a family, celebrated life together and celebrated their faith together," said Father John Meyer, pastor of St. Mary Parish in Greensburg. "They were all actively involved in the parish, supporting every aspect of parish life, and volunteering whenever and wherever possible. Their kids were involved as well in the life of the parish, youth activities and the faith life of St. Mary's.

Since the crash, the depth of compassion and prayer for the couples and their families has been directed toward the four daughters of Donald and Barbara, and the two sons of Stephen and Denise, Father Meyer said. "The outreach from the parish has been overwhelming. Our prayers have become a shared, communal prayer," said Father Meyer, who will be the celebrant of the funeral Mass for the four friends in the Greensburg High School gymnasium at 10 a.m. on Dec. 7. "These families are closely respected in the Decatur County community."

The Horans and the Butzes shared that approach to life—giving everything they had to their families, their friends and their faith.

With @Pontifex, Pope Benedict XVI reaches out to new kind of followers

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—To celebrate the launch of his new Twitter account (@Pontifex), Pope Benedict XVI will tweet the answers to a handful of questions from his followers.

The pope's rare question-and-answer exchange on the social media site shows how the Vatican doesn't just want to teach the truth, but also to listen to others, said Archbishop Claudio Celli, president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications.

"The archbishop and other Vatican officials spoke at a conference announcing the initiative. It was in Spanish and asked, 'What is the core of the message of the Gospel and faith that you are trying to convey in your Twitter account?'" Msgr. Paul Tighe, secretary of the communications council, said. "He answered, 'We raked leaves, picked up trash and served a meal to the families,' Don recalled serving a meal to the families, "when push came to shove, she said."

The pope's first tweets from the new accounts will be responses to the first 140 questions that will be sent to the pope on Twitter via the hashtag #pontifex, he said.

The pope is already active on Twitter accounts @Pontifex_en and @Pontifex_es. The handle "Pontifex" was chosen because it means "pope and bridge builder," said Greg Burke, media adviser for the Vatican Secretariat of State. "The name suggests 'reaching out,' and bringing unity not just to Catholics but all men and women of good will," he said.

Msgr. Paul Tighe, secretary of the communications council, said the Pope Benedict XVI was already taken by other people not affiliated with the people, whereas the handle "Pontifex" was available.

Using a handle that hadn't already been used or copyrighted by others, Msgr. Tighe said that the Vatican didn't have to "go around and get people to vacate the space," he said.

"They were great fun and very devoted to each other," said David Milroy, director of stewardship and development for the archdiocese. "Don was such a go-getter, a high-energy guy. Barb tried to restrain him, but when push came to shove, she was right there with him. A lot of times when you have co-chairs, one will do all the talking. But they were there, side by side."

Another friend saw the commitment that the Horans and the Butzes made to their families and their faith in the way that Don lived his life.

"He was all about his kids. His whole life was his faith and his family," said Mike Kirk, associate director of stewardship and development for the archdiocese. "Everything else in his life was to make those two things work."

"Don always said the Catholic Church was so good to him that how could he not give back. Don realized that the gifts he had received were all gifts from God. He saw it as his obligation to share his gifts with his family, including the Church."

That generosity also extended to the major role that he played in raising funds to build a new Catholic school at St. Mary Parish. That emphasis on Catholic education tied in with the values that he wanted his children to learn.

He focused on those values during presentations to promote the annual appeal, recalling a day when he and Barbara volunteered with their four daughters at Holy Family Shelter in Indianapolis.

"We raked leaves, picked up trash and served a meal to the families," Don recalled during those presentations. "Our kids, learned a lesson that day about serving others, but I learned a greater lesson. I learned they do much more than provide food and shelter to the homeless. They help families help themselves and assist them in becoming self-sufficient again while keeping the family together."

Don ended his presentations with sharing this thought: "A pessimist sees a glass of water as being half empty. An optimist sees the same glass as half full. But a giving person sees a glass of water and starts looking for someone who might be thirsty."

The Horans and the Butzes shared that approach to life—giving everything they had to their families, their friends and their faith.

Barbara and Donald Horan kneel in prayer on Aug. 25, 2010, at St. Roch Church in Indianapolis during a Mass for members of the archdiocese's Miter Society.

Denise and Stephen Butz
Advent's three stages of longing

**Editorial**


**Most Rev. Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., Publisher**

**Mike Krokos, Editor**

**Greg A. Orlisski, Associate Publisher**

**John F. Fink, Editor Emeritus**

_Bishop Robert F. Morneau, a pastor, and recent Green Bay Packers' fan, writes in the December issue of_ Give Us This Day: Daily Prayer for Today's Catholic that “Advent celebrates God’s multiple comings into our lives.” The Green Bay auxiliary bishop then identifies Advent’s three stages:

- **Stage 1**—Jesus’ historic birth in Bethlehem,
- **Stage 2**—his daily coming in the sacramental life of the Church,
- **Stage 3**—the Lord’s final coming in glory and majesty at the end of time.

The season of Advent celebrates all three “comings” by giving voice in prayer and in song to the spiritual desire or longing that precedes each stage of the Lord’s advent or coming.

The first stage of Advent is filled with images from the Old Testament that describe with great poignancy Israel’s deep-seated fears about the future, from the problems and troubles. Instead, the Lord brought healing and hope. His coming is described as a spiritual solution the size of a mustard seed that was destined to grow exponentially until it embraces the whole world and all of human history.

The second stage of Advent addresses the hopes and fears of our everyday lives. We are an anxious people worrying about many things. The economy is weak and uncertain, which threatens our future as individuals, families and communities. War continues and terrorist threats—and acts—surround us. The sanctity of marriage is increasingly undermined, and family life is too often broken. Real hope seems to be in short supply so we substitute the various “sims” described in the American bishops’ pastoral letter on stewardship—materialism, consumerism, hedonism, etc.

The Lord of life comes into this broken world every day through the sacramental life of his Church. He invites us to receive him, to be comforted and forgiven, and to renew our baptismal promises to reject sin and choose to follow him—without counting the cost.

The third stage of Advent comes at the end of time at an hour that no one knows or can accurately predict. This third stage of Advent begins for each of us the day we die, and it culminates on the Last Day when all humanity and all history—past, present and future—are united in a single moment of justice and mercy.

As Bishop Morneau writes, “Too easily our lives are kidnapped by the tyranny of the immediate. So engrossed are we with our daily duties and tasks that we forget we are on a journey that leads to eternal life.”

We too often forget that Jesus will come again, when all is said and done, and take us to himself.

Each stage of Advent has its own longing, its own set of desires. What they all have in common is the anticipation that someone—a Savior—will reach out to us, and save us from the sin and guilt of the past, from the problems and confusion of daily life, and from our deep-seated fears about the future.

In each stage, it is the same person who comes and who reaches out to us—calling each one of us by name.

Jesus spoke to the people of his day using parables and wise sayings. He brought them to the depths of the human heart, to the broken-down persons and to the faithful witness of his disciples and saints.

The Jesus who is coming again at the end of our days is the same Christ who was born in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago, and is present now in the Holy Eucharist.

We wait in joyful hope for his coming again. We long for him—the Blessed Hope—and we yearn for the salvation he brings because we need it desperately, not just once and for all, but continually, every day and for all eternity.

Advent is a time of longing, but it is also a time of rejoicing. We are called to nurture and protect this wonderful gift. We are responsible for growing it and sharing it generously with others.

Hence we are called to nourish andsounds and smells of this wonderful season is nurtured by our Advent prayers and by the songs that express so well our confident expectation that he will come again!

This Advent, let’s be good stewards of our light. Let’s allow it to become a vibrant hope. And let’s share this hope unpretentiously as “new evangelizers” who announce that God is with us—now and forever!

—Daniel Conway

**Letters to the Editor**

**Letters from readers are welcome and should be included, relevant, well-expressed, concise, temperate in tone, courteous and respectful.**

_The editors reserve the right to select letters based on space limitations, pastoral sensitivity and content._

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

Send letters to “Letters to the Editor,” The Criterion, 1400 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367

Readers with e-mail may send letters to criterion@archindy.com

Be Our Guest! Tom Yos

_It usually happens around this time of year sometime before or on Christmas. It’s called “a gift exchange.”_ Most of us have experienced it with our family, co-workers, friends or in some kind of social circle. We get together with members of the group, and we agree to exchange gifts in the “spirit” of the holiday season.

There are usually certain conditions placed upon the exchange. The participants put their name in a hat, and each person draws the name of another person to “buy for.” There is usually an agreed upon spending limit for purchasing a gift.

Oftentimes, “wish lists” are made known to help participants make wise gift choices. Secretly, we hope some people will draw our name more than others based upon their ability to make good gift choices.

I am not one of those who enjoys a gift exchange. I have participated in many of them. However, I would like to turn this attention this holiday season to “The Gift Exchange.”

The gift exchange we offer our world every day, and especially at Christmas. Each Christmas, we celebrate the birth—and gift—of our Lord’s Son.

Jesus’ birth as God made flesh, is the most loving and unconditional gift that any of us will ever receive. God drew all of our names in the hat, and offered us Jesus, who is the fulfillment of any gift wish list we could possibly imagine. By virtue of our baptism, we draw God’s name in this gift exchange. And this exchange is not for a season, but for a lifetime.

What kind of gift exchange can we possibly make with God? What is on God’s wish list? What can I give in return to what God gives to me? Let us embrace the fundamental and sacred gift exchange we will ever make with another.

Christian’s wish draws our attention to this gift exchange. God has given us his very best and, in exchange, asks us to give the best of ourselves.

What is our best? How are we to be accountable and make good gift choices?

A Christian steward knows the answer.

Receive God’s gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others and return them with increase to the Lord. This is the ultimate in “A Gift Exchange.”

Merry Christmas, everyone!

—Tom Yos is pastoral associate of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany. _
Young adults and Hispanics pray for new archbishop

By John Shaughnessy

GREENWOOD—Minutes before the beginning of a holy hour to pray for Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, Matt Faley talked about the excitement that young Catholics have concerning the archdiocese’s new spiritual leader.

“I had a chance to meet with him with about 10 to 15 other young Catholics,” said Faley, director of young adult and college campus ministry for the archdiocese.

“There’s a sense of excitement about him. He has a heart for the mission of the Church. He seems real and honest and easy to approach. That spoke volumes. The young Church feels they have a home locally.”

At the same time, the hour of music and prayer at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church in Greenwood on Nov. 30 revealed the depth of a desire that many young Catholics have for a deeper relationship with God.

Seminarin Benjamin Syberg focused on that desire as he shared his testimonial about other areas of life, including their faith.

“Of the group, “We want to have the fire of love for Jesus.”

“We’re not as holy as we thought we were,” said Syberg, a member of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish. “We want to take the next step with the real and loving God.”

The next step begins with prayer, Syberg said.

“If we only know how much the Father smiles on us;” he said. “The Father is so happy when we keep at it every single day. We keep praying day in and day out that we find ourselves in him.”

That openness to a deeper relationship with God followed through the songs that were sung during the holy hour by musicians Michael LaBelle, Brice Anne Eichhorn and Faley.

Faley encouraged the holy hour participants “to move closer to God during this season of Advent.” He then led the vocals for “Open the Eyes of My Heart,” a song that included the lyrics, “I want to see you.” Later, the musicians sang “I Surrender,” a song with the chorus, “I surrender, I surrender, I want to know you more, I want to know you more.”

The hour of prayer and music by Catholic young adults turned 23-year-old Jessica Szamocki.

“It’s beautiful when we gather together to have that fellowship with other young people,” said Szamocki, a member of Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish. “I’m really excited about the new archbishop.”

So are the members of the Spanish Charismatic Prayer Group at St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis. The group held a prayer and music gathering at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church following the young Catholics’ holy hour.

“We’re guided by the Holy Spirit to be here so the Lord can pour out all the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit, not just for the new archbishop but also for the whole archdiocese;” said Julia Gonzalez, a leader of the group. “We want to have the fire of love for Jesus.”

Hispanics in the archdiocese are excited that Archbishop Tobin is fluent in Spanish, she said.

“That is great,” Gonzalez said. “With the Hispanic population growing in Indiana, that’s going to be a great help for all of us.”

Hispanics in the archdiocese are excited that Archbishop Tobin is fluent in Spanish, she said.

“That is great,” Gonzalez said. “With the Hispanic population growing in Indiana, that’s going to be a great help for all of us.”

Eucharistic adoration was part of a Nov. 30 program at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church in Greenwood in which prayers were offered for Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, the new archbishop of the archdiocese.

“If we only know how much the Father smiles on us. The Father is so happy when we keep at it every single day. We keep praying day in and day out that we find ourselves in him.”

— Seminarian Benjamin Syberg, who is in his third year of priestly formation at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in St. Meinrad

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MOST REV. JOSEPH W. TOBIN, C. Ss. R.

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy sisters, we CONGRATULATE you on your installation as the ninth Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Our sisters residing in Indianapolis also WELCOME you to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis with loving, prayerful hearts.

We look forward to your visiting our two communities in due time. You will always be in our prayers.

Asking for your fatherly blessings now and always.

Yours Sincerely,

Sr. M. Loretto Emanou, DMIM
Mission Educator,
Mission Office, Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Rev. Sr. M. Beatrice Nwok Chekwum, DMIM
Regional Superior/Servant

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December 7
Marian University, Bishop Charrond Chapel, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Lumen Dei mass. Mass, 6:30 a.m., breakfast following Mass. Information: 317-246-4747 or smvaley@archindy.org

December 7-9
St. John the Evangelist Parish, 126 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis. "City Sidewalks on Georgia Street," narration on Georgia Street, 3 p.m. Information: 317-469-4433 or kristina@cj.org

December 8
Most Holy Name of Jesus Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. December 8-9
St. Roch Parish, 7575 Holiday Drive E., Indianapolis. Advent program, "Preparing for Christ–Advent Cycle C." Eric Slaughter, presenter, session two, 7-9 p.m., $15 per person. Information: 317-259-4373, ext. 256, or stluke.org/ bible-study

December 9
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 5333 E. Washington St., Indianapolis. Eucharistic Candle Adoration with Benediction at 6 p.m. Information: 317-663-4754 or annmoneech@comcast.net

December 9-13
St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, 7577 Holiday Drive E., Indianapolis. Advent program, "Preparing for Christ–Advent Cycle C." Eric Slaughter, presenter, session two, 7-9 p.m., $15 per person. Information: 317-259-4373, ext. 256, or stluke.org/ bible-study

December 10
Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5335 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Discalced Carmelites Secular Order meeting, noon. Information: 317-545-7681

December 10
St. Augustine Church, 315 E. Chestnut St., Jeffersonville. Catholic Community of Jeffersonville, "Christ Is the Light Advent Mission–Find the Light," 6:30-8 p.m. Information: 317-545-7681

December 10
Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 7575 Holliday Drive E., Indianapolis. Full Liturgy of the Hours, rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet will be prayed. Father Peter Marshall, celebrant, 8:30 a.m., followed by rosary outside abortion clinic and Benediction at church. Information: Archdiocesan Office for Pro-Life Ministry, 317-236-1569 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1569

Indianapolis parish to host Advent 40 Hours devotion
St. Barnabas Parish, 8380 Ralke Road, in Indianapolis is hosting an Advent 40 Hours devotion starting on Dec. 14 and concluding on Dec. 21. The 40-hour period of eucharistic adoration will begin with an 8:30 a.m. Mass on Dec. 14. Father Jerry Byrd, associate pastor of St. Barnabas Parish, will preach a homily. At 7 p.m. that day, Solemn Vespers will be prayed and Father Peter Marshall, administrator of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis, will preach a homily. Father Byrd will also preach at an 8:30 a.m. Mass on Dec. 15. Compline (Night Prayer) will be prayed at 9 p.m. It will include praise and worship music for young and youth adults.

The 40 Hours devotion will conclude with Mass and Benediction at 5 p.m. on Dec. 16 with Msgr. Anthony Voelz, pastor of St. Barnabas’ Parish, preaching. During the time of the devotion, the Liturgy of the Hours, rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet will be prayed. Opportunities for confession and anointing of the sick will also be available. For more information, call 317-682-0724 or send an e-mail to jbyrd@stbarnabasp.com

Decréche exhibit
This Native American ceramic crèche will be part of an exhibit of Christmas crèches from around the world on display at the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Library from Dec. 7 through Jan. 10. The display features crèches from the monastery collection as well as from the Catherine A. Smith Nativity Collection, which was donated to Saint Meinrad Archabbey in 2002 in memory of Charles Patrick (“Pat”) Smith. Catherine Smith began collecting Nativities since 1971 during her extensive travels throughout the world. For information about library hours, call 812-375-4041 or 800-987-7311 or log on to www.saintmeinrad.edu/libraryhours

Honorees
Members of women’s religious orders who previously operated girls’ highs in Indianapolis posa a Nov. 4 at St. Mary Church in Beech Grove during the sixth annual Indianapolis 40 Girls Catholic High School Mass and Luncheon. Honored with the sisters were volunteers who currently assist them in their ministry. The sisters, posing in the back row, are Benedictine Sister Anne Maureen, O.S.B. of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province Sisters Joanne Hagelskamp, Rita Wade and Barbara McClelland, and Franciscan Sister Janet Born. The volunteers, posing in the front row, are Luz Martha Godinez, from left, Suzy Ditto, Maribel Selina, and Tina and Danielle Gutapfel. Also during the luncheon, five women received recognition during the first annual Distinguished Alumnae Awards. They are Nancy Hines, a member of the former St. John Academy Class of 1956 in Indianapolis; Nancy Rasmussen, a member of the former St. Agnes Academy Class of 1965 in Indianapolis; Santa (Constantino) Bayt, a member of the former St. Mary Academy Class of 1940 in Indianapolis; and Dr. Mary Lou Masters, a member of the former Our Lady of Grace Academy Class of 1977 in Beech Grove.

Fr. Jerry Byrd
Fr. Peter Marshall
Msgr. Anthony Voelz
Parishes to host Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrations

Special to The Criterion

Masses and special events for the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe are scheduled at the following parishes in central and southern Indiana.

Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin will be the principal celebrant for a Spanish Mass at 6 p.m. on Dec. 12 at St. Anthony Church, 337 N. Warman Ave., in Indianapolis.

Dec. 9

• St. Andrew Parish
  235 S. 5th St., Richmond
  10 a.m. bilingual Mass.

Dec. 11

• Holy Spirit Parish
  7243 E. 10th St., Indianapolis
  6 p.m. mañanitas.

• St. Anthony Parish
  337 N. Warman Ave., Indianapolis
  6 a.m. rosary, 6:30 a.m. folkloric dances, 7:30 p.m. movie about apparitions, 8:15 p.m. recess and sales, 9 a.m. Mass, 10:30 a.m. serenade, 11:15 a.m. folkloric dances.

• St. Bartholomew Parish
  1306 27th St., Columbus
  10 p.m. procession, 10:20 p.m. narrative, 10:50 p.m. rosary, midnight mañanitas.

• St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish
  6000 W. 34th St., Indianapolis
  9:30 a.m. folkloric dances, 10:15 p.m. rosary, 11 p.m. Mayan and Aztec dances, midnight mañanitas, 1:15 a.m. fiesta.

• St. Joseph Parish
  270 E. Wood Ave., Universal
  11 p.m. to midnight serenade.

• St. Mary Parish
  317 N. New Jersey St., Indianapolis
  8:30 p.m. folkloric dances, 9:15 p.m. procession from Meridian and Vermont streets to St. Mary Church, 9:45 p.m. folkloric dances, 10 p.m. rosary, 10:40 p.m. folkloric dances, 11 p.m. representation of the apparitions, 11:30 p.m. mañanitas, midnight Mass followed by fiesta.

• St. Mary Parish
  415 E. Eighth St., New Albany
  9 p.m. to 10 p.m. representation of the apparitions, 10 p.m. rosary and confession, 10:30 p.m. Mass, 11:30 p.m. serenade.

• St. Michael Parish
  101 St. Michael Drive, Charlestown
  7 p.m. rosary, midnight mañanitas.

• St. Monica Parish
  631 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis
  9 p.m. rosary, 10 p.m. folkloric dances, 10:45 p.m. prayers, 11:45 p.m. mañanitas.

• St. Patrick Parish
  950 Prospect St., Indianapolis
  7 p.m. rosary, 7:15 p.m. serenade, 7:30 p.m. folkloric dances, 8:30 p.m. representation of the apparitions, 9:45 p.m. serenade, 10:30 p.m. Mass, midnight mañanitas.

• St. Paul Catholic Center
  1413 E. 17th St., Bloomington
  11 p.m. rosary, 11:30 p.m. serenade, midnight Mass, 1 a.m. fiesta with dinner of traditional foods from Mexico and other Latin American countries.

• St. Philip Neri Parish
  550 N. Rural St., Indianapolis
  7 p.m. rosary, 8 p.m. folkloric dances, 8:30 p.m. representation of the apparitions, 9:30 p.m. folkloric dances, 10:30 p.m. mañanitas, 12:30 a.m. fiesta.

Dec. 12

• Holy Spirit Parish
  7243 E. 10th St., Indianapolis
  6 a.m. church opens, 6 p.m. Mass followed by procession, folkloric dances and fiesta.

• Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish
  335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood
  5:30 a.m. mañanitas, 6:30 a.m. Mass followed by dinner.

• St. Ambrose Parish
  329 S. Chestnut St., Seymour
  5 a.m. mañanitas, 6 a.m. rosary, 6:30 p.m. bilingual Mass.

• St. Anthony Parish
  337 N. Warman Ave., Indianapolis
  midnight mañanitas, 1 a.m. to 7 a.m. rosaries, music and dances, 7 a.m. mañanitas, 9 a.m. rosary, 5 p.m. rosary and dances, 6 p.m. solemn Mass with Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, 7:30 p.m. procession.

• St. Bartholomew Parish
  1306 27th St., Columbus
  6 p.m. Mass followed by fiesta.

• St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish
  6000 W. 34th St., Indianapolis
  6 p.m. dances, 7 p.m. procession and Mass, 8:30 p.m. fiesta, 8:45 p.m. Mayan and Aztec dances.

• St. Joseph Parish
  312 E. High St., Corydon
  6 p.m. rosary, 7 p.m. procession and solemn Mass.

• St. Joseph Parish
  125 E. Broadway St., Shelbyville
  5:30 p.m. rosary followed by music, 7 p.m. Mass followed by reception.

• St. Lawrence Parish
  6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis
  4:30 a.m. mañanitas, 6 p.m. mañanitas.

7 p.m. Mass, 8:30 p.m folkloric dances.

• Hispanic Community of Terre Haute
  St. Margaret Mary Parish
  2405 S. Seventh St., Terre Haute
  7 p.m. Mass followed by mañanitas and fiesta.

• St. Mary Parish
  317 N. New Jersey St., Indianapolis
  noon, English Mass, 6:30 p.m. music, 7 p.m. bilingual Mass followed by fiesta.

• St. Mary Parish
  415 E. Eighth St., New Albany
  7 p.m. Mass followed by reception.

• St. Michael Parish
  101 St. Michael Drive, Charlestown
  7 p.m. Mass followed by reception.

• St. Monica Parish
  631 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis
  6 p.m. rosary and mariachi, 7 p.m. Mass and folkloric dances, 9 p.m. fiesta.

• St. Patrick Parish
  950 Prospect St., Indianapolis
  6 a.m. adoration, 6 p.m. rosary, 6:30 p.m. Aztec dance, 7 p.m. solemn Mass followed by representation of the apparitions, mañanitas and music.

• St. Paul the Apostle Parish
  202 E. Washington St., Greencastle
  7 p.m. play and celebration.

• St. Philip Neri Parish
  550 N. Rural St., Indianapolis
  5 a.m. church opens, 4 p.m. folkloric dances, 4:30 p.m. Mass with mariachi, 5:30 p.m. dances, 7 p.m. solemn Mass, 8 p.m. dances and music.

As the medical director of the St. Vincent Trauma Center, Dr. Lewis Jacobson works around the clock treating trauma patients with life-threatening injuries. When he’s free, he and his team begin a race against the clock. It’s a race that often ends with a new beginning—and a life saved.

“Our physicians and nurses come to work every day expecting to deliver a piece of themselves,” Dr. Jacobson said. “The risks are high, but the reward is great.”

Many trauma patients are young, making the stakes even higher. “Trauma often cuts young lives short,” Dr. Jacobson said. “But we have the opportunity to change that.”
example of the Servant of God Bishop Simon Bruté, the first bishop of Vincennes, to explain how to love and avoid the opposite of love—fear.

He first quoted—and claimed as a description of his own mission—a pastoral letter that Bishop Bruté wrote to the Catholics of his diocese shortly after he was ordained a bishop in 1834 in which he described himself as “your chief pastor.”

“He didn’t say ‘the only pastor,’” Archbishop Tobin said. “For the mission that I begin today, I share.”

He then described the people with whom he will minister as shepherd of the archdiocese—Bishop Christopher J. Coyne and the archdiocese’s priests and deacons, its religious, lay ministers, heads of families and single people.

Archbishop Tobin then recalled a saying of Bishop Bruté. “He said, ‘Fear is one of the devil’s greatest devices,’” Archbishop Tobin said. “The Archdiocese of Indianapolis will not be a Church of fear because it could not [then] be true to Jesus Christ, who said that love is the characteristic of his disciples. We will seek to eliminate fear. And we will announce the Good News together.”

In addition to paying tribute to the first in the line of bishops to lead the Church in central and southern Indiana, Archbishop Tobin honored his immediate predecessor, Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein, who attended the installation Mass.

In remarks at the end of the Mass, Archbishop Tobin thanked Archbishop Buechlein “for laying a firm foundation and of being so gracious to me in our conversations and for his promise to be always a cell phone call away when I run up against implacable problems.”

Before the Mass, Archbishop Buechlein spoke with The Criterion about how he was looking forward to witnessing the installation of his successor.

“I’m excited and I’m grateful,” Archbishop Buechlein said. “I’m grateful to the Holy Father for giving us Archbishop Tobin, grateful for Archbishop Tobin for his saying yes. He’s a good man.”

Archbishop Buechlein is the first retired shepherd of the Church in central and southern Indiana to be alive to witness the installation of his successor since Archbishop Paul C. Schulte was present for the installation of Archbishop George J. Biskup on Jan. 3, 1970.

The installation Mass started with Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States, serving as the principal celebrant.

More than a hundred priests and two dozen bishops processed into SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, which was filled with more than 1,000 worshippers.

Shortly after the start of the Mass, Archbishop Viganò began the liturgy by which Archbishop Tobin would be installed.

“...Archbishop Tobin, we pray through the intercession of St. Francis Xavier, whose feast the Church celebrates today, the pastoral feast of this archdiocese,” Archbishop Viganò said. “that in the spirit of this zealous missionary, your apostolic labors for the sake of the Gospel in the new evangelization will bear much spiritual fruit in this portion of the Lord’s vineyard and likewise serve the good of the community at large. ”

“May the holy season of Advent and the Year of Faith be a time of great grace and blessing for all of the people of God in Indianapolis.”

Archbishop Viganò then read the apostolic letter from Pope Benedict in which the pontiff appointed Archbishop Tobin to lead the Church in central and southern Indiana.

In the letter, Pope Benedict invoked the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for Archbishop Tobin “so that supported by her protection, you may so pastor the faithful confided to your pastoral care that they may continue to grow each day in Christian virtues, eager to hear the word of God, to practice works of mercy and to receive worthily the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, the Bread of Life given from heaven for the salvation of humankind.”

The apostolic letter was then ritually presented to the archdiocese’s College of Consulsors, a group of priests who advise the archbishop, and to the entire congregation.

Archbishop Viganò then asked Archbishop Tobin if was “willing to serve the people of this archdiocese as the traditional apostolic faith of the Church?”

“With faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and with the love of God in my heart,” Archbishop Tobin said, “I do accept the pastoral care of the people of God in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. I resolve to serve faithfully the spiritual needs of the local Church.”

The congregation then responded with, “Thanks to God” and applauded enthusiastically.

The central ritual of the installation Mass—the seating of Archbishop Tobin in the cathedra—then occurred.

Various people representing different parts of the faithful of the archdiocese then came to Archbishop Tobin at the cathedra to greet him. They included a priest, a deacon and his wife, religious, a married couple, youths and young adults, representatives of the Hispanic community and people with special needs.

Also greeting Archbishop Tobin were a representative of the Indianapolis-based Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a Muslim imam, a Jewish rabbi and various civic officials, including Indianapolis Mayor Gregory Ballard, who is Catholic.

At the conclusion of the installation Mass, Archbishop Tobin took time to thank Pope Benedict, Archbishop Buechlein, Bishop Coyne, other archdiocesan leaders, and the Catholics of central and southern Indiana who have been praying for a new archbishop for months now.

“I thank you for those prayers,” Archbishop Tobin said. “I thank you for those prayers.”

He also thanked his mother, Marie Tobin, and his 12 siblings. Archbishop Tobin then thanked his family among the members of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, commonly known as the Redemptorists, in which he first professed vows in 1973.

He served as the superior general of the order of 5,300 members ministering in 78 countries from 1997 to 2009.

“My brothers here know the full story. I trust that they’re not going to tell it,” said Archbishop Tobin with a smile. “But I thank you for teaching me to love the poor, and to assure that the Gospel is preached in season and out.”

Finally, Archbishop Tobin noted that, while he could not predict what would happen “in this great adventure of being the archbishop of Indianapolis,” he was, nonetheless, happy to serve as the shepherd of the local Church.

“Whatever the Lord holds for me, that’s fine,” Archbishop Tobin said. “But I’m sure that I’m going to enjoy life with you, my brothers and sisters of the Church in central and southern Indiana.”

(For complete coverage of the appointment and installation of Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis, log on to www.archindy.org/archbishop.)

Below, bishops process into SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on Dec. 3 at the start of the Mass during which Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin was installed as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis.

He said, “For the mission that I begin today, I share.”

For the mission that I begin today, I share.”
Mass participants embrace archbishop and excitement for new era

By John Shaughnessy and Mike Krokos

Annie Fleming and Olivia Kirsch couldn’t have been more nervous as the two teenagers stood in line with religious and civic leaders to welcome Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin during his Mass of Installation on Dec. 3. A week earlier, Annie and Olivia had each received phone calls telling them that they had been chosen to represent the youth of the archdiocese during the historic Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Yet, a week’s worth of nervousness quickly turned to amazement when the new archbishop smiled and talked with them. “Being asked to come to the installment of the archbishop was nothing I ever dreamed of,” said Olivia, a member of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis and the Archdiocesan Youth Council. “And then to not only come, but to welcome the archbishop personally. He said he’s excited about the youth here. That’s fantastic. We’ll benefit from that.”

Olivia described her opportunity to meet Archbishop Tobin as “a humbling experience.”

“It left a large impact on me,” said Olivia, 16, a member of St. Monica Parish in Bloomington. “In his homily and his expression that Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese, used during the Mass. “It let me come in and focus on the musical aspect.”

“The new archbishop’s installation was just part of the overwhelmingly positive reactions that people had about Archbishop Tobin and the Mass of Installation.”

An old neighbor’s road trip

At 81, Chuck Ballard wasn’t going to miss the installation of his former neighbor, Archbishop Tobin. So he and his wife of 57 years, Ann, made the trip from their home near Detroit.

“I grew up with them, the whole family,” Ballard said. “His dad was the nicest man I ever met in my life. His mother is the nicest woman. They are just beautiful people. Why do you think he is where he is today? You go with the family.”

Ballard remembers Archbishop Tobin’s years as pastor of Holy Redeemer Parish in Detroit.

“I remember how good he was with the parish. The parish was kind of going down, and he brought it up. He’s a good man. You guys are lucky. You don’t know how lucky you are to get a guy like this.”

A native son returns

The new archdiocese’s installation presented homecoming opportunities for Bishop Paul D. Etienne of the Cheyenne Diocese in Wyoming. Bishop Etienne grew up in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and served as a priest here for 17 years, including time as pastor of St. Paul Parish in Tell City, his home parish.

“I was thinking about [me to be here today],” Bishop Etienne said. “I was really hoping that my calendar would allow this visit, and I’m glad it did. It was a great celebration.”

“I had a chance to visit with the archbishop and had a chance to assure him of my prayers for him and the people of the archdiocese, and to offer any assistance that I think I can give as a former son of the diocese. I think you all had a very good trip.”

“We are all together in this”

Franciscan Brother Moses Gutierrez couldn’t stop smiling after the installation Mass. “I loved it!” said a beaming Brother Moses, coordinator of Hispanic ministry for the archdiocese. “All the different communities in the archdiocese were represented. And the blessing at the end was in Spanish. And some of the songs were bilingual! I loved it.

“It was beautiful to welcome him to the archdiocese. You can see the excitement in all the people. I’m excited to have a bishop who speaks so many languages [Spanish, English, Portuguese, French and Italian]. I’m looking forward to his guidance and his global vision of the Church. We are all one together in this as Catholics, as Christians.”

Respect for the Church

Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard appreciated the ecumenical spirit that was part of the Mass of Installation. He participated in the Mass at the front of the cathedral, sitting near representatives of Muslim, Jewish and other Christian faith traditions in the city who also welcomed Archbishop Tobin.

“I love the crowd that is here,” Ballard said after the Mass. “I think that [gathering of representatives from other faith traditions] speaks well for the respect that the Catholic Church has in the city.”

Ballard attended the Mass with his wife, Winnie. They are members of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis.

“The Church has always been a great partner, no matter what city, but I think in particular, here in Indianapolis, we collaborate together.”

“Archbishop Tobin will learn very quickly what a caring and compassionate city Indianapolis really is. He’ll fit right in, I’m sure.”

First impressions

Janis Dopp knows the power of first impressions, and she’s still struck by the effect that Archbishop Tobin had on her. “I find him a remarkably real human being, no pretensions,” said Dopp, director of religious education at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Bloomington. “In his homily and his remarks after the Mass, he did everything he could have done to relate to the people in the archdiocese in a very tangible way. I had a chance to meet him the day it was announced he was archbishop [Oct. 18]. He just has that capacity to focus on each person that he comes in contact with. He makes you feel like you’re the only person in the room, and he looks right into your eyes, and he says your name, and you really feel like you are talking to somebody in a relationship.”

From intimidating to uplifting

Andrew Motyka won’t have any trouble recalling his first major event as the archdiocese’s new director of liturgical music and cathedral music.

“Three days after I accepted the position, I heard that Archbishop Tobin was selected for the archdiocese,” said Motyka as he rested in the choir loft of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral after the installation Mass. “Here I had just accepted the position and was geared up to do something big, but this was something more high profile than I expected. It was intimidating.”

Fortunately, Motyka said, he was blessed with the instrumental help and direction of Charlie Gardner, executive director of the archdiocese’s Office for Spiritual Life and Worship, and Tom Nichols, music director of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis.

“Charlie and Tom made this so much easier.” Motyka noted about directing the archdiocesan choir during the Mass. “It let me come in and focus on the musical aspect. When I got here for the first rehearsal and heard their voices, I just smiled. I was so happy.”

Better than ‘wicked awesome’

Sister Judith Ayers will never forget the expression that Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese, used when he was ordained a bishop in the archdiocese in 2011.

“It was ‘wicked awesome.’” Sister Judith recalled with a laugh. She used similar praise to describe the installation Mass of Archbishop Tobin.

“It was absolutely phenomenal,” said Sister Judith, who lives a life consecrated to God outside of a religious order. “I’ve lived here three years, and this was the most awesome experience I’ve had in the archdiocese. It was the representation of the many different vocations of the archdiocese—the laity, the priesthood, the religious. It was just a very wonderful experience.”

Hope for the future

After the two-hour Mass, William Spangler’s enthusiasm for the new archbishop and the liturgy soared.

“I thought he had such a presence—a spiritual, warm presence,” said Spangler, a member of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis. “I came away excited and very hopeful about the future of the archdiocese. He will be someone to bring us together and unite us in our mission. And the liturgy was fabulous.”

The last-minute opportunity

Catherine and James Hill didn’t learn until the late morning of the installation Mass that there would be room for them at the 2 p.m. celebration.

Still, the married couple from St. Paul Parish in Greencastle didn’t hesitate to clear their schedules to make the trip to Indianapolis.

“We had to wait until 10:30 this morning to find out if they had room for us,” Catherine Hill said. “So we were the last, I guess, to be called. “It was beautiful. To see all of God’s servants—all the priests, the bishops and our new archbishop—it has touched my heart, and it filled my heart with love. I feel closer to our Lord.”

(Senior reporter Mary Ann Garber also contributed to this story.)
Above, Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, left, apostolic administrator of the archdiocese; Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States; and Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin stand together at the start of the Dec. 3 Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral during which Archbishop Tobin was installed as the new shepherd of the Church in central and southern Indiana.

Center, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin sits in the new cathedra at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis for the first time during the Dec. 3 Mass when he was installed as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis.

Right, Marie Tobin, the mother of Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, walks into SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis on Dec. 3 for her oldest son’s installation Mass. Accompanying her are, left, Brian Joseph, a family friend, and David Vandelinder, right, her son-in-law.

Right, Annette “Mickey” Lentz, archdiocesan chancellor, receives the apostolic letter in which Pope Benedict XVI appointed Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin as the shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis from Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

Right, Dale Gill, left, and Kim Coash, members of St. Lawrence Parish in Indianapolis, kneel in prayer during the Dec. 3 installation Mass.

Bottom right, transitional Deacon John Kamwendo incenses the congregation during the installation Mass for Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin on Dec. 3 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Below, Father Dustin Boehm, left in front row, and Father William Williams pray the eucharistic prayer with other concelebrants during the Dec. 3 installation Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Below, permanent Deacon Thomas Horn ritually holds an apostolic letter from Pope Benedict XVI for the congregation to see at the installation Mass. In the letter, the pope appointed Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis.

Above, Blanca Alejo, second from left, holds Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin’s hand while she and members of her family speak with the new shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis during a Dec. 3 reception at the Archbishop’s O’Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis after the installation Mass. Accompanying Blanca are, from left, Paola, Jose, Francesca and Maria Alejo. They are members of St. Mary Parish in Indianapolis.

Left, Catholics from across the archdiocese sing in a choir during the installation Mass on Dec. 3 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Left, Barbara Black, parish life coordinator of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Terre Haute, left, and Franciscan Sister Shirley Gerth, parish life coordinator of St. Maurice Parish in Napoleon, process into SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral on Dec. 3 at the start of the installation Mass for Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin.

Left, Yuri Rodriguez, a member of St. Paul Catholic Center in Bloomington, leads the congregation in the singing of the responsorial psalm during the installation Mass for Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin on Dec. 3 at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

Below left, filling his role as Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, the daughter of Theresa Tobin of St. Clare Parish, stands with her family during the installation Mass. Below, permanent Deacon Theresa Hess holds an apostolic letter from Pope Benedict XVI for the congregation to see at the installation Mass. In the letter, the pope appointed Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin as the sixth archbishop of Indianapolis.
Family is ‘overjoyed’ by welcome for Archbishop Tobin

By Mary Ann Garber

Sunny skies and 69-degree weather on Dec. 3 tied a record high from 1982 as Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin was installed as the sixth archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

The unseasonably warm Advent Monday in Indianapolis wasn’t a surprise for his 89-year-old mother, Marie Terese Tobin of Stoney Point, Ontario, Canada, who had prayed for a wonderful day for her oldest son’s installation as the spiritual leader of Catholics in central and southern Indiana.

“I have met so many beautiful people here,” she said during a reception after the installation Mass, “and I’m so happy that Joe is going to serve them.”

With her 12 other children, their spouses and her grandchildren, Marie was overjoyed to receive the Eucharist from Archbishop Tobin, who served the Church and his Redemptorist order for 21 years in Rome and ministered in nearly 75 countries throughout the world before Pope Benedict XVI named him as the shepherd of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis on Jan. 18.

As for the picture-perfect weather, Marie said her late husband, Joseph—who died of a heart attack on Jan. 26, 1977, after helping many people stranded in the historic Blizzard of ’77—has been a wonderful intercessor for sunshine on special days for the Tobin family.

“He does this for weddings,” she said, “and other special occasions.”

Marie said she felt especially close to her late husband during the eucharistic liturgy celebrated by her son after his installation.

“Always when the Eucharist is there,” she said, “because he’s one with the Eucharist.”

Theresa Tobin, a prosecuting attorney in St. Clair Shores, Mich., and the 11th sibling, was enjoying the beautiful weather with her daughter, Mavee, and other family members in front of the cathedral after her brother’s installation.

“My prayer for him is to have the love and support of everyone around him just as he gives that to us,” she said. “As siblings, we’ve always felt that from him.”

As he settles into his new home in Indianapolis, Theresa said, family members are thrilled to be able to visit him more easily.

“Joe is incredibly gracious, and he is an open book,” she said. “What you see is what you get from Joe—which I think is a wonderful trait to have—and I think the people of Indianapolis will figure that out once they get to meet him. He really is loving and open and caring.”

Kathy Vandelinde, a nurse in Grosse Point Park, Mich., and the fourth sibling, said her oldest brother and the rest of the Tobin family have “been embraced by the people here” in the archdiocese.

“I am so happy that he is going to be well loved here,” Kathy said. “Our mother is overjoyed. She is so proud. Mom and Dad are our rock, and are always at the center of our being. We all just so proudly that the faith they have instilled in us is going on through all of our generations.”

Tom Tobin of Lakeshore, Ontario, and the eighth sibling, said his oldest brother is a very pastoral bishop who enjoys meeting people and ministering to them.

“He always been the same,” Tom said, and enjoys serving God and his people.

“Indiana is a great state,” he said.

“We’re glad that Joe is here,” he said.

Gerarda Tobin of St. Clair Shores, Mich., and the ninth sibling, said “Joe has always been such a leader for all of us” through the years.

“I pray that he has the strength and help to continue the incredible job that he has done literally around the world and in many places that most people don’t go,” Gerarda said. “He’s a true man of faith and a true leader that will lead this [Catholic] community and bring this community together where it should be.

“Joe is a true inspiration, particularly to the younger community,” she said.

“With 12 younger brothers and sisters, he’s always been very much a part of our lives and a part of our children’s lives. I think that that will be a great asset to this community. We’re Midwesterners, too.”

Sara Broderick of Stoney Pointe, Ontario, Canada, and the youngest of the Tobin siblings, said her oldest brother’s installation liturgy was “so touching” and “absolutely beautiful.”

“Like her siblings, Sara said that during the Mass she prayed that “God will give Joe the strength to carry out what it is that he has called him to do.

“We’re so proud of him,” she said, “and we know that wherever he goes he has always been such a leader for all of us” through the years.

“We’re just amazed at the number of seminarians,” she said. “It just gives us such great hope for the future of our Catholic Church.”

Matt and Sara Broderick’s teenage daughter, Nora, was excited to see her uncle again.

“I thought that [his new ministry assignment] is so amazing for him,” Nora said. “Our whole family is based on our faith. I know he will do a great job. It will be so great for our family close, and we will get to see him more often.”

Redemptorists flock to Indianapolis for Archbishop Tobin’s installation

By Sean Gallagher

For much of his adult life, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin has lived and built deep relationships with many members of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, commonly known as the Redemptorists.

“Many of those Redemptorists made their way from around the world to Indianapolis on Dec. 3 for the installation Mass of Archbishop Tobin,” said Father Harry Grile, OSB, the current provincial of the Redemptorists.

Archbishop Tobin became a Redemptorist novice in 1972, first professed vows in the order the following year and was ordained a priest in 1978. In 1997, he was elected as the superior general of the worldwide order and served in Rome in that position until 2009.

The following year, Pope Benedict XVI appointed him as secretary for the Vatican’s Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, which helps guide the life and ministry of more than 1 million men and women religious around the world.

By virtue of that appointment, Archbishop Tobin was ordained an archbishop.

Long before rising to such positions of leadership in the Church, however, Redemptorist Father Harry Grile met Archbishop Tobin when he was a “short, rotund little kid from Detroit” who, while a junior high school student, participated in a Redemptorist vacation program during the summer at a minor seminary the order operated in the mid-1960s.

“He did cannon balls off of the diving board of our swimming pool,” said Father Harry with a laugh.

Father Harry later taught Church history to Archbishop Tobin at the now-closed Mount Alphonsus Seminary in Esopus, N.Y.

“It’s wonderful,” said Father Harry, provincial of the Redemptorists’ Denver Province, about attending the installation Mass for his former mentor.

“I consider him an exceptional person. He was one of the better students I had. He’s got a heart as big as his is. He will really reach out to a lot of the people.”

Redemptorist Father John Schmidt, also a leader in the Denver Province, served as an associate pastor of St. Alphonsus Parish in Chicago in the early 1990s when Archbishop Tobin was pastor of the parish.

Watching Archbishop Tobin during the installation Mass, he recognized many qualities in him that he came to know 20 years ago.

“He’s warmth and his ability to make jokes at his own expense,” Father John said. “He’s a humble man in many ways.”

He also expected the charism of the Redemptorists to influence the ministry of Archbishop Tobin in the Church in central and southern Indiana and beyond.

“Our charism is a very pastoral charism,” Father John said. “It’s closeness to the people. And I know that Archbishop Tobin will bring that to his ministry. And that will be a great influence in the U.S. Church.”

Archbishop Tobin is currently the only Redemptorist serving as a bishop in the United States. Father John said that the last one to do so was Bishop Aloysius J. Willinger, who served as the bishop of Monterey, Calif., from 1953 to 1967 and died in 1973.

Also representing the Redemptorists at the installation Mass were young members of the order still in formation.

They are: Redemptorist Brothers Landon Cao, 30, and Aaron Meszaros, 27, are about a year away from being ordained priests.

They are currently receiving their priestly formation at Chicago Theological Union in Chicago.

Brother Aaron lived with Archbishop Tobin for about a month in 2007 when he was a novice in the order. He said participating in the installation Mass was a moving experience.

“It’s powerful because he’s such a kind man,” Brother Aaron said. “He’s really so personable, so kind, so compassionate and so pastoral. And that’s what I love about pastoral. I’m really proud to see one of our Redemptorists lead a diocese in the U.S.”

Brother Landon, whose parents emigrated to the United States from Vietnam, sees Archbishop Tobin as a role model.

“His personality is very down to earth. He likes to be with the people,” Brother Landon said. “That is our characteristic as Redemptorists. We go to the people. And for an archbishop to be like that . . . is an inspiration for us as future priests.”

Brother Aaron echoed Brother Landon’s sentiments.

“Being a Redemptorist is to be with the people, to really serve the people,” Brother Aaron said. “That’s where our hearts lie. And I see that with Joe Tobin. His heart is with the people.”

The Tobin children felt especially close to their father today during the Mass, Sara said. “We know Dad is always with us, but it’s such a reminder. I know Dad is smiling down on Joe and the whole family with such pride. Our parents laid a strong foundation [for us] with their faith. They were always so faith-filled. My mother passed that [devotion] along to us, and we’re so grateful to have her as the healthy and happy family.”

The Tobin family was pleased to see so many seminarians participating in the installation Mass, Sara said, which is a tribute to Archbishop Emeritus Daniel M. Buechlein’s spiritual leadership of the archdiocese during the past two decades.

“We’re just amazed at the number of seminarians,” she said. “It just gives us such great hope for the future of our Catholic Church.”

Matt and Sara Broderick’s teenage daughter, Nora, was excited to see her uncle again.

“I thought that [his new ministry assignment] is so amazing for him,” Nora said. “Our whole family is based on our faith. I know he will do a great job. It will be so great for our family close, and we will get to see him more often.”

†
### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ATTENDED/ATTENDING

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To our friends in the Catholic Community
**John & Kara Traub Family and**

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Welcome Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R. to your new Indianapolis home

Indy's oldest heating & cooling company since 1883

639-1111
Advent penance services are scheduled at archdiocesan parishes

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

## Batesville Deanery
- Dec. 7, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. for St. Joseph, St. Leon; St. Paul, New Alsace; St. John the Baptist, Dover; and St. Martin, Yorkville, at St. Martin, Yorkville
- Dec. 11, 7 p.m. at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Aurora
- Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. for St. Charles, Milan; St. Pius, Ripley County; St. Mary Magdalen, New Mauion; and St. John the Baptist, Osgood, at St. John the Baptist, Osgood
- Dec. 12, 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph, Essex, and St. John the Evangelist, Enochsburg, at St. John the Evangelist, Enochsburg
- Dec. 19, 7 p.m. deanery service at St. Martin of Tours, New Marion; and St. John the Evangelist, Enochsburg

## Bloomington Deanery
- Dec. 7, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. for St. Joseph, St. Leon; St. Paul, New Alsace; St. John the Baptist, Dover; and St. Martin, Yorkville, at St. Martin, Yorkville
- Dec. 11, 7 p.m. at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Aurora
- Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. for St. Charles, Milan; St. Pius, Ripley County; St. Mary Magdalen, New Mauion; and St. John the Baptist, Osgood, at St. John the Baptist, Osgood
- Dec. 12, 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph, Essex, and St. John the Evangelist, Enochsburg, at St. John the Evangelist, Enochsburg
- Dec. 19, 7 p.m. deanery service at St. Martin of Tours, New Marion; and St. John the Evangelist, Enochsburg

## Connersville Deanery
- Dec. 12, 7 p.m. at Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis
- Dec. 18, following 5:15 p.m. Mass for Richmond Catholic Community at St. Mary, Richmond

## Indianapolis East Deanery
- Dec. 10, 7 p.m. for Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Bernadette and St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) at St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower)
- Dec. 11, 6:30 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville
- Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph, Jennings County, at St. Joseph, Jennings County
- Dec. 10, 7 p.m. for Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Bernadette and St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) at St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower)

## Indianapolis North Deanery
- Dec. 9, 4 p.m. at St. Mary, New Albany
- Dec. 10, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Clark County
- Dec. 12, 7 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville
- Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Lanesville
- Dec. 16, 3 p.m. at Sacred Heart, Clinton
- Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany

## Indianapolis South Deanery
- Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m. at Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
- Dec. 11, 7 p.m. at St. Jude
- Dec. 12, 6 p.m. at St. Barnabas
- Dec. 13, 7 p.m. for St. Joseph and St. Ann at St. Ann
- Dec. 16, 2 p.m. at Good Shepherd
- Dec. 17, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of the Greenwood, Greenwood
- Dec. 19, 6 p.m. at St. Barnabas

## Indianapolis West Deanery
- Dec. 11, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas More, Mooresville
- Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Malachy, Brownburg
- Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m. at St. Susanna, Plainfield
- Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at St. Michael the Archangel

## New Albany Deanery
- Dec. 9, 4 p.m. at St. Mary, New Albany
- Dec. 10, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Clark County
- Dec. 12, 7 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville
- Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul, Sellersburg
- Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Mary, Laneville
- Dec. 16, 3 p.m. at Holy Family, New Albany
- Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany
- Dec. 19, 6 p.m. at St. Meinrad, St. Meinrad

## Seymour Deanery
- Dec. 9, 4 p.m. at Holy Trinity, Edinburgh, and St. Rose of Lima, Franklin, at St. Rose of Lima, Franklin
- Dec. 10, 6 p.m. at American Martyrs, Scottsburg
- Dec. 12, 6 p.m. at St. Patrick, Salem
- Dec. 13, 7 p.m. at St. Bartholomew, Columbus
- Dec. 17, 6:30 p.m. for St. Ann, Jennings County; St. Mary, North Vernon; and St. Joseph, Jennings County, at St. Joseph, Jennings County
- Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Providence, Brownstown, and St. Ambrose, Seymour, at St. Ambrose, Seymour

## Tell City Deanery
- Dec. 12, 6 p.m. at St. Paul, Tell City
- Dec. 19, 6:30 p.m. at St. Meinrad, St. Meinrad

## Terre Haute Deanery
- Dec. 9, 7 p.m. at St. Joseph, Rockville
- Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph, Rockville
- Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany
- Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at Our Lady of the Knobs, Floyd County, and St. Mary, Navilleton, at St. Mary, Navilleton
- Dec. 23, 1 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Starlight

## All 33,005 Indiana Knights of Columbus Members

Welcome Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.

All 33,005 Indiana Knights of Columbus Members

Welcome Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Find a spiritual oasis during the season of Advent

By Nancy de Flon

Wilmington Wild Forest in New York’s Adirondack Mountains is one of my favorite places. A sense of peace and serenity prevails that is enhanced by the beneficent presence of the trees, and the trails offer a boost to your physical well-being as you walk for miles enjoying the beauty around you.

Late one November, I watched winter arrive in this forest as snow moved in and covered everything in white. But on the tree branches, I saw tiny red bumps that would later bud as snow moved in and covered everything in white. But on the tree branches, I saw tiny red bumps that would later bud and the promise of spring. Nature slows down, but it doesn’t stop.

Here we are at that time of year again. It would do us well to join the rest of nature and slow down, but instead a whirlwind of holiday-related activities encroaches on our time—shopping, writing cards, planning meals and so forth. We experience considerable tension between the external demands of the holiday season and the need to slow down. Yet, it’s precisely now that we thirst for a spiritual oasis.

We normally associate an oasis with the desert—a place of refreshment and rest within a landscape of emptiness and dryness. And yet, it’s in this December rush of plenty—of too much, dare we say?—that we need to carve out a spiritual oasis for ourselves so that we can slow down and introduce an element of reflection into our lives.

Advent couldn’t come at a better time. It’s the start of a new liturgical year and—more than Jan. 1—the ideal time for “new year” resolutions.

The readings at Mass during Advent set us up spiritually for the year. They ring with the promise of the long-awaited Savior, the Redeemer who comes to free us to its former glory. (Bar 5:3, 5).

Jerusalem, which has been overrun, emptied of its people and occupied by foreign powers, will be restored to its former glory. (Rv 21:5).

In the readings for the second Sunday of Advent, the prophet Baruch exhorts Jerusalem to “stand up the height” for “God will show all the Earth your splendor” (Bar 5:3, 5).

In the Gospel, John the Baptist preaches repentance—throw off the old, not because this is a time of self-judgment, but because wonderful things are coming. (Lk 3:6).

Yet, it’s precisely now that we thirst for a spiritual oasis.

For me, one word sums up the Advent readings—vision. This heralds an end to suffering—a putting aside of the past with its pain, faults and mistakes—because God promises to “make all things new” (Rv 21:5).

In the liturgy of the Hours, the stunningly beautiful responsory for Morning Prayer foretells that Jerusalem’s light will come. “The Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.” Substitute your name for Jerusalem—that’s God’s promise to you. I hope you find it as exhilarating as I do.

What can be more compelling motivation to wade into our spiritual oasis than to be energized by the promise of vindication?

Let’s slow down. Let’s enjoy nature and take a lesson from the natural world. You can’t stop and smell the flowers in December, but perhaps you can walk in a park or in the woods, regard a tree with gratitude and realize that its beauty isn’t gone because of winter—it’s just changed.

There is beauty in the bareness. If you enjoy taking pictures, take your camera. You don’t have to be an Ansel Adams, the talented nature photographer. It’s your own focusing on—one both figuratively and literally—the subject that matters. It calms your mind.

No time to get outdoors? Slow down by spending time with a beautiful image in a book or buy a calendar with scenic photography or other art that appeals to you, and keep it handy for enjoyment during your oasis. If you prefer music, treat yourself to an early Christmas present. Buy a CD or download mp3 files of relaxing classical music and choose pieces that particularly speak to you.

God’s light and glory fill the darkening weeks of Advent.

A thick layer of ice coats berries hanging from a tree in Highland Park in Rochester, N.Y., on Jan. 16, 2007. Nature slows down, but does not stop during the winter. In a similar way, Catholics should slow down and find a spiritual oasis during Advent.

A candel on an Advent wreath is being lit in this photo illustration. The daylight hours grow shorter and shorter in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Nevertheless, God’s light and glory spiritually fill the season of Advent.

God’s light and glory fill the darkening weeks of Advent

By Rhina Guidos

A few years ago, during one of the worst blizzards that pounded the East Coast in a particularly harsh winter, I was sitting in the chapel of a convent, staring out at the snowflakes falling like confetti from the sky.

In minutes, they accumulated into mounds of snow and what seemed like mounds of misery to me.

With each flake that fell, my spirit sank lower. I walked home to watch a movie that was set on an island, pretending that I wasn’t in the thick of the winter that I had come to dread.

All I could say over and over was, “I hate winter,” as some of the Capuchin Franciscan sisters who live in the convent here, trying to soothly and patiently convince me of the beauty that I wasn’t seeing.

The first reading for the second Sunday of Advent from the Book of Baruch calls us to “take off your robe of mourning and misery” and, in its place, to “put on the splendor of glory from God forever” (Bar 5:1).

Having gained some distance from that moment, I now see what the sisters were trying to teach me, how they were trying to lead me to take off the robe of mourning and misery. It was a difficult task for me and others who came into contact with them during Advent that year, and walked with them on that path toward Christmas.

Some of us had lost loved ones that winter or were having a hard time at work. Others were going through personal losses. In our part of the world, Advent comes at a time when we experience less sun and less warmth, but more traffic indoors and outdoors as the holiday season sets in. If you are going through a hard time at work, Others were going through personal losses.

In our part of the world, Advent comes at a time when we experience less sun and less warmth, but more traffic indoors and outdoors as the holiday season sets in. If you are going through a hard time at work, all that can add a layer of stress and discomfort.

But each week brings more light into some of our indoor spaces, especially as each Advent candle is lit. Our setting becomes brighter still if we focus on what the Scriptures have to tell us.

Our Advent readings this year speak of “light” and “glory,” but we must actively seek this light and glory in what we read, in the advice we heed from those trying to lead us to the light, and in what we choose to focus on during Advent. In Philippians, we are told to “discern what is of value” (Phil 1:10).

I remember listening to one of the elderly sisters that winter as she watched the snowflakes fall, rejoiced in their beauty—the way they dressed the trees and bushes—and sought the lessons that nature had to teach.

She said she wanted to teach me to love winter, but knew it must be hard when I had to be on the road at late hours for work.

Even though she didn’t know all the things that surrounded my misery of that period, she showed me how to “discern what is of value.”

Something as simple as contemplating a beautiful sunset on a branch, watching the sisters get into a friendly snowball fight or bunkering down to contemplate the Gospel slowly brought the light and glory back in.

(Rhina Guidos is an editor at Paulist Press and the author of The Joy of Praying the Psalms.)
It is December, and the Christmas cards have begun to arrive. I like the photo cards that showcase friends’ and families’ favorite moments from the past year.

Recently, my cousin visited her beautiful Catholic Christmas card hanging up in our kitchen. She is one of my favorite people, her friend, her husband and their three handsome young boys. Her son’s outfit looked sharp in their suit jackets and ties. The picture was terrific.

Frankly, the photo looked like one of those perfect shots that come displayed in the frame when you buy a new house. How about this little gem?

“Well, don’t they just all love it?” my cousin said, in jest.

“Hey, no,” I replied, “I wouldn’t have divvied this information, but since the two didn’t know each other and lived states apart, I explained. "My photo was taken during the evening of my friend’s father’s funeral. It’s the only time her husband and sons have ever won such a coveted honor."

One of the photos in the frame is a man standing by the hotel door of my friend, her husband and their three handsome young boys.

Our king was put to death on a cross as if he were a criminal. In our king’s life and in our own lives, there are constant reminders that God’s kingdom is not of this world. But I find comfort in Jesus’ words: ‘In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome the world’ (Jn 16:33).

Calling, obedience, and the study of the documentary books, contains a passage that compares life to a mosaic. The broken pieces don’t make sense to us at the time. But later, when we look back, the whole mosaic is revealed. See, those broken pieces all fit together to make something beautiful.

God truly does make sense on the human plane. Things are not always what they seem. In that statement, she summarized the essence of our faith.

Even when we don’t understand, we can’t stop believing. Our lives are works in progress. Our days are pieces of a great mosaic. We believe in the promise of Christmas."

For the Journey/Effie Caldarola

Crossing the borders as Jesus did in today’s diverse world

If the recent election proved anything, it is that the face of the U.S. is a changing face—younger and more diverse. It is an exciting time to be a citizen, let alone a changing one as well. I’ve written before about my daughter, Maria. We love her, but there is a difference story here, that tells of our wish and desire to be culturally responsive to others but how easily we can misunderstand. Sometimes we can be inadvertently insensitive.

I witnessed that struggle at a conference that I attended recently. The irony was that the attendees were all people who were activists and worked in social justice venues. We were a diverse group.

It happened when one of the events of the conference was a hotel worker again, a man whose background couldn’t be immediately guessed. The organizer asked the man if he would take our group picture. The organizer also wanted to be in the picture so he explained to the man how to work the two megaphones.

They were simple cameras, basically your point-and-shoot variety, and the man agreed cheerfully. But when it came time to take the photos, something went wrong. Although he had been directed to hold down the button for a few seconds, he pushed quickly, over and over, and the flash didn’t go off. "You have to hold down the button and hold the organizer from the back now of the group." "Hold it down for a while," he said. The organizer then cancelled the photos, somewhat frustrated, with no success to push the button.

Finally, someone murmured, "Can someone say it in Spanish?" Even then, it took a few seconds of confusion before a young nun said, "Sí, sí, acompañado," by a few quick words in Spanish.

The man then easily completed the photos.

I think we all wondered to ourselves, why did it take us so long—albeit, just a short while—to recognize a language problem? Shouldn’t each of us have realized that issue right away, rather than repetitively shouting our directions in English?

I thought, in the afternoon, I viewed the diversity all around me. A Sikh man strode by. A group of Hasidic Jewish men waited to board my plane. A call went over the public address system, "Could an Arabic-speaking person please come to Gate 4?"

A wise teacher told me that when Jesus approaches, a border in Scripture, pay attention. The phrase he used to often with Samaritans. He crossed other borders to women or lepers or others perceived by his society to be of reduced status. Jesus favored a diverse group while sometimes showing the door to his own people.

At Christmas time, we remember the Christ Jesus, who crossed borders into exile in Egypt as just a baby. We pray for all those who do their best to create a world that is less than ideal. We want a world where children are not born to an ordinary carpenter and his wife. Glorious endings can have meager beginnings. And the road isn’t always pretty.

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Adoption: A choice we can all live with

I can only slightly imagine what St. Joseph must have been feeling when Mary told him about her being pregnant at an age when in our culture, asking, “OK, let me see if I’ve got this straight. You must have struggled immensely since that time when St. Matthew’s Gospel that God sent an angel to Joseph to help him believe that Mary’s pregnancy was a work of the Holy Spirit and to take Mary as his wife.

Regardless of all of the circumstances surrounding Joseph’s coming to accept and then embrace Mary’s pregnancy, he would later become the adoptive father of Jesus.

Although not his own biological son, Joseph was a two-parent family for Jesus where he could thrive and grow. We don’t often think about Jesus as an adoptive child since most of his life that we know about was Jesus as an adult. Another “adoption” that we read about in the New Testament is the rite of adoption that St. Paul uses in his Letter to the Ephesians that “in love he destined for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ (Eph 1:4-5). The “us” that Paul describes here are those of us who have received Christ as Savior.

Adoption has a strong and rich history. However, it has lost favor in our American culture.

For instance, in the United States today, among all unmarried women who became pregnant in 2010, just 1 percent choose to place their child for adoption. This is compared to a rate of 9 percent in 1973.

Today, when unmarried women become pregnant the choice almost always comes down to abortion or single parenting.

Although I always am in favor of the latter, that means life, it cannot be true that 99 percent of the time single-parenting is the better option for the child. What has happened is that the biological parents are later married, but this remains rare.

The choice to place a child for adoption is by no means easy. In fact, it is incredibly painful and beyond courageous.

However, it can be very empowering to be in the position to actually choose the parents to raise your child. Although not required, today most parents who place their child for adoption choose who will become their child’s parents, and many choose to maintain some level of contact with the adoptive parents.

When the pro-abortion crowd talks about “choice,” we can throw out a whole slew of choices. There are just as many in the pro-life view.

We encourage and supported to make choices that empower them, and allow the child the chance to become one of these “adopted” sons or daughters of God. I encourage and support adoption. Almost all of us at one time or another, are aware of a young woman who becomes pregnant in less than ideal circumstances.

You can show that you care about her and her child by supporting the work of one of our Catholic Charities pregnancy and adoption agencies so that she can explore her choices at www.gospelmadeinamerica.com.

We pray for all those who do their best to create a new life in a new place, who are forced to cross borders in exile, and we ask God to teach us how to cross borders with sensitivity, thoughtfulness and depth.
Jesus will come again in triumph and judgment. St. Luke’s Gospel is the source of the last reading. This reading centers upon Jesus, although John the Baptist is quite evident in the reading. Carefully constructed, the Gospel presents the coming of Jesus as extraordinarily, indeed uniquely, important in the course of human affairs. John the Baptist recognized Jesus, and he saw in the coming of this momentous event of God and God’s mercy into human existence. Thus, John urged the people to prepare themselves to receive the Lord. Essential in this preparation was the personal rejection of sin. John was a prophet and holy man in the Jewish mind, holiness—more than anything—gave persons special wisdom. John could be trusted. He spoke the truth. To emphasize the importance of what was occurring, this Gospel parable was taken in setting the presence of John and the future coming of Christ at an exact moment in history, namely when Tiberius was emperor and Pilate was his governor in Palestine. Finally, Jesus came as God’s promised redeemer. The prophets of old had yearned for the redeemer and predicted the coming of a savior. When this messiah would come, all would be made right. The rough ways for people would be made smooth. Reflection: When Baruch was written, times were hard for the Jews. When Philippians and the Gospel of Luke were written, times were hard for Christians. The circumstances differed, but the last condition of misery and hopelessness was the same. On this Second Sunday of Advent, times are hard for many people. The economy is still anemic. Many people still suffer the effects of Hurricane Sandy in the East. The results of sin still torment everyone. But all will be right, and joy and peace will prevail, if we admit Jesus into our lives. We must be genuine. We invite the Lord into our lives sincerely by renouncing our sins and giving ourselves totally to God. John the Baptist calls us to this commitment as he called people in his generation.†

We are Lazarus coming forth From the doldrums Of darkness and death, Arms outstretched Feeling once again the warmth Of light and life. “What do you want me to do for you?” We hear the words He speaks. Our part and share From the depths of our heart, We say, “Master, I want to see!” Every story is alive. Every story infuses life In us.†

By Cathy Lamperski Dearing

The Criterion Friday, December 7, 2012

Second Sunday of Advent/ Msgr. Owen F. Campion

Daily Readings

Monday, Dec. 10
Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 85:9ab-14
Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday, Dec. 11
Isaiah 61:1-10
Psalm 96:1-3, 10-13
Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday, Dec. 12
Isaiah 6:1-8, 9-11
Psalm 45:11-12, 14-17
Luke 1:26-38
or Luke 1:39-47

Thursday, Dec. 13
Psalm 8:1-4, 5-8
Psalm 95:1, 3-7
Matthew 11:1-15

Friday, Dec. 14
Isaiah 41:13-20
Psalm 88:3-9, 13-16
Psalm 111:1-9
Matthew 2:13-21

Saturday, Dec. 15
Isaiah 49:1-6
Psalm 102:1-5, 16-19
Matthew 17:10-13

Sunday, Dec. 16
Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 78:2, 3-6, 7-12
Psalm 110:1-4
Psalm 119:98-101
Matthew 5:1-12

Question Corner
Fr. Kenneth Doyle
Dioceesan priests do not take vow of poverty, but encouraged to live simply

Q  While I realize that dioceesan priests do not vow of poverty, it is almost scandalous to see so many priests in our area driving Cadillacs and other high-end automobiles, buying vacation homes, wearing Rolex watches, etc. In every case that I know about, priests live in lower to middle-class apartments and---especially in the present economy---the vast majority of their parishioners live in much more difficult economic circumstances. My teenage children have told me that their friends joke about our pastor’s annual change from one luxury car to another.

I have also heard very specific questions from Protestant friends about some of our clergy living a lifestyle that doesn’t in any way resemble the example of Jesus.

To add to the problem, a good number of these high-living priests are conducting capital fundraising campaigns and asking for the full cooperation of their parishioners.

I have found your advice on Church matters to be past caring and realistic, and am hoping that you can weigh in on this situation. (New Jersey)

A If things are as you describe them, it is definitely a cause for concern. As you point out, dioceesan priests---unlike members of religious orders---do not take a vow of poverty. They are paid a salary from which they take care of their expenses. Typically, a major share of their salary goes to automobile expenses and for income taxes with a large chunk sent to Social Security because priests are considered by the government to be self-employed.

In my diocese, there is a gratuities in a priest’s salary depending on the number of years ordained, and it tops off at about $30,000 a year.

A classmate of mine once observed---only semi-facetiously—that with a priest’s workload he is paid below the national minimum wage.

So I have trouble figuring out how a priest could buy a Rolex watch or why he

Readers may submit prose or poetry for faith column

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Send material for consideration to “My Journey to God,” The Criterion, Indianapolis, IN 46202-2367 or e-mail to criterion@archindy.org

The Sunday Readings

Dec. 9, 2012
• Baruch 5:1-9
• Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
• Luke 3:1-6

The Book of Baruch provides the first reading for this Second Sunday of Advent. Baruch is not one of the major prophets. It is relatively brief, certainly when the long books of Ezekiel, Isaiah and Jeremiah are considered. It also is among the books once called by almost all Protestant scholars the Apocrypha. Baruch does not appear in the “King James Version” of the Bible. Certain issues led to its omission from this revered Protestant translation and submission to the Bible. As one example, it was presumed to have been written originally in Greek. The thinking was that no authentic Scripture could have been composed in any language other than Hebrew. Actually, scholars now believe that Baruch first was written in Hebrew, but that only Greek translations survive today.

Catholics, however, most important is the fact that Christians from early times venerated Baruch as part of the Bible, and the Church officially has recognized it as such.

In any case, when Baruch was written great problems beset God’s people. A political oppression or displacement. Political oppression or poverty forced the people to go elsewhere. This book encouraged the suffering, exiled people by reassuring them that God would not forsake them, and that God’s justice and mercy will prevail over all.

St. Paul’s Epistle to the Philippians furnishes the next scriptural lesson. Paul wrote this letter to the Christians of Philippi, an important city in the ancient Roman Empire. In it, he urges the Philippians that are loyal to the Lord to be steadfast in their faith, come what may, until the second coming of Jesus. As so often is found elsewhere in the New Testament, this writing strongly states that one day at a time unknown

We want to keep our members aware of the teachings of Jesus, and the Catechism, and to be able to explain them

So many of our parishioners have told me that they feel that they have little, or in some cases, no faith in their pastor.

We feel very strongly that the Church does not have a right to make our parishioners feel this way.

We want to keep our members aware of the teachings of Jesus, the Catechism, and to be able to explain them

If you have any questions, or if you would like more information, please feel free to call me.

Cathy Lamperski Dearing is a member of St. Barnabas Parish in Indianapolis. She wrote this poem as “a tribute to all those who infuse life into the Gospel in the way it is preached and in the way it is lived.”

My Journey to God

Gospel Teller

When he tells the story, He doesn’t lightly tap us on the shoulder Or give us some gentle nudge. He shakes us And shouts, “Wake up!”

We’re not meant to just sit there And be a casual observer. We’re supposed to get up, And step into the scene And into the skin of another.

We become the woman at the well, Feeling once again the warmth Of light and life.

What do you want me to do for you?” We hear the words He speaks. Our part and share From the depths of our heart, We say, “Master, I want to see!”

Every story is alive. Every story infuses life In us.

By Cathy Lamperski Dearing

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Fr. Aaron Jenkins and musician Jonathan Higgins

December 31-January 1

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The Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Dolours in Thrissur, India, is decorated in colorful lights on Nov. 25 for the annual feast marking the consecration of the church. The Syro-Malabar minor basilica is located in the southern Indian state of Kerala.

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CNS photo/Anto Akkara

"What you do to the least of my little ones you do unto me."

We are with you.
We are with you.
When sharing the faith, keep it simple, joyful, credible, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—In a world of hardened hearts and alienating distractions, Christians need to keep the Gospel message simple and live what they teach with love and joy, Pope Benedict XVI said.

The best place to start is with one’s own family, he said, learning to spend time together, listening and understanding one another, and “being a sign for each other of God’s merciful love.”

During his weekly general audience on Nov. 28, the pope spoke about the challenge of communicating the saving truth of Jesus to today’s men and women whose hearts are “often closed,” and whose minds are “sometimes distracted by the glitter and glam” of the material world.

In his catechesis to some 5,000 pilgrims gathered in the Vatican’s Paul VI Hall, the pope said “it’s necessary to recovery, to make room for the essentials.”

The first condition to establish is that people can legitimately talk about God because God himself speaks to humanity, the pope said.

“The first condition for talking about God is, therefore, listening to what God himself has said to us,” he said. “God is not a distant hypothesis about the origin of the world,” and he isn’t an abstract form of “mathematical intelligence,” he is real and “is concerned about us and loves us,” the pope said.

In Jesus, people can see the face of God, who descended from heaven to be with humanity “to teach us and to open the heart,” he said. “Jesus came to save us, showing us the good life of the Gospels.”

For that reason, Christians need to be aware of “the potential, desires and obstacles in current culture, especially the desire for authenticity, the yearning for the transcendent and concern for safeguarding creation.”

That way, Christians can “communicate, without fear, the answers that faith in God offers” to people’s needs and today’s challenges, he said.

One of the best places to start talking about God is in the family—the “first school for communicating the faith to new generations,” he said.

Parents need to help their children become aware of God’s love, talk about the Christian faith, foster a critical eye toward the many influences that children are exposed to, and be prepared to answer children’s questions about God and religion, the pope said.

But above all, he said, communicating the faith must always be done with joy—a joy that doesn’t ignore or hide from the pain, difficulties and conflicts of the world, but knows how to respond to them with Christian hope.

“It’s important to help all family members understand that faith is not a burden, but a source of deep joy,” Pope Benedict said.
Holy hour includes prayers for vocations in archdiocese

By Mary Ann Garber

GREENWOOD—Heads bowed in prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, archdiocesan seminarians prayed for vocations to the priesthood and religious life on Dec. 1 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church.

As part of “A Mission of Prayer—A Year of Faith with Archbishop [Joseph W.] Tobin” at the Indianapolis Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, the seminarians joined other bishops and priests in praying for vocations in the archdiocese in central and southern Indiana.

The prayer event was coordinated by the archdiocesan and seminarians.

Father Eric Johnson, archdiocesan director of vocations, reflected on a Scripture passage from the Gospel of St. Matthew about how the harvest is plentiful, but laborers are few so we must pray for more laborers (Mt 9:36-38).

“All of us are called by God to know and love and serve [him],” Father Johnson said. “How are we called specifically to recognize the gift in those around us, to nurture that gift, to hold it up? What are those gifts? Those gifts make all of us a little more holy and a little bit more fully what we are calling ourselves to be.

“It is our generosity in trying to love concretely the person in front of us that allows us to fulfill our vocations,” he said, “whatever it is, whatever path it is, that that particular vocation leads us in.”

St. Matthew’s Gospel reading reminds us “to be concerned for the harvest,” Father Johnson said, “and to be concerned for the harassed and hurting—[we] also grow [closer] to her Son.”

Archbishop Tobin gives the Eucharist to a Franciscan Sister of the Immediate Heart of Mary during a Mass on Dec. 1 at Our Lady of the Greenwood Church in Greenwood. (GREG KELLER/ST. JOSEPH’S)