



The

Criterion

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Caregiver of the Year

JoAnn Fowler Combs of St. Rita Parish in Indianapolis receives honor, page 5.

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Connecting faith and teaching

Saint Theodora Guérin Excellence in Education Award winner goes the extra mile for students

By John Shaughnessy

The choice could have been a difficult one—especially for someone who strives to give his best to the students he teaches and the athletes he coaches.

As the assistant coach for the boys' varsity baseball team at Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School in Clarksville, Scott Hutchins knew that the game against rival Trinity High School in Louisville was a big one.

On the same evening as the game, Hutchins also knew that one of his chemistry students—an excellent student who participated in volleyball, swimming and softball for the school—was being honored in Indianapolis with a scholarship from the Indiana High School Athletic Association.

So a choice had to be made by Hutchins—this year's recipient of the Saint Theodora Guérin Excellence in Education Award, the highest honor for a Catholic educator in the archdiocese.

"I never gave it a second thought," Hutchins recalled. "I was fortunate to teach Maria Cochran for two years. She was everything that is good about Providence. It was a big game against a rival school, but I wanted to let her know how much I cared. That's something I want all my students to know—how much I care about them. I really don't think I went above and beyond to be there."

Maria's mom offers a different perspective.

"My daughter was thrilled when she saw Mr. Hutchins walk through the door," noted Mary Beth Cochran. "She was not



Scott Hutchins' ability to connect living the Catholic faith to the teaching of chemistry is just one of the reasons the teacher-coach-administrator was chosen as this year's Saint Theodora Guérin Excellence in Education Award recipient among the 2,200 educators in the archdiocese.

expecting anyone from Providence, but she said she was not at all surprised that he would do that for her. I will never forget the extra mile he went for my daughter. He has done this for many, many children at Providence."

Connecting faith and teaching

It is humbling for Hutchins to consider

that he has been chosen as the best educator in the archdiocese, which includes more than 2,200 teachers in 68 schools.

Hutchins insists there are better teachers than him at Providence. Still, when the honor was presented to him in front of the Providence school community,

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Philadelphia abortionist convicted of murder and manslaughter

PHILADELPHIA (CNS)—Dr. Kermit Gosnell may have been convicted on May 13 of murder at his Philadelphia abortion clinic, but "nothing can bring back the innocent children he killed, or make up for the vulnerable women he exploited," said Archbishop Charles J. Chaput.

And, he added, "the repugnance of his clinic conditions" must be remembered.

In a May 14 statement, the Philadelphia archbishop said, "Gosnell is not an exception. Others just like him run abortion mills throughout our country."

A Philadelphia jury found Gosnell guilty of murder in the deaths of three babies born alive during abortions and acquitted him of a fourth similar charge. He also was convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the death by a drug overdose of a patient who had an abortion.

Gosnell, 72, was charged with snipping the spines of babies born alive during illegal late-term abortions. Pennsylvania law prohibits abortions after 24 weeks of gestation.

"We need to stop cloaking the ugliness of abortion with misnomers like 'proper medical coverage' or 'choice,'" Archbishop Chaput said. "It's violence of the most intimate sort, and it needs to end."

The same jury was to convene on May 21 to consider Gosnell's sentence. Prosecutors were seeking the death penalty.

Both supporters of legal abortion and abortion opponents praised the verdict, though they pointed to different underlying problems.

Ilyse Hogue, president of NARAL Pro-Choice America, said in a statement that "justice was served to Kermit Gosnell and he will pay the price for the atrocities he committed." She described Gosnell's clinic

See ABORTION, page 8



Archbishop Charles J. Chaput

Catholic family in Madison challenges HHS mandate

By Sean Gallagher

MADISON—Although it's been in business for more than a century, May 22 will be a significant date in the history of Grote Industries, a family-owned, worldwide manufacturer of vehicle lighting products based in Madison.

On that day, a three-judge panel of the 7th U.S. Circuit of Appeals in Chicago will hear arguments in the lawsuit the Grote family filed last October to gain relief from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate that forces most employers to provide abortion-inducing drugs, sterilizations and contraceptives to their employees in company health plans.

The mandate is a part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, often described as Obamacare, that

was signed into law in 2010.

The Grote family was granted a preliminary injunction in January. On May 22, however, arguments will be made on the merits of their case that could lead to permanent relief from the mandate.

Although many other Catholic organizations and businesses owned by Catholics and other people opposed in conscience to the mandate have been granted preliminary injunctions, the Grote case will be the first to receive a hearing on the merits of their case.

"This is the court directly under the U.S. Supreme Court," said Matt Bowman, senior legal counsel for Alliance Defending Freedom, which is helping to represent the Grote family in their suit. "So its decision on this religious freedom issue will be a precursor to whether Obamacare can

See LAWSUIT, page 8



Bill Grote, left, chats on May 13 with Debbie Randall in a Grote Industries factory in Madison. Grote is chairman of the board of the family-owned business. Randall has worked there for more than 30 years.

EDUCATION

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it was obvious from the reaction how much everyone celebrated the choice.

"I was privileged to attend the celebration," says Rob Rash, assistant superintendent of Catholic schools for the archdiocese. "Seeing the Providence students stand up and cheer for their teacher was moving. You could see by the faces of his students that Scott embodies Catholic education."

While Hutchins is often applauded for using the latest technology to teach his students, his emphasis on connecting the principles of faith to the study of science is where he excels, according to Providence's president Joan Hurley.

"In his science classroom, you will find posters about Catholic scientists throughout history," Hurley notes. "These silent witnesses of the Church and its contribution to science create the backdrop for—and the lens through—which Scott brings to life the subject matter."

"Scott's ability to show his students how the teachings of the Church apply to science and life itself is such a blessing to this school and our Catholic community."

The connection between teaching and faith rests upon two beliefs for Hutchins.

"First, I believe that quality education is about instilling a love of faith and learning that will serve to enhance a student's life," says Hutchins, who is married with two young sons.

"I tell my students that solving chemistry problems is not really all that my class is about. I want my students to take the problem-solving skills learned in my class and apply them to all aspects of their lives, so that they are able to make logical and well-informed decisions grounded in their Catholic faith."

His second emphasis is on treating and teaching each student as an individual.

"While the classroom may be filled with 20 or more students, I believe it's important to make each one feel as though he or she is the most important person in the school," says Hutchins, who is 39. "I try very hard to develop personal relationships with

all students. I do this by attending their extracurricular activities, asking about their interests outside of school and—more than anything—just letting them know that I care about them.

"Once I have earned a student's trust, I can then get him or her to do tremendous work in the classroom."

The joy of 'seeing kids succeed'

Hutchins views everything he does at Providence—as a teacher, coach and assistant principal-director of students—as a way of giving back for the great experience he had as a student in his 12 years of Catholic education.

"What inspired me to be a teacher was my experience in Catholic education. All the way from first grade to 12th grade, I just had a great experience," says Hutchins, a 1987 graduate of St. Anthony of Padua School in Clarksville and a 1991 graduate of Providence.

"When I got to be a senior in high school, I didn't want to leave that environment. Looking back now, I see my teaching as an opportunity to give back for what was given to me in my 12 years."

Hutchins' main motivation as an educator—"seeing kids succeed"—is also tied to his experience as a Catholic school student.

"My favorite moments in the classroom are when the kid is successful, from something as big as doing well on a test to something as small as them getting a concept—'Hey, I get this, and I'm good at this,'—and there's a big smile on their face," Hutchins notes. "That stands out to me because it's a part of developing their self-confidence. There's no better feeling as a teacher for me—because I was that kid in school."

Hutchins recalls a defining moment when he was a high school freshman and his guidance counselor was Father Michael Hilderbrand, who is now the pastor of the parish where Hutchins is a member, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs in Floyd County.

"I remember telling him that I love baseball, but I wasn't sure I was good enough to play in high school," Hutchins recalls. "He encouraged me to play. It got me started with friends, and I played



At Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School in Clarksville, Scott Hutchins has earned a reputation for showing students how much he cares about them.

Finalists for teaching honor come from throughout the archdiocese

Nine teachers became finalists for this year's Saint Theodora Guérin Excellence in Education Award, the highest honor for Catholic educators in the archdiocese.

The recipient of this year's award is Scott Hutchins of Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School in Indianapolis.

The other eight finalists were:

- **Kathleen Bear**—Pope John XXIII School in Madison
- **Michelle Craney**—St. Malachy School in Brownsburg

- **Connie Hessler**—St. Jude School in Indianapolis
- **Susan Huber**—St. Anthony of Padua School in Clarksville
- **Amber Roessler**—St. Rose of Lima School in Franklin
- **Kristy Schwendenmann**—St. Mary School in North Vernon
- **Gerard Striby**—Roncalli High School in Indianapolis
- **Denise Wilson**—St. Barnabas School in Indianapolis †

baseball for four years at Providence. I tell my students all the time that no one will have a better four years in high school than I did. The friends I had in high school are still my friends today."

He never forgets how that moment of caring and encouragement shaped his high school years and his life. He strives to offer those same gifts to his students.

Asked to share one of his most rewarding teaching experiences, Hutchins recalls a thank-you letter he received from a student after the end of one school year.

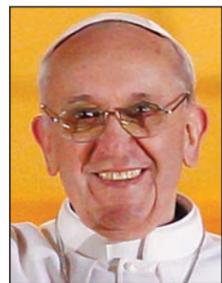
"The letter began by thanking me for

being such a good chemistry teacher," he notes. "However, it was the second part of the letter that meant the most to me. The student recalled a time early in the year when she was having a rotten day and was really upset."

"She said it meant so much to her that I stopped her after class ended and sat down and talked to her about it. The one line in the letter that meant the most to me was, 'I am sure that I will have other great teachers, but I don't think I will ever have a teacher that will care about me as much as you did.' †

Pope warns comfortable living causes 'gentrification of the heart'

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis warned against "gentrification of the heart" as a consequence of comfortable living, and called on the faithful to "touch the flesh of Christ" by caring for the needy.



Pope Francis

The pope's words came in a homily during Mass in St. Peter's Square on May 12, when he canonized the first Colombian saint, as well as a Mexican nun and some 800 Italians martyred by Ottoman Turks in the 15th century.

Mexico's St. Maria Guadalupe Garcia Zavala (1878-1963), the pope said, gave up a "comfortable life to follow the call of Jesus, taught people to love poverty, in

order the more to love the poor and the sick.

"How much damage does the comfortable life, well-being, do," the pope added, looking up from his prepared text. "The gentrification of the heart paralyzes us."

The Mexican saint, known as Mother Lupita, "knelt on the floor of the hospital before the sick, before the abandoned, to serve them with tenderness and compassion," and in doing so, "touched the flesh of Christ," he said.

Pope Francis said the Mexican founder of the Handmaids of St. Margaret Mary and of the Poor sets an example for everyone "not to retreat into oneself, into one's own problems, into one's own ideas, into one's own interests in this little world that has done us so much damage," but to share God's love with the needy "through gestures of delicacy and sincere affection and love."

The pope also praised St. Laura Montoya

(1874-1949), the "first saint born in the beautiful land of Colombia," as a "spiritual mother of the indigenous peoples, in whom she infused hope" and taught about God in a way that "respected their culture and was not opposed to it."

"Mother Laura" founded the Missionary Sisters of Mary Immaculate and St. Catherine of Siena, who today "live and bring the Gospel to the most remote and needy places, as a kind of vanguard of the Church," he said.

"She teaches us to see the face of Jesus reflected in the other," the pope said, "to overcome indifference and individualism, welcoming everyone without prejudice or constraints, with love, giving the best of ourselves and above all, sharing with them the most valuable thing we have, which is not our works or our organizations" but "Christ and his Gospel."

Pope Francis also paid tribute to the

approximately 800 people in Otranto, southern Italy, who in 1480 were decapitated by invading Ottoman forces for refusing to convert to Islam. †

Ordination Mass of new priests to be streamed live on website

At 10 a.m. on May 18, three men will be ordained priests during a Mass at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis: transitional deacons Doug Marcotte, Martin Rodriguez and John Francis Kamwendo.

The Mass, celebrated by Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, will be streamed live at www.archindy.org/streaming, and shortly thereafter will be available to watch online in an archived format. †

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Graduations set for 12 Catholic high schools in the archdiocese

By John Shaughnessy

As another school year comes to a close, 1,415 students are preparing to graduate this spring at Catholic high schools across the archdiocese.

For the graduates and their families, it will be a time of looking back and looking forward with a mixture of pride, relief, nostalgia and celebration.

It will also be a time to appreciate the impact of a Catholic education as 97 percent of the graduates will enter college.

"Graduating more than 1,400 students in our Catholic high schools this spring is a very humbling and rewarding experience for all of us in Catholic school education," says Harry Plummer, executive director of Catholic education and faith formation for the archdiocese. "We're confident that the Class of 2013 is prepared for success and ready to bring into this world a living and active faith."

Here is a listing of graduation-related information for the 12 Catholic high schools—seven archdiocesan and five private—in the archdiocese.

Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 196 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 6:30 p.m. on May 17 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 2:30 p.m. on May 19 at the school.

The class co-valedictorians are Deegan Atha, the son of John and Mary Ellen Atha of St. Maria Goretti Parish in Westfield, Ind., in the Lafayette Diocese; and Mark DeNardin, the son of Scott and Kimberly DeNardin of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis.

The class salutatorian is Marissa Collier, the daughter of Christopher and Celeste Collier of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by

Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin.

Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 209 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 10:30 a.m. on June 2 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 4:30 p.m. on June 2 at Clowes Memorial Hall at Butler University in Indianapolis.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Gina Fleming, assistant superintendent of Catholic schools for the archdiocese.

Cardinal Ritter Jr./Sr. High School has a graduating class of 134 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 30 at St. Monica Church in Indianapolis.

The graduation ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on May 31 at the school.

The class valedictorian is Mary Ann Harrison, the daughter of Todd and Catherine Harrison of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis.

The salutatorian is Joseph Sweeney, the son of Pat and Alice Sweeney of St. Christopher Parish in Indianapolis.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Archbishop Tobin.

Cathedral High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 294 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 10 a.m. on May 18 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 1 p.m. on May 19 at Clowes Memorial Hall at Butler University in Indianapolis.

There are five class valedictorians: Chris Jones, the son of Mark and Mary Jones of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis; Caley Caito, the daughter of Matthew and Kerry Caito of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Indianapolis; Anna Huntine, the daughter of Michael and Jill Huntine of St. Pius X Parish in Indianapolis; Alexander Rohe, the son of Mark and Suzan Rohe; and



Principal John Atha of Bishop Chatard High School in Indianapolis presents a diploma to Arden Burch during the school's 2012 graduation.

Abigail Schopper, the daughter of Mark and Mary Schopper of St. Malachy Parish in Brownsburg.

There are four class salutatorians: Grace Bennett, the daughter of Ken and Margaret Bennett of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Indianapolis; Seamus Brennan, the son of Arthur and Christina Brennan of Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Parish in Indianapolis; Kendall Burgett, the daughter of Richard Burgett and Malinda Mundy-Burgett; and Madison Oeff, the daughter of Kevin and Brenda Oeff of St. Simon the Apostle Parish in Indianapolis.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by G. Joseph Peters, associate executive director of Catholic

education for the archdiocese.

Father Michael Shawe Memorial Jr./Sr. High School in Madison has a graduating class of 39 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 31 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 2 p.m. on June 2 at the school.

Two students are in contention for valedictorian and salutatorian honors as the school year draws to a close: Laura Hesse, the daughter of Steve and Lisa Hesse of Prince of Peace Parish in Madison; and JaLynn Copeland, the daughter of Mort and Cathy Copeland of Prince of Peace Parish in Madison.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by

Bishop Christopher J. Coyne.

Father Thomas Sccecina Memorial High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 74 students.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 23 at St. Philip Neri Church in Indianapolis.

The graduation ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on May 24 at the school.

The class co-valedictorians are: Emma Flick, daughter of Donald and Lisa Flick of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Indianapolis; and Raymond Riley, the son of John Riley and Jan Riley of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis.

The class salutatorian is Elizabeth Griffin, the daughter of Kevin and Maureen Griffin of Holy Spirit Parish in Indianapolis.

See GRADUATIONS, page 7

Fleming named superintendent, McCoy assistant superintendent of schools

By John Shaughnessy

Known for her upbeat, dynamic approach to education, Gina Fleming has been named as the new superintendent of Catholic schools for the archdiocese.

"All of my experiences help me recognize that all children have unique gifts, and it's our responsibility and blessing to maximize their gifts and help them reach their greatest potential," Fleming said. "For me, the essence of Catholic schools is that we're here for each other, and we're following the best role model ever—and that is Jesus."

Fleming will officially become the archdiocese's superintendent of Catholic schools on July 1, a year after she became an assistant superintendent.

At the same time, Mary McCoy will become an assistant superintendent of Catholic schools for the archdiocese, joining Rob Rash in that role.

Fleming has been the point person for the archdiocese in the areas of curriculum, school accreditation, professional development of teachers, and government programming, including services for children and Indiana's school voucher program.

Fleming will continue those responsibilities in her new position while also overseeing school advancement efforts, administrative personnel processes and school technology initiatives, according to Bishop Christopher J. Coyne, vicar general of the archdiocese.

"Please join me in welcoming

Gina Kuntz Fleming as our new superintendent of schools, keeping her and the entire Office of Catholic Education in your prayers as they strive to serve our parishes and schools in the archdiocese to the fullest extent possible," Bishop Coyne said in announcing the appointment.

Fleming thanked Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, Bishop Coyne and Harry Plummer, the archdiocese's executive director of Catholic education and faith formation, for the opportunity to help lead the 68 Catholic schools in the archdiocese.

"I am humbled and honored to serve the archdiocese in this capacity," said Fleming, a 1989 graduate of Roncalli High School in Indianapolis and a 1993 graduate of Marian University in Indianapolis. "In partnership with so many incredible administrators, pastors, teachers, parents and community members, the possibilities for our students and our schools are endless."

A 20-year veteran of education, Fleming served for six years as principal of Holy Name School in Beech Grove—her alma mater—before joining the archdiocesan staff. She also previously taught general education, special education and gifted education in the Warren Township school district in Indianapolis.

Her husband, Scott, is the head women's softball coach and assistant men's basketball coach at Marian University. They have two sons, Drew and Noah.

"My supportive family, this outstanding team of professionals with whom I work,



'I am humbled and honored to serve the archdiocese in this capacity. In partnership with so many incredible administrators, pastors, teachers, parents and community members, the possibilities for our students and our schools are endless.'

—Gina Fleming

and this beautiful faith we share are all reasons I thank God daily," Fleming said. "My prayer is that our work for—and with—Catholic schools glorifies and honors him in all ways."

Fleming's team of educators will soon include McCoy, the principal of St. Philip Neri School in Indianapolis. As an assistant superintendent, McCoy will focus on the areas of school safety, instructional resources, business management and assistance in technology integration.

"It's exciting to serve the archdiocese in this new capacity as I will be able to serve our Catholic schools in a broader way," said McCoy, who previously taught at St. Malachy School in Brownsburg and St. Mark School and Central Catholic School, both in Indianapolis. "Being able to make an impact on not just one school, but on many schools is exciting. I look forward to being a resource for our

principals and teachers."

McCoy is a lifelong member of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish. She and her husband, Brian, have three children, Kaylee, Kyle and Keaton.



Mary McCoy

Fleming praised the gifts that McCoy will bring to Catholic education in the archdiocese. "The combination of Mary's refreshing attitude, expansive knowledge and diverse experience are exactly what this archdiocese needs to continue to flourish," Fleming noted. "We could not be more excited to have Mary as part of our team." †



Rev. Msgr. Raymond T. Bosler, Founding Editor, 1915 - 1994

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Editorial



Pope Benedict XVI leads a closing session of the Synod of Bishops on the new evangelization at the Vatican on Oct. 27, 2012.

Catholics and the 'new evangelization'

How is the "new evangelization" working out for you? Have you been making extra efforts to share the faith, especially during this Year of Faith?

For most Catholics, evangelization is "new" indeed. Let's face it: When we've thought about evangelization at all, it's been associated with non-Catholic groups that send people door to door, or perhaps with missionaries overseas. Or perhaps we think of televangelists who do things that we Catholics just don't do.

Recent popes, including Pope Francis, have been trying to change that, but Catholics seem resistant. The Second Vatican Council, which is only part of history for most Catholics these days, spoke of evangelization more than 200 times, and the popes noticed.

Pope Paul VI, who presided over most of the Second Vatican Council, said that he chose the name Paul precisely because the Apostle to the gentiles traveled widely to spread the Good News of Christ. Therefore, Pope Paul also began to travel widely, something that previous popes had not done.

Pope Paul also changed the name of the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith to the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, and he issued his apostolic exhortation "On Evangelization in the Modern World" in 1975. He wrote, "The presentation of the Gospel message is not an optional contribution for the Church. It is the duty incumbent on her by the command of the Lord Jesus."

Pope John Paul I didn't live long enough as pope to emphasize evangelization, but Blessed John Paul II did. It was he who coined the term "new evangelization" early in 1979 during a homily he delivered in Poland.

Then, in his encyclical "Redemptoris Missio," issued in 1990 to observe the 25th anniversary of the conclusion of Vatican II, he wrote, "I sense that the moment has come to commit all the Church's energies to a new evangelization. No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church, can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples."

Then it was Pope Benedict XVI's turn. He recognized the steep decline

of the Church in Europe and the number of former Catholics in America. He summoned the Synod of Bishops in 2012, and asked the bishops to discuss the new evangelization. He also established a new Pontifical Council for Promoting New Evangelization.

More than once, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI stressed that too many Catholics "are baptized, but insufficiently evangelized," and they are falling by the wayside because of our secularized culture.

Pope Francis has already spoken about the necessity for evangelization several times. In a homily on April 18 he said that, if Catholics don't proclaim Jesus with their lives, the Church becomes "not the mother, but the baby sitter. It is a Church dormant."

He said that Catholics must be "faithful to the Spirit, to proclaim Jesus with our lives, through our witness and our words." He made the same point in a message that he sent to the bishops of Argentina.

Since all of our recent popes have emphasized the necessity for Catholics to evangelize, why aren't we doing it? Part of the reason, undoubtedly, is that Americans have been brought up to think that religion is a private matter. We are not to discuss religion or politics.

Part of the reason, too, is that most Catholics don't think that they know enough about their faith to answer questions about it—and they may be right.

Scott Hahn is not one of those people. He has been encouraging, and practicing, evangelization for many years. He now holds the Michael Scanlan Chair of Biblical Theology and the New Evangelization at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio. He had an article in the April 22 issue of *America* magazine titled "Mass Evangelization." Those familiar with Hahn's writings will recognize his thesis: that our new evangelization should be based on the Eucharist.

It's not a new idea. Blessed John Paul, Hahn says, referred to the Eucharist as "the basis of the New Evangelization" and Chicago Cardinal Francis E. George said, "All evangelizers proclaim who Christ is; Catholic evangelizers proclaim a eucharistic Christ."

So perhaps we can evangelize simply by inviting people to attend Mass with us—especially family members who have strayed from the Church.

—John F. Fink

Be Our Guest/Kimberly Baker

Mary, pro-life inspiration

"Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia." So begins the *Regina Coeli* prayer, which replaces the noon *Angelus* during the Easter season.



Because the Easter season extends well into May, we are able to use this special prayer to Mary during much of the month traditionally dedicated in her honor.

Marian devotion is one of the Vatican's recommendations for observing the Year of Faith. It can also be a wonderful help in pro-life efforts.

Mary has many beautiful titles—Patroness of the Americas, Patroness of the New Evangelization and Patroness of the Unborn, to name a few. There are also many inspiring examples from Mary's life that serve as a model for authentic Christian living.

We see her immense faith and total gift of herself at the moment of the Annunciation, when she agrees to be the Mother of God. We see her sensitivity and her spirit of charity when she visits her pregnant older cousin Elizabeth.

We see her love and maternal care for new life when she shelters her infant son Jesus in the stable at Bethlehem. We see her conviction in pointing to Christ at the wedding at Cana when she says, "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5).

We see her at the foot of the Cross, even there opening her heart to be the mother of all humanity. And we see her quiet strength and support for the Apostles in the Upper Room during the time leading up to Pentecost.

The significance of Mary as a role model for all women was highlighted by Blessed Pope John Paul II in his 1987 encyclical "Redemptoris Mater" ("Mother of the Redeemer"). He wrote that "Women, by looking to Mary, find in her the secret of living their femininity with dignity and of achieving their own true advancement."

Letter to the Editor

We must be open and listen to where the Spirit is leading us, letter writers say

In the May 3 issue of *The Criterion*, a letter writer said her family was shocked that the archdiocesan newspaper "would give space to an idea that is anti-Church doctrine." Referencing an April 5 letter to the editor regarding same-sex parenting, she urged *The Criterion* to "fill us with truth" and Catholic morality instead of "worldly views."

We believe *The Criterion* attempts to do that, but we also greatly appreciate their stated letter policy of "commitment to the responsible exchange of freely-held and expressed

In the light of Mary, the Church sees in the face of women the reflection of a beauty which mirrors the loftiest sentiments of which the human heart is capable: the self-offering totality of love; the strength that is capable of bearing the greatest sorrows; limitless fidelity and tireless devotion to work; the ability to combine penetrating intuition with words of support and encouragement" (#46).

Mary's example is especially important to remember in pro-life efforts. She can be a tremendous source of inspiration and hope for women in today's society, where there is so much woundedness resulting from the culture of death. Modern culture encourages a self-centered, materialistic and utilitarian view of the person, promising instant satisfaction, but ultimately leading to emptiness.

The Christian view of the human person offers a very different way of life that is at once challenging and rewarding. Mary's example of authentic Christian living speaks especially to a model of womanhood that is life-giving and love-affirming, and therefore very relevant to the pro-life message.

In addition to praying the rosary and the *Angelus*—and the *Regina Coeli*—there are many ways to remember Mary's example as we reach out to others with the pro-life message.

Especially important is the hope that we can offer to women everywhere who have been deceived and hurt by the anti-life mentality of our culture. We have a beautiful message to share, a message of life, love and true freedom.

During this Year of Faith and as part of the new evangelization, let us remember the Queen of Heaven—not only during the month of May, but throughout the year—as we share the Gospel of Life.

(Kimberly Baker is a staff assistant for the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information on the bishops' pro-life activities, please visit www.usccb.org/prolife.) †

opinion among the People of God" (*Communio et Progressio*, 116) because we believe the Holy Spirit can, and sometimes does, speak through the members of Christ's Body.

God speaks to us, as he did to the early Church, through the changing situations in both the world and the Church (Acts 15:1-2, 22-29.) Only when the early Church listened to the new, non-Jewish converts' alternate view did they realize where the Spirit was leading them.

Just as in the early Church, there will be differing views and disagreements over some teachings until we discern where the Spirit is leading us today; but we must listen and be open to that leading.

Hank and Linda Cooper
Bloomington

Letters Policy

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

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

The editors reserve the right to select the

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

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

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

St. Rita parishioner is named Caregiver of the Year

By Natalie Hoefler

At age 71, many seniors are researching where they will live to receive proper care as they age.

At age 71, JoAnn Fowler Combs is instead caring for infirmed family members in her own home, as she has done off and on for more than a decade.

She says she is doing “nothing but taking care of family and friends.”

The Central Indiana Council on Aging, Inc. (CICOA) felt she was doing much more.

That is why they conferred upon Combs their Caregiver of the Year Award on April 18 at a breakfast held at the Ritz Charles in Carmel.

“I have never been so surprised and shocked,” says Combs, a member of St. Rita Parish in Indianapolis.

St. Rita Parish secretary Denise Gavia-Currin saw a call for nominations in a CICOA publication. She shared the idea of nominating Combs with Combs’ daughter, the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy of East Liberty Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Rev. Fowler-Searcy agreed, and submitted a nomination.

“There is no one more deserving of recognition for what she does than my mom,” she says.

Her nomination of Combs was selected from 20 submissions of essays on those who “model the attributes of courage, sacrifice, strength and creativity in overcoming the stresses and obstacles associated with caregiving.”

CICOA’s judges agreed that Combs’ story proved her an exemplary caregiver.

Widowed at age 32, Combs began raising her daughter and son as a single parent. She owned and operated a child care facility, then later served as director of St. Rita Parish’s child care service.

Years ago, Combs purchased what she calls a “pretty large home.

“From then on, I said if I had family that really needed help and couldn’t stay by themselves, I would take them home and see that they were taken care of,” she says.

Through the years, Combs cared for her second husband, who died of lung cancer, and her parents. Since 2006, she has welcomed into her home and cares for her sister, who is paralyzed from a stroke, and her mother-in-law, who suffers from Alzheimer’s disease.

She even cared for her daughter’s ex-husband for four months after he suffered a debilitating stroke.

“He’s the father of two of my [five] grandchildren. He’s a human being, and he needed help,” she says.

“She [serves] with such a sweet nature,” says Gavia-Currin. “At times, you can be tired or angry and not want to [be a caregiver], but she’s always been patient and sweet, and that’s not easy.”

Combs’ servant attitude is fed by her faith.

“I know if it weren’t for God, I couldn’t do this. God has to be with you because it’s not always easy. He has to be a part of it.

“‘With God, all things are possible,’” she quotes from the Gospel of St. Matthew (Mt 19:26). “All I ask from the Lord is strength and to keep me healthy.”

Thus far it would seem God has answered her prayer—and added a little extra energy as a bonus.

“She’s been the Grand Lady of the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary for the last five years—that’s a big responsibility,” Gavia-Currin says. “She is on the parish council family life commission. She makes monthly nursing home visits. She finds time to visit other elderly in the parish. Her care extends beyond the two at [her] home.”

“I’ve been watching my mom take care of people down through the years,” says Rev. Fowler-Searcy. “She is loving and compassionate, and more than deserving of this recognition, and so much more.”

Combs gives the credit to God.

“He gives me strength, inspiration and helps me to continue to help others,” she says.

“I’ve come to the conclusion that this must be my calling.” †



JoAnn Fowler Combs, center, receives the Central Indiana Council on Aging, Inc. (CICOA) Caregiver of the Year award from Orion Bell IV, left, CICOA’s president and CEO, and Mary Beth Tuohy, chair of CICOA’s board of directors, at a breakfast held at the Ritz Charles in Carmel on April 18.

Caregiver services available through Catholic Charities, Area Agencies on Aging

Each Catholic Charities entity within the archdiocese offers various programs to help those in need. Catholic Charities Indianapolis offers support services for family caregivers in the Indianapolis area.

Respite services are offered through A Caring Place Adult Day Services and the Senior Companion Program.

Support groups for caregivers of older adults meet monthly on the north side of Indianapolis at Fairview Presbyterian Church and on the south side at St. Mark School.

Small-scale home modifications and caregiver massage therapy are also available, depending on grant funding.

Caregivers outside of the Indianapolis area can contact their local chapter of the Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging to find out about services in their area. For local Area Agency on Aging contact information, log on to www.iaaaa.org.

For additional information about Indianapolis services through Catholic Charities, call Monica Woodsworth at 317-261-3378. †

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Events Calendar

May 16-18

St. Roch Parish, 3600 S. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis. **Mayfest**, games, rides, food, live music, Fri. 5 p.m.-midnight; Sat. 3 p.m.-midnight. Information: 317-784-9144.

May 17

Northside Knights of Columbus Hall, 2100 E. 71st St., Indianapolis. **Catholic Business Exchange**, Mass, breakfast and program, "The Butler Way," Dr. Kent Millard and Judith Cebula, authors of the book *Lead Like Butler*, presenters, 6:30-8:30 a.m., \$15 members, \$21 non-members. Reservations and information: www.catholicbusinessexchange.org.

May 18

St. Michael the Archangel

Church, 3354 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. **Helpers of God's Precious Infants, pro-life Mass**, Fr. Robert Robeson, 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.

Knights of Columbus Hall, 1040 N. Post Road, Indianapolis. **Ladies Auxiliary, garage sale**, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Information: hines7710@att.net.

St. Malachy Parish, 940 S. Locust Lane, Brownsburg. **Haiti awareness walk/run**, family fun and fitness, 8:30 a.m. registration, \$25 per person, \$80 family.

Information: 317-407-2384 or jmeyer@indy.rr.com.

St. Luke United Methodist Church, 100 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. **Free Information Seminar, International Adoption**, 9-10:30 a.m. Information: 812-479-9900 or kwallace@ftia.org.

St. Thomas More Parish, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville. **Fish fry**, 6-8 p.m., free-will donation to fund youth activities and programs. Information: 317-831-4142 or msha@stm-church.org.

May 19

Holy Cross Parish, 125 N. Oriental St., Indianapolis. **Health Fair**, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Information: 317-634-2620 or jerlenbaugh@holycross

indy.org.

Catholic Community of Richmond, 701 N. "A" St., Richmond. **Charismatic prayer group**, 7 p.m. Information: dicksoncorp@parallax.ws.

May 19-21

St. Simon the Apostle Church, 8155 Oaklondon Road, Indianapolis. **Parish mission, "Finding the Fullness of Faith in the Catholic Church,"** Father Dwight Longenecker, presenter, 7 p.m. each evening. Information: 317-826-6000.

May 20

Plum Creek Golf Course, 12401 Lynnwood Boulevard, Carmel (Diocese of Lafayette). **Catholic Radio 89.1 FM golf outing**, Mass, 11 a.m., shotgun start, 4-person scramble,

12:30 p.m., \$125 per person or \$450 foursome, lunch and dinner included. Information: 317-573-9900.

May 21

St. Monica Parish, Parish Life Center Rm. #3, 6131 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis. **Catholic Adult Fellowship**, presentation and discussion on St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Albert the Great, 7 p.m. Open to all Catholics age 21 and over. No charge. Information: 317-410-4870.

May 25

St. John the Evangelist Church, 126 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis. **Rosary procession**, following 12:10 p.m. Mass, pray and process through the streets of downtown Indianapolis. Information: faithful.

citizen2016@gmail.com.

May 27

Calvary Cemetery, Mausoleum Chapel, 435 W. Troy Ave., Indianapolis. **Memorial Day Mass**, noon. Information: 317-784-4439 or www.catholiccemeteries.cc.

Our Lady of Peace Cemetery, Mausoleum Chapel, 9001 N. Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. **Memorial Day Mass**, noon. Information: 317-574-8898 or www.catholiccemeteries.cc.

May 30-June 7

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 1530 Union St., Indianapolis. **Nine-day Novena to Honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the Year of Faith**, 6:30 p.m. each day. Information: 317-638-5551. †

Retreats and Programs

May 17-19

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Tobit Weekend**, registration fee \$286 includes program, meals and overnight accommodations. Information: www.archindy.org/fatima.

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. **"The Biblical Story of David: Tales of an Over-Liver,"** Benedictine Father Eugene Hensell, presenter. Information: 812-357-6585 or mzoeller@saintmeinrad.edu.

Mount Saint Francis Center for Spirituality, 101 St. Anthony Drive, Mt. St. Francis. **Women's Retreat, "The Wellsprings of Prayer,"** Information: 812-923-8817 or www.mountsaintfrancis.org.

May 19

Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. **Pre Cana Conference**, 1:15-6 p.m., \$45 fee per couple. Registration: www.archindy.org/fatima.

May 24-26

Mount Saint Francis Center for Spirituality, 101 St. Anthony Drive, Mt. St. Francis. **Women's Retreat Weekend, "A Silent Spring Fling,"** Information: 812-923-8817 or www.mountsaintfrancis.org.

May 31-June 2

Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. **"Pray Your Way to Happiness,"** Benedictine Brother Maurus Zoeller, presenter. Information: 812-357-6585 or mzoeller@saintmeinrad.edu.

Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. **"Retreat: Individuation, Archetypes and Mythology,"** Franciscan Sister Olga Wittekind and Claire Sherman, presenters. Information: 812-933-6437 or www.OldenburgFranciscanCenter.org.

June 2

Benedict Inn Retreat and Conference Center, 1402 Southern Ave., Beech Grove. **"Thomas Merton-Dorothy Day Correspondence,"** Benedictine Sister Julie Sewell and Mimi Ventresca, presenters, 2-5 p.m., free-will donation. Information: 317-788-7581 or benedictinn@benedictinn.org. †

VIP



Michael and Mary (Ehringer) Sifferlen, members of St. Michael Parish in Greenfield, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on May 19.

The couple was married

on May 19, 1963, at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Jeffersonville.

They are the parents of four sons, John, Kevin, Mark and Matthew, and have 12 grandchildren. †

Six parishes change Mass times due to holiday and race

Six parishes in the Indianapolis West Deanery will change their Mass schedule for the Memorial Day weekend on May 25-26 due to the annual Indianapolis 500 race on May 26.

- **Holy Angels Parish, which celebrates Mass at Bishop Chartrand Memorial Chapel on the campus of Marian University, 3200 Cold Spring Road., in Indianapolis**—Mass will be celebrated at 6 p.m. on May 25. No Masses will be celebrated on May 26.
- **Holy Trinity Parish, 2618 W. St. Clair St., in Indianapolis**—Mass will be celebrated at St. Anthony Parish on May 25 (see below). No Masses will be celebrated on May 26.
- **St. Anthony Parish, 337 N. Warman Ave., in Indianapolis**—Mass will be celebrated at 4:30 p.m. in English and 6 p.m. in

Spanish on May 25. No Masses will be celebrated on May 26.

- **St. Christopher Parish, 5301 W. 16th St., in Indianapolis**—Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on May 25. No Mass will be celebrated on May 26.
- **St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, 6000 W. 34th St., in Indianapolis**—Mass will be celebrated in English at 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., and 7 p.m. in Spanish on May 25. Mass will be celebrated in English at 7:30 a.m. on May 26.
- **St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 3354 W. 30th St., in Indianapolis**—Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on May 25 and 7 a.m. on May 26.

For information about Mass changes at other parishes in the area, call the parish offices. †



Health conference

Top, nurses browse through resources at a meeting held for parish nurses and health ministers at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis on April 23.

Right, Donna O'Donnell receives a certificate of appreciation for her contributions toward health ministry in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis from David Bethuram, associate executive director of the archdiocesan Catholic Charities and Family Life Ministries, at a parish nurses and health ministers' conference at the Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center in Indianapolis on April 23.



CRHP participants

Twenty-two women from Holy Guardian Angels Parish in Cedar Grove, St. Michael Parish in Brookville and St. Peter Parish in Franklin County joined together on April 13-14 for a Christ Renew His Parish (CRHP) retreat. Eleven women who took part in CRHP in April of 2012 presented the retreat to 11 new participants. This was the third CRHP Women's Retreat for the parishes.

Holy Rosary Parish in Indianapolis to host annual Italian Street Festival on June 14-15

After a year's hiatus, a rite of summer is returning to the downtown Indianapolis area.

Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, 520 Stevens St. in Indianapolis, will again host its Italian Street Festival from 5-11 p.m. on June 14 and 15.

The festival features more than 25 decorated food stands offering Italian meats, pastas, salads and desserts, plus live music and dancing, carnival rides and games for everyone.

The Italian Heritage Society of Indiana will host a cash-prize bocce tournament at Lacy Park on the south end of the Holy Rosary Parish grounds on Friday and Saturday afternoon. To register a team of four, log on to www.italianheritage.org, or call the Italian Heritage Society of Indiana at 317-767-7686.

There will be a religious procession with a Blessed Virgin statue along with priests, altar servers and members of the Italian Heritage Society at 6:45 p.m. on June 15, followed by Mass at Holy Rosary Church at 7 p.m.

New to the festival is a special appearance by the Food Network's Rosella Rago, host of the online cooking show, "Cooking with Nonna."

One lucky grandmother will be awarded the opportunity to cook alongside Rago. To register for this opportunity, those age 18 or older may submit their name and phone number to "Cooking with Nonna" c/o Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis, IN 46203, or send an e-mail to indyitalianfest@gmail.com. Please indicate if you are a grandmother. Entrants must be willing to appear with Rago for the taping of her show at 7 p.m. on June 15. The deadline for entries is June 7.

Free parking for the event is available both days in the Eli Lilly lots on East Street and New Jersey Street.

All are invited to enjoy this nearly 30-year-old Indianapolis tradition. Proceeds from this event benefit Holy Rosary Parish and the community that it serves. †



Ordination anniversary

Retired Father Frank Eckstein celebrated a Mass commemorating the 55th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on May 3 at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Milan. The liturgy was concelebrated with his classmate Msgr. Harold Kneeven. The Mass was followed by a reception in the parish hall. Also in attendance were Father Eckstein's three sisters and three brothers. Pictured, from left, are altar server Andrew Bruner, Msgr. Kneeven, Father Eckstein and Father Shaun Whittington, administrator of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Milan and St. Pius Parish in Ripley County, and pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Osgood and St. Mary Magdalen Parish in New Marion.

GRADUATIONS

continued from page 3

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Rob Rash, assistant superintendent of Catholic schools for the archdiocese.

Lumen Christi High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of six seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 5:45 p.m. on May 24 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis. The graduation ceremony will immediately follow the Baccalaureate Mass in the church.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Plummer.

Oldenburg Academy of the Immaculate Conception in Oldenburg has a graduating class of 69 seniors.

The graduation ceremony will be at 1 p.m. on June 2 at the Chapel of the Sisters of St. Francis in Oldenburg.

Two students are in contention for valedictorian and salutatorian honors as the school year draws to a close: Laurel Kelnhofer, the daughter of Robert and Elinor Kelnhofer of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Aurora; and Natalie Pottschmidt, the daughter of Todd and Carolyn Pottschmidt of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross Parish in Bright.

The archdiocese will be represented by Plummer during a Mass and luncheon at the school on May 17.

Our Lady of Providence Jr./Sr. High School in Clarksville has a graduating class of 98 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 2 p.m. on June 2 at St. Mary-of-the-Knobs Church in Floyd County.

The graduation ceremony will be at 5 p.m. on June 9 at the school.

There are three class valedictorians: Erin Duncan, the daughter of Jerry and Elaine Duncan of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany; Reed Fansler, the son of Eric and Kellie Fansler of Holy Family Parish in New Albany; and Weston Spalding, the son of Jim and Cathy Spalding of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany.

The class salutatorian is Kathleen Wiles, the daughter of Thomas and Ann Wiles of Holy Family Parish in New Albany.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Fleming.

Providence Cristo Rey High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 15 seniors.

The graduation ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on June 6 at the school.

The class valedictorian is D'Onna Robinson, the granddaughter of Donna Brown, who is also her guardian.

The class salutatorian is Alisa Schaefer, the daughter of Bobbie Schaefer and Kenneth Schaefer. Her guardian is Margo Mayfield.

The archdiocese will be represented at the

graduation by Fleming.

Roncalli High School in Indianapolis has a graduating class of 265 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 6 p.m. on May 24 at the school.

The graduation ceremony will be at 9 a.m. on May 25 at the school.

The class valedictorian is David Stephen Page, the son of David and Santina Page of St. Roch Parish in Indianapolis.

The class salutatorian is Christopher Michael Brown, the son of Richard and Elisabetta Brown of Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Beech Grove.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Bishop Coyne.

Seton Catholic Jr./Sr. High School in Richmond has a graduating class of 16 seniors.

The Baccalaureate Mass will be at 7 p.m. on May 31 at St. Andrew Church in Richmond.

The graduation ceremony will be at 2 p.m. on June 2 at the school.

The class valedictorian is Johnathon Remo Hornak, the son of Drs. Steve and Angie Hornak of Holy Family Parish in Richmond.

The salutatorian is Katelyn Elizabeth Thuman, the daughter of Michael and Karen Thuman of Holy Family Parish.

The archdiocese will be represented at the graduation by Rash. †

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LAWSUIT

continued from page 1

be used against religious freedom across the country.”

Alliance Defending Freedom, until recently known as the Alliance Defense Fund, is a Christian legal organization founded in 1994 that advocates for the religious liberty of Americans and people around the world. According to Bowman, it is currently involved in 25 lawsuits that seek to overturn the HHS mandate.

Taking such a high-profile position in a legal action that could have wide-ranging implications is unusual in the 112-year history of Grote Industries.

Over that time, the Grotes have sought to provide a good way of life for their family and their employees, now numbering approximately 1,200 worldwide. They have also tried to help their clients and develop the communities in which their facilities are located.

Although the family has worked hard to achieve this goal and is well known within its small niche in the automotive industry, Grote Industries is generally unknown in society at large.

But Bill Grote, chairman of the board of his family’s business, said that the mandate went too far and that public action in response was needed.

“The intrusion upon the freedom for us to practice our beliefs was too much, such that we said if there is a way to voice loudly that this is wrong, then let’s do it,” said Grote, 74, a member of Prince of Peace Parish in Madison.

The Grote family’s initial request for an injunction was denied by

Judge Sarah Evans Barker of the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Indiana in New Albany.

Bowman will present the arguments in favor of the Grote family on May 22. Also representing the family are Indianapolis attorneys Mike Wilkins and Michael Cork, who are affiliated with Alliance Defending Freedom.

Jay Mercer, attorney for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, filed an amicus brief with the court in favor of the Grote family’s claim.

Grote Industries is one of the largest employers in Madison and the surrounding regions, providing jobs to approximately 800 people.

That relatively large number, however, does not keep Grote leaders distant from workers. As Bill Grote walks through his family’s factory in Madison, employees wave as they drive by on forklifts. Others stop to chat with the man they have worked with for decades.

Grote is concerned, however, that the mandate, if it stays in place and his company does not gain permanent relief, could put the jobs of those employees at risk.

That is because employers that offer health insurance to workers but do not comply with the mandate can be fined severely.

“It would be a disastrous fine,” said Grote. “If you added it up for our situation here, it would run somewhere between \$18 to \$22 million per year, depending on how many people we have [insured]. That is an onerous penalty and fine. That would destroy this business.”

The Grote family has learned, however, that they are not facing this uncertain

future alone. When their lawsuit was made public, individuals, most of whom they had never met, sent notes and e-mails of encouragement.

“I’ve been impressed by the support we’ve gotten locally and nationally,” said Dominic Grote, Bill’s son, who is the company’s president and chief executive officer.

Some of that encouragement has come from employees.

“I’ve had a lot of people out in the plant that just sit there and say, ‘Thank you. You’re standing up for something. People don’t do that anymore in this day and age,’” said Mike Grote, Bill’s nephew who manages the Madison facility.

What the family is standing up for in filing their suit is their freedom to allow their faith to inform the way they operate their business, according to Dominic.

“A lot of the values that have been passed down are reflected in the culture of the company,” said Dominic. “You see it. You can feel it. There’s a care that’s there.”

Bill hopes that the legal action that his family is taking might inspire other business owners to make their faith a more conscious part of the way their carry out their work.

“It would be great if the mandate is pushed back and the ruling comes clear that you’re able to practice your faith,” he said. “Those that may be wavering or not have as strong a conviction may feel much more comfortable in weaving their faith into their cultural and business activities.”

Dominic, his brothers and his cousins are the fourth generation of Grotes to be involved in the business. They all have children at home or who are young adults. They hope that this lawsuit will strengthen their children’s Catholic faith.



Mike Grote, left, Dominic Grote, Bill Grote and Rick Grote pose on May 13 in front of the factory of their family business located in Madison. Mike and Rick are nephews of Bill. Dominic is Bill’s son.

“This experience has been very good for my kids,” said Dominic, whose five children attend either Pope John XXIII School or Father Michael Shawe Memorial Jr./Sr. High School, both in Madison.

“They’ve gotten some benefit in terms of reaffirming the values and what their religion means to their families by seeing the company stand up and people talk about it.

“They talked about it in their religion class in school, especially when it came out in the papers. The teachers made a big deal about it.”

With the long view of a loving grandfather of 23 grandchildren, Bill hopes the effects of the family’s lawsuit on the next generation will be ongoing well into the future.

“Looking back on this, they could grow to have courage when they’ll need it,” he said. †

Attorney sees a strong case for religious freedom for Grote family in lawsuit

By Sean Gallagher

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate that forces most employers to provide abortion-inducing drugs, sterilizations and contraceptives to their employees has spawned dozens of lawsuits across the country.

Many religious organizations and business owners opposed in conscience to the mandate have been granted preliminary injunctions that free them temporarily from complying with the mandate.

According to Matt Bowman, senior legal counsel of Alliance Defending Freedom, a May 22 hearing in the legal action taken by the Grote family of Madison will be the first time that arguments will be made that could lead to one of those injunctions being made permanent.

Although the hearing and the decision that will follow will be groundbreaking events in the nationwide legal struggle against the mandate, Bowman believes the prospects are good for a positive outcome for his clients. That’s because in granting preliminary injunctions, courts across the country have already addressed “the substance of the dispute.”

“Even though these cases are procedurally preliminary, the judges are ruling on the question, ‘Can the federal government declare that people of faith have no religious freedom when they are living their daily lives by trying to earn a living?’” Bowman said.

Although the basis for the Grote family’s request for relief from the mandate is based on the free exercise of religion clause in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, much of the arguments in their favor

will focus on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), a federal law enacted in 1993 that codifies the religious freedom enshrined in that amendment.

That law was partially inspired by actions taken by the federal government against members of a small religious group in Oregon, and subsequent legal action related to it have also involved religious groups.

But Bowman said there is enough precedent in legal cases involving businesses and RFRA that he is confident that the federal courts will eventually side in favor of business owners seeking relief from the mandate. He believes this to be the case despite the fact that the Obama administration has made the argument that businesses do not have the religious freedom protected in the First Amendment.

“No case interpreting RFRA outside of this mandate, and most of them inside this mandate, say that there’s any such exemption in RFRA or the First Amendment,” Bowman said. “There have been many free exercise of religion cases in the Supreme Court involving people who are employers or who are trying to make money. And there are no cases doing what the Obama administration is trying to do, which is to shrink religious freedom [to such an extent] that only houses of worship can exercise [it].”

In a 2012 case that Bowman said was “partially relevant” to the lawsuits aimed at the mandate, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Hosanna Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, ruled unanimously in favor of Hosanna Tabor in a dispute in which the federal government tried to force the school to adhere to federal anti-discrimination laws in its hiring practices.

“It shows another attempt by the Obama administration to declare an entire area of human life, namely education, to be outside of the protection of religious freedom just because the government has decided it wants to dictate the rules,” Bowman said. “That’s what they’re doing here with health care and business, declaring these areas of human

life to be ‘secular’ and therefore incapable of involving religion, which is not what religious freedom has ever meant in America.”

Whatever the ultimate outcome of the May 22 hearing, Bowman expects that the case will be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In the meantime, Bowman, Alliance Defending Freedom and other legal advocacy organizations will continue to work with families across the country like the Grotes that own businesses that seek to defend their religious freedom.

“These are all families and people who follow the Lord Jesus Christ in every part of their life,” Bowman said. “And they don’t segment their faith into a box that only happens on Sunday. That’s what their families have been doing for decades to respect workers and improve the community through their family businesses. And the federal government is telling them that they’re not allowed to obey their faith in their daily lives.”

Bowman said the various lawsuits involving the mandate have a particular relevance for Catholics during the Year of Faith because of the teaching of the Second Vatican Council on religious liberty and on the laity being an essential part of the Church.

“When we say that the Church has religious freedom, the council fathers said that this means that the laity must be allowed to live their daily lives in a manner consistent with their faith,” Bowman said. “What the Obama administration will argue in Chicago on May 22 will be that the laity are not even capable of exercising faith in their daily lives outside of a house of worship. That’s what is at stake on May 22.”

(For more information about Alliance Defending Freedom, log on to www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org. Information on all the lawsuits challenging the HHS mandate can be found at www.becketfund.org/hhsinformationcentral.) †

ABORTION

continued from page 1

and practices as “a peek into the world before *Roe v. Wade* made legal a woman’s right to make her own choices.”

Charmaine Yoest, president and CEO of Americans United for Life, said the “self-interested indifference of an unrepentant, unregulated and unmonitored abortion industry stood front and center among the tragic events that led to the conviction of Kermit Gosnell.”

Yoest’s statement said “the legacy of Gosnell’s trial will be Big Abortion’s collusion in bringing about America’s

‘red-light district of medicine’—today’s back-alley abortion clinics and renegade abortion profiteers.”

She said “pro-life Americans must fight Big Abortion as they attempt to block common sense attempts to regulate and monitor abortion clinics where we know that some women and girls have suffered and even died.”

Yoest said the case underscores why abortion clinics must be subject to medical standards and regular inspections. Gosnell’s clinic had not been inspected for nearly two decades, she said.

“Kermit Gosnell is not the aberration that abortion advocates claim,” Yoest added. “Over the last three years, at least

15 states have initiated investigations into the conditions and practices of abortion clinics. These investigations were triggered by women’s deaths, reports of dangerous and unsanitary practices that exposed women to injuries and infections, and infants born alive following attempted abortions.”

Gosnell was arrested in 2011 and charged with seven counts of infanticide and one count of murder in the case of a woman from Virginia who died during an abortion.

Several patients and former employees testified about squalid conditions at the clinic, described by some as “a house of horrors.”

Prosecutors said one of the babies Gosnell killed was at nearly 30 weeks of gestation and was so big that Gosnell joked it could “walk to the bus,” reported The Associated Press.

The involuntary manslaughter charge came in the death of Karnamaya Mongar, 41, a refugee from Bhutan who lived in Woodbridge, Va., and who was given repeated doses of powerful drugs to induce labor and sedate her.

The jury also found Gosnell guilty of infanticide, racketeering and more than 200 violations of Pennsylvania laws, for performing abortions past 24 weeks or failing to counsel women seeking abortions 24 hours before providing the procedure. †

Through blogs, Catholic moms share their faith as 'digital disciples'

WASHINGTON (CNS)—One of Mary's titles is "Christ's First Disciple," and some of Christ's earliest followers were women, some of whom he appeared to first after his Resurrection.

Now, some 2,000 years later, another special group of women, specifically Catholic moms who blog on the Internet about their faith, the Catholic Church, as well as the joys and challenges of parenthood and everyday family life, can be considered among Christ's newest evangelizers or "digital disciples."

"Part of our vocation as mothers is to be within our home and do our work with love, and [as Catholic bloggers] we can also do work that draws people closer to Christ and his Church," said Lisa Hendey, a Catholic wife and mom blogger from Fresno, Calif.

In between carpool, dinner and homework duties, a growing number of Catholic moms have turned to Internet blogging as a newfound outlet to enrich their own Catholic faith, as well as the faith journeys of their regular readers, with whom they form a sort of spiritual camaraderie.

"We try to be supportive to parents in the trenches of the domestic Church," said Hendey, a mom of two sons ages 18 and 21. She also is the author of *A Book of Saints for Catholic Moms* and *The Handbook for Catholic Moms*.

Hendey said her 8-year-old blog, www.catholicmom.com, grew out of a website that she launched in 2000.

Nowadays, she has about 150 regular contributors, mostly moms, a few dads—all volunteers—who are writing on various topics such as daily prayer, the Church's liturgical seasons, marriage, family finances, books and movies. Hendey stressed that although the blog's content covers a multitude of Catholic-related subjects, all essays must be in accordance with Church teaching.

A blog is a website on which an individual or group of users record and share opinions and information on a regular basis. There are more than 150 million blogs on the Internet, with nearly 3,000 of them designated as Catholic blogs. There are no statistics on the number of blogs operated by Catholic moms, but it is a growing "ministry" in this era of the new evangelization, said Hendey.

"It allows us to put information and thoughts out there and invite readers into dialogue," she told the *Catholic Standard*, newspaper of the Washington Archdiocese.

"There are comments, more voices and a real sense of being a part of a community," she said, describing the difference between a website and a blog. "You're not just reading something. It's much more interactive."

Mary DeTurrís Poust is a Catholic mom blogger from the Diocese of Albany, N.Y., whose blog, www.notstrictlyspiritual.com, began about five years ago as a sort of "spiritual journal online."



Catholic mom and blogger Lisa Hendey of Fresno, Calif., attends a meeting between bloggers and bishops in Baltimore last fall. "Part of our vocation as mothers is to be within our home and do our work with love, and [as Catholic bloggers] we can also do work that draws people closer to Christ and his Church," said Hendey.

A former Catholic journalist and currently a monthly columnist for *Catholic New York*, the newspaper of the New York Archdiocese, Poust said she started her blog as a way to write about things that she couldn't always cover as a Catholic reporter.

"It's a blend of all areas of my life," said Poust, a wife and mother to three children—ages 16, 13 and 7.

When readers respond positively to one of Poust's blog posts, maybe one she based on a personal life struggle, she said, "It really affirms what I'm doing—using social media tools to reach people who aren't necessarily in the pews or churches," she said.

"They'll e-mail or comment and say they are going through the same thing and feeling alone on the journey," said Poust, who also is the author of several books on the Catholic faith.

Rebecca Teti, a member of St. Jerome Parish in Hyattsville, Md., is the moderator of the blog *Coffee Talk*, which can be found at www.Catholicdigest.com and was launched more than one year ago.

It is an open forum for readers to discuss, ask a question, share a story or offer advice.

Daily topics include parenting, natural family planning, education, marriage or the different issues facing members of the "sandwich generation"—those raising children and also caring for aging parents.

Readers are invited to "raise a question, tell a funny anecdote, share an interesting article, ask for advice or prayer," with a few ground rules to keep in mind: "Keep it

clean, keep it kind, and keep it 'kosher.'"

An example of a recent *Coffee Talk* blog post came from a reader expressing her dismay over her 14-year-old son's reluctance to receive the sacrament of confirmation. Several readers chimed in with suggestions about the importance of keeping the lines of communication open between parents and children, advice on the best catechetical resources, as well as promise of prayers for the woman and her son.

"Many Catholics don't have the advantage of like-minded Catholics being nearby in their neighborhood who support and pray for each other," Teti said, adding that the blog offers that notion in an online community. "The whole idea is to create the idea of girlfriends talking over coffee in a living room."

Teti, a wife, a mom of four children ranging in ages from 9 to 16 and a Catholic convert, said there are downsides to the blogosphere, even among Catholics blogs.

She recommends setting strict limits on time spent online. "It can suck you in. Set objective limits of not spending more than one hour," she said. "Real relationships can suffer."

Her own faith, Teti said, has grown through her work, which allows her to see how many Catholics take their faith seriously in a holy way.

"It's easy to believe you are isolated," she said, noting that the Catholic blog sites she has visited give her a real sense that "Catholicism is rich, lively and important, and that is heartening." †

Popular blogs written by or for Catholic moms

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The following is a list of some popular blogs written by or for Catholic mothers:

- Lisa Hendey's "Catholic Mom" features 150 contributors writing on all aspects of the Catholic faith and in accordance with Church teaching: www.catholicmom.com.
- Mary DeTurrís Poust's "Not Strictly Spiritual" chronicles her Catholic faith, family life and other topics: www.notstrictlyspiritual.com.
- Rebecca Teti's "Coffee Talk" at the Catholic Digest online site can be found under recent blog posts, and is an open forum for readers to discuss family, education, marriage, natural family planning, parenting and other related issues: www.catholicdigest.com.
- Jessica McFadden's "A Parent in Silver Spring" is a local Maryland resource guide to family-friendly activities: www.aparentinsilverpring.com. A similar resource can be found at her blog "A Parent in America": www.aparentinamerica.com.
- Katrina Fernandez's "The Crescat" is a blog about life as a faithful Catholic and a single mom: www.patheos.com/blogs/thecrescat. †

What was in the news on May 17, 1963? North Vernon students take part in rifle club, and more ripples from the pope's peace encyclical

By Brandon A. Evans

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



Here are some of the items found in the May 17, 1963, issue of *The Criterion*:

- **Cardinal briefs UN group on importance of encyclical**

"NEW YORK—The encyclical 'Pacem in Terris' stresses that 'international peace begins in the souls of each one of us,' a representative of His Holiness Pope John XXIII told the U.S. Committee for the United Nations. Cardinal Leo Suenens, Archbishop of Malines-Brussels, Belgium, said at the annual meeting of the committee, composed of 135 national organizations, that the pope's encyclical points out that peace must begin at this first level of the individual."

- **North Vernon parish has crack rifle club**

"NORTH VERNON, Ind.—A different type of Junior CYO activity—rifle shooting—is proving increasingly popular at St. Mary's parish here. Twelve high school students from the parish—including five girls—are members of the two-year-old St. Mary's Junior Rifle Club, an affiliate of the National Rifle Association. ... Practice sessions are held at an indoor range, located in the basement of the Knights of Columbus home. ... The students are trained in the use of .22 caliber rifles. ... Rifles for the young people are supplied by the federal Department of Civilian Marksmanship, which also supplies 300 rounds of ammunition per student."

- **Historic ceremony: Pope plans 'peace fund' with Balzan prize money**

"VATICAN CITY—His Holiness Pope John XXIII, the first individual to be awarded the Balzan Peace Prize, will use the \$160,000 prize money to create what he called 'a perpetual fund in favor of peace.'"

- **English translation of encyclical rapped**

- **Summer conference: ND plans population problem study**
- **Gynecologist replies to critics of his book**
- **Probe DeGaulle logic in rejecting Britain**
- **Catholic concern for problem noted**
- **All war is civil war, Adlai contends**
- **Labor unions are worth the price**
- **Did Pope endorse UN?**
- **Don't take priest role, psychiatrists warned**
- **Catholic U. adds 'space' division**
- **Woods campaign hits \$1.4 million**
- **Race justice stand urged**
- **Terror in Haiti: Church a major target of the Duvalier regime**
- **Central fund for schools suggested**
- **Class schedules revised to permit enrollment hike**

(Read all of these stories from our May 17, 1963, issue by logging on to our archives at www.CriterionOnline.com.) †

Year of Faith gathering



Tell City Deanery parishioners and clergy meets with archdiocesan director of catechesis Ken Ogorek on April 29 to discuss how they might share the faith with their friends, neighbors and relatives. Similar gatherings have occurred in each deanery as part of the archdiocesan observance of the Year of Faith. Parishes represented at the gathering pictured are: St. Augustine in Leopold; Holy Cross in St. Croix; St. Joseph in Crawford County; St. Mark in Perry County; St. Martin of Tours in Siberia; St. Michael in Cannelton; St. Paul in Tell City; and St. Pius V in Troy. Also pictured above is a banner marking the Year of Faith at St. Michael Church in Cannelton.

Only Holy Spirit can fill hearts thirsting for love, peace, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Listen to the Holy Spirit because he is giving people the good news that God loves them and can



Pope Francis

renew, purify and transform their lives, Pope Francis said.

The Holy Spirit is the living water that “quenches the thirst in our lives because he tells us that we are loved by God as his children, that we can love God as his children and with his grace we can live as children of God, like Jesus,” the pope said on

May 8 at his weekly general audience.

Speaking to more than 80,000 people gathered in St. Peter’s Square, Pope Francis continued his audience talks about the affirmations of faith in the creed, focusing on the Holy Spirit.

“The Holy Spirit is an inexhaustible well of the life of God in us,” he said.

Every human person in every epoch and from all walks of life “desires a full and beautiful life, a life that is not threatened by death but that may mature and grow in fullness,” the pope said.

“Mankind is like a wanderer who, across the deserts of life, thirsts for water that’s alive, gushing and fresh, able to fully slacken his deep desire for light, love, beauty and peace. Everyone desires this,” he said.

It is Jesus who gives humanity this living water through the Holy Spirit, the pope said, “so that our lives may be guided, animated and

nourished by God.

“When we say a Christian is a spiritual person, what we mean is this: A Christian is someone who thinks and acts according to God, according to the Holy Spirit,” he said.

But, he asked, “Do we think and act according to God or do we let ourselves be led by so many other things?”

All Christians must reflect on this question and honestly answer in their hearts whether they are listening to God or are distracted, he added.

The living water of the Holy Spirit, the pope said, is a gift from the resurrected Christ “who dwells in us, purifies us, renews us, transforms us so that we can share in the life of God who is love.”

That is why St. Paul affirmed in his Letter to the Galatians that “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control” (Gal 5:22-23), he said.

The Holy Spirit brings people into divine life as children of God where they can live as “true children, in a relationship of intimacy, freedom, and faith in the love and mercy of God,” he said.

Living as children of God lets people see with Christ’s eyes, and see others as “brothers and sisters in Jesus to respect and love,” he said.

“Let us be guided by the Holy Spirit, allow him to speak to our hearts and he will tell us this: that God is love, he’s always waiting for us, he is a father who loves us like a real dad and only the Holy Spirit can tell our hearts this,” he said. †



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Gene Hurm (right), Indiana State Warden



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PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT/POLICY STATEMENT SPONSORS USING INCOME APPLICATION FORMS (CAMPIS)

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY NUTRITION PROGRAMS

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers _____ today announced plans to participate in the

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Free meals will be made available to all children 18 years of age and under and to persons over 18 years who are enrolled in a state-approved educational program for the mentally or physically disabled. Free meals are made available to all eligible participants.

In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

It is the policy of the Indiana Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability, in its programs, activities, or employment policies as required by the Indiana Civil Rights Law (I.C. 22-9-1), Title VI and VII (Civil Rights Act of 1964), the Equal Pay of 1973, Title IX (Educational Amendments), Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 USCS § 12101, et seq.).

Inquiries regarding compliance by the Indiana Department of Education with Title IX and other civil rights laws may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator, Indiana Department of Education, Room 229, State House, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2798, or by telephone to (317) 232-6610 or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 111 North Canal Street, Suite 1053, Chicago, IL, 60606-7204 (312) 886-8434. – Glenda Ritz, Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Free meals will be provided at the site(s) listed below beginning July 1st, 2013

and ending July 19th, 2013

For additional information contact Ashley Holloway-Watts at 317-236-1580

1400 North Meridian St, Indianapolis IN 46202

LISTING OF SITE(S)

Holy Angels School, 2822 Dr Martin Luther King Jr St, Indianapolis IN 46268

Holy Cross Central School, 125 N Oriental St, Indianapolis IN 46202

The participant eligibility to receive free meals is determined based on if a child meets the income guidelines for reduced-price meals in the National School Lunch Program. Below are the USDA Income Guidelines for the fiscal year of 2013. A child who is part of the households that receives Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamps) benefits, or benefits under the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservation (FDPIR), or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is automatically eligible for free meals.

SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM 2013 INCOME GUIDELINES

Family Size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$20,665	1,723	398
2	27,991	2,333	539
3	35,317	2,944	680
4	42,643	3,554	821
5	49,969	4,165	961
6	57,295	4,775	1,102
7	64,621	5,386	1,243
8	71,947	5,996	1,384
For each additional person	+7,326	+611	+141

I certify that the above Program Announcement/Policy Statement constitutes this organization’s policy regarding the service of meals to participants in the Summer Food Service Program and the above announcement has been included in the attached brochure, program application, or information sheet which was/will be disseminated to potential participants on June 10th, 2013.

In addition, the above announcement will be submitted to

The Criterion Newspaper on May 6, 2013

(SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE) on (DATE)

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THIELE 639-1111



Faith *Alive!*

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Don't take a vacation from being generous this summer

By Effie Caldarola

Summer is coming soon. The temperatures are heating up after a long winter and a chilly spring in much of the U.S.

Now, birdsong fills the morning air and trees are budding. Our thoughts inevitably turn to vacations, swimming pools, family reunions, summer reading lists, barbecues and ... the downtown women's shelter? Maybe some reading up on the Second Vatican Council?

Well, maybe not so much.

But maybe this is the season to shake up our calendars. One option is to let the Year of Faith be our guide. On Oct. 11, 2012, Pope Benedict XVI declared that this special year, which will end on Nov. 24, 2013, will be "a summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord."

With summer bringing lighter schedules or vacation, what better time to re-evaluate and plan what we'll practice, what's important for us to devote our time to as Catholics in this Year of Faith?

For some, it may mean taking up some of the recommendations given by the U.S. bishops—to examine the documents of Vatican II, go on a pilgrimage, spend more time in eucharistic adoration or simply finding ways to pass on our faith to the youngest in our families.

For others, it might mean helping out during a drought that takes place in summer at charities, nonprofits or places that see a peak of activity during end-of-year holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, yet face a desert of people and resources at this time of year. Even giving to parishes often falters, which is why so many churches have adopted electronic giving in an effort to keep donations steady throughout those lazy, hazy days.

During Thanksgiving and Christmas, people are keenly aware of their neighbors. Not only do the holidays make us conscious of God's abundant gifts and our need to give, but we become acutely sensitive to those who aren't sharing in the season's largesse.

There is also a more practical reason to give: People are looking at tax planning for year's end. *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* reports that November and December are the biggest months for all charitable giving in the U.S.

But the need is still with us and Catholics looking for meaningful ways to spend part of the summer could serve in some of these places, particularly at times when others turn their attention elsewhere.

Ellen Krsnak, community relations director for Catholic Social Services in Anchorage, Alaska, recently recalled the abundance of the cold winter months.

"It's amazing at Christmas," Krsnak said of the bounty that appears for the agency's shelters. Schools hold toy and clothing drives, "giving trees" abound at workplaces, people look for ways to volunteer from Thanksgiving through the



A volunteer loads food into a cart for a mother and son at a food pantry in Tuckerton, N.J., in 2012. Many charitable agencies experience a heightened need for volunteers and donations during summer months.

run-up to Christmas, and checkbooks open widely.

Some like Krsnak find creative ways to stretch the giving to last throughout the year.

"There's so much given then that we try to make some of it last year round. We have a 'birthday closet' at the shelter for women and children, and we parcel out the gifts that come in during Christmas."

While the material can be stretched, it is much tougher to find substitutes for volunteers on leave and those who go on vacation in summer. While at Thanksgiving, food kitchens and shelters have so many folks calling to ask if they can help that they sometimes can't respond to all the requests, it would be a cause to celebrate if they faced that bounty in July.

What's the best Catholic response to this seasonal imbalance? What better time to re-evaluate our giving practices, not just to charity but also to our parishes?

First of all, as Catholic stewards, why do we give? Our giving should be motivated by our desire to say thank you to God. We don't simply respond to needs, although surely the world is full of them. We respond first of all as a return to God for our blessings.

True giving is never grudging, but flows from gratitude. We don't give from our excess. We give biblically, of the "first fruits" of our harvest. Our giving, in response to Christ's great sacrifice for us, must be sacrificial in return.

Does our giving pinch a little now and then? Do we forfeit something we want so that we can give more? If not, perhaps this Year of Faith is calling us to re-evaluate our generosity.

There may not be Thanksgiving or Christmas dinners to volunteer for, but people can eagerly volunteer for yard work or spruce-up projects, something most churches and charities need.

So maybe we can start there, with a response to a parish, school or charity's call for a clean-up crew or summer upkeep helpers. Then, let's make an effort to clean up and re-evaluate our year-round stewardship effort. Create a new giving plan, and make it part of a wonderful summer.

(Effie Caldarola is a columnist for Catholic News Service and a freelance writer.) †

Prayful reading of Scripture can make the Bible come alive

By David Gibson

You recall the much-loved parable of the merciful father, don't you?



A young man reads Scripture before Sunday Mass in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in this 2011 file photo. When Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI launched the Year of Faith in 2012, he encouraged Catholics to make Scripture an important part of their life of prayer.

Perhaps you know that biblical story by another name. Probably, this story more commonly is known as the prodigal son parable (Lk 15:11-32), a title underscoring a son's wayward actions and his ultimate conversion.

Scripture often is layered with meaning. Passages, chapters and entire biblical books can be approached from multiple perspectives, read and reread in a process of discovering their fuller implications.

No wonder some biblical stories become known under more than one title.

Finding time to reflect on a Scripture passage and incorporate it into prayer might sound like a luxury, given contemporary life's rapid pace. But perhaps summertime or a leisurely vacation will offer opportunities to attempt this.

"We must rediscover a taste for feeding ourselves on the word of God," Pope Benedict XVI wrote in announcing the current Year of Faith, which concludes on Nov. 24, 2013.

One way of "feeding ourselves" this way can be found in Pope Benedict's 2010 apostolic exhortation on the word of God. Pope Benedict urged people to bring

Scripture into their spirituality through a prayer method known as "*lectio divina*" (divine reading).

The U.S. Catholic bishops, in their 2012 document on preaching, outlined the four basic steps of this approach to prayer. It is something we could attempt during the slower pace that summer brings as part of our Year of Faith activities.

It starts, they said, with "prayerful reading" of a biblical text. The second step involves meditation on the text's message. Next comes a "prayerful response" to "what the Lord may ask of us" in this passage. The fourth step is to contemplate the "conversion of heart and mind" necessary to put the biblical message into action in life.

The Benedictine monks of St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle, Ill., spoke about "*lectio divina*" in a 2007 edition of their publication, *The Clerestory*. They considered it important to "ruminate" on a Scriptural word or passage that speaks to us, and "allow it to intersect with our thoughts, our hopes, our memories, [and] our desires."

One way to see this method in action, as it applies to the prodigal son parable, comes from our new pope. Pope Francis

talked about the merciful father parable in a homily on April 7, accenting the patience and love of the story's father.

The pope drew hope for his own life from this parable. Obviously, he thinks others can derive strength there, too.

In God's eyes, Pope Francis said, "We are not numbers, we are important, indeed we are the most important thing to him."

In fact, "God is always waiting for us, he never grows tired," Pope Francis said. He added, "Jesus shows us this merciful patience of God so that we can regain confidence, hope—always."

A sort of dialogue unfolds in life "between our weakness and the patience of God," Pope Francis proposed. If we engage in this dialogue, "it will grant us hope," he said.

To suggest that a parable might foster dialogue between us and God is to suggest, it seems to me, that Scripture can play a valued role in spirituality and prayer. That, indeed, is what spiritual guides today think.

(David Gibson served on Catholic News Service's editorial staff for 37 years.) †

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink

Year of Faith: I believe in the Holy Spirit

This coming Sunday is the feast of Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles. But who is the Holy Spirit?



In the Nicene Creed we say, "I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets."

Thus we proclaim belief in the Holy Spirit in precisely the same way that we proclaim belief in the Father and the Son.

What does it mean that the Holy Spirit "proceeds" from the Father and the Son? Think of it this way: The Father and the Son love each other with an eternal love. This love that proceeds from the Father and the Son is a person, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the personification of the love that proceeds between the Father and the Son.

For the Journey/Effie Calderola

The pope's example about living in solidarity with the poor

One reason the world has reacted with such joy to the election of Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio as



Pope Francis is his commitment to the poor. As we have read in many news reports, this is not a purely academic concern on his part. Pope Francis has put his concern into action. For him, it's meant a lifetime of

living among the poor and interacting with them. It's meant riding the bus and forsaking the opulent home some feel is a cardinal's due. His devotion has led him into real relationships with people not as privileged as those who sometimes surround a "prince" of the Church.

To many, this is the attitude a leader of our Church should have—to be a servant leader, to be one with those who suffer, following the example of Jesus.

News reports indicate Pope Francis has a desire to move forward with the beatification of Archbishop Oscar Romero, a man many Latin Americans already regard as a saint and martyr. Romero was considered a fairly conservative choice for archbishop of San Salvador in 1977, where the

Your Family/Bill Dodds

Caregiver should start slowly when loved one doesn't want help

If you're the caregiver in the family, there may be times when the loved one you're taking care of simply says "no." When he or she wants nothing to do with what you're proposing.



You may have come up with what you think is a great solution to whatever problem or need the

person is facing, but he or she doesn't see it that way.

So he digs in his heels or she gets that look in her eyes, and you know it's going to take a lot of work on your part to get your loved one to budge.

What can you do to avoid this type of confrontation? Is there a way to prepare?

It may not feel like it, but there are things you can do to prepare for the moment when this happens. You can

The Holy Spirit is God. He was with the Father at the time of creation and with the Son in his act of redemption. He is called the sanctifier for his actions on us through the sacraments of the Church.

We believe that the Holy Spirit was present in Old Testament times when he spoke through the prophets. We also believe that the Holy Spirit inspired the authors of the Old Testament.

But the Old Testament does not speak of the Holy Spirit as a divine person distinct from the Father. It's in the New Testament that we learn most about the Holy Spirit, in all four Gospels, but especially in the Acts of the Apostles and in St. Paul's letters.

In John's Gospel, Jesus promised to send "another paraclete." The word "paraclete" means "counselor" or "advocate." We believe that God had a plan whereby Christ's teachings would be preserved after Christ was no longer in the world. That is why he sent the Holy Spirit, to lead the Church and preserve it from error.

After the Resurrection, John tells

El Salvadoran ruling elite controlled most of the land and resources. Archbishop Romero was a friend to this elite and felt comfortable among them.

But when his friend, Jesuit Father Rutilio Grande, was assassinated for his work with the poor, the archbishop reached a turning point in his life. He became a defender of the poor and a tireless proponent of human rights. He criticized the Marxists and those who sought military solutions, but, at the same time, he opposed the worst of capitalism and the unbridled greed of the oligarchs. He stood firmly with the poor, and for this he was assassinated while celebrating Mass in 1980.

For Americans, and many Westerners, our attitude toward the poor is rather complex. We often speak condescendingly of "those less fortunate than we are," write our checks at Christmas, collect some cans for a food drive and drop our used clothing off at a charity.

But we find it cumbersome and confusing to consider the root causes of poverty and to ask why the gap between the rich and the poor grows in the U.S. We prefer to get out the checkbook and feel we've done our part. The politics of the thing can grow messy—probably not as messy as it grew for Archbishop Romero, gunned down for his beliefs—but muddled nonetheless.

prepare for a crisis by talking about concerns early and often. It's much easier to hold discussions before a conflict arises.

"What if you need some help around the house?" "What if you can't safely drive anymore?"

What could your loved one do, what could you do, what could someone else do, to help out? What are other people you both know currently doing in those situations, or not doing? The more comfortable the person needing care feels, the easier it will be for your loved one to tell you when he or she needs help.

Another thing to do is to give the person options. If there is already a need, don't present your choice as "the solution."

Let the person you're caring for decide. If he or she isn't mentally competent to decide, get professional help to assist you in planning and making necessary decisions.

us that Jesus breathed on the Apostles and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven and whose sins you retain are retained" (Jn 20:22-23).

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended fully upon the Church and the Apostles were aware of his direct operation in their activities. The letters of St. Paul describe the many gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit has been called the "soul" of the Church, which is the body of Christ. The Church teaches that the gifts of Christ are poured out upon the Church by the Holy Spirit.

Besides keeping the Church from error, the Holy Spirit is also the communicator of grace to human beings. It's for that reason that he is sometimes called the sanctifier. Grace is a free gift of God, given to us through the merits of Christ and communicated to us by the Holy Spirit.

It is divine assistance given to people to help them advance toward their supernatural destiny of fellowship with God. The principal means of grace are the sacraments. †

In Scripture, there is a story about a woman who poured costly oils on Jesus as a form of tribute. Some of the disciples upbraided Jesus for allowing this. Couldn't the money have been used for the poor?

Jesus makes the comment, "The poor you will always have with you; but you will not always have me" (Mt 26:11).

Some interpret this remark to suggest, oh, yes, there will always be poor people about. But I've heard a more striking interpretation of Jesus' statement: Christ exhorted his Apostles, saying, you, because you are my disciples, you will always keep the poor close to you. Always.

In the affluent society in which we live, we sometimes don't see the poor, or when they are present, we see through them. We often fail to recognize how many of our neighbors require food stamps, or are one misstep away from financial ruin. Our cities are often completely divided into the rich neighborhoods and the poor.

To be a follower of Jesus is to be countercultural. It is to choose simplicity when we'd love to use more, and to live in solidarity with those who struggle.

(Effie Calderola writes for Catholic News Service.) †

Also, remember to start with small changes and introduce them gradually.

For example, Mom may not want or need someone in her home several days a week, but she will agree to a person coming in for two hours once a week to help with the cleaning or laundry. As she and the helper get to know each other, the idea of increasing those hours and the workload may not be nearly as threatening to her.

Allow the person to preserve his or her independence. Your goal isn't to take over your loved one's life, but to assist him or her in getting what is needed. That can be done without trampling on your loved one's right to choose.

It can be done while continuing to show great love and respect for the loved one or person receiving your care.

(Bill Dodds writes for Catholic News Service.) †

Catholic Evangelization Outreach/

Peg McEvoy

Parishes are a living extension of Jesus Christ

Last October, bishops from around the world gathered in the Vatican for a synod to focus on "The New Evangelization for the Transmission of the Faith." Their work resulted in some consensus statements that give us insights into the "new evangelization."

One image that caught my eye was the image of the parish being a "living" place where people encounter Christ.

As individuals and as part of a community,



we encounter Jesus in our parish through liturgy, faith formation and charity. Looking at parish "life" in this way gives us an approach to "take the temperature" of our parish.

In addition to Mass, are there opportunities for people to encounter Christ at our parish? Do our parishioners

really understand what it means to encounter Christ in sacred Scripture, the sacraments and the teaching of the Church? How many of our parishioners take part in caring for the poor? Is our parish continually building disciples of Jesus Christ?

Last week's issue of *The Criterion* included its annual "Evangelization Supplement," which featured stories on people and parishes that are focused on helping others become even more alive in Christ.

Some approaches could be adapted for use in other parishes. Other methods were specific to a parish's situation. In each case, however, there is a team working to build discipleship at the parish level.

You can take three actions to advance evangelization and disciple-building in your own life and parish:

- Learn more about how to build disciples in your parish. Starting last week and continuing through the end of May, the archdiocese is sponsoring a workshop titled "Dessert and Discipleship: Building a Parish Evangelization Team that 'Takes the Cake,'" aimed at helping parishes jumpstart their own parish evangelization teams. The workshop offers something for every parish, regardless of where a parish is in the process of getting a team up and running. It focuses on how to get an intentional team gathered, formed and moving forward. For more information, log on to www.archindy.org/evangelization and click on "Dessert and Discipleship" And just as the title implies, there will be delicious desserts available, too!

- Read and discuss with family and friends *Disciples Called to Witness: The New Evangelization*. You can find it at www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/disciples-called-to-witness/. This is a great resource from the U.S. bishops. It helps us understand our current situation and how to witness to the Gospel in word and action.

- Pray for the Church. We must pray every day for our Church on the local, national and international levels. In a recent address, Pope Francis asked, "Do we pray for the Church, for the entire Church? For our brothers and sisters whom we do not know, everywhere in the world? It is the Lord's Church and in our prayer we say to the Lord: Lord, look at your Church. ... It's yours. Your Church is [made up of] our brothers and sisters. This is a prayer that must come from our heart." In our prayers, we must entrust the Church to Our Lord, Jesus.

There is no implied order or level of importance in the way these actions are listed. When all three steps are in place, though, I guarantee you will find yourself growing in your ability to witness to the faith and to help build disciples.

Let's make some room in our hearts and parishes for the Holy Spirit to work, and we will undoubtedly be helping to build parishes and disciples who are living, breathing dwelling places of Jesus Christ.

(Peg McEvoy is the archdiocesan associate director for evangelization and family catechesis. For questions and/or help starting a parish evangelization team, contact McEvoy at pmcevoy@archindy.org.) †

Pentecost Sunday/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

Sunday Readings

Sunday, May 19, 2013

- Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11
- 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13
- John 20:19-23

In the Church's liturgical year, only Easter and Christmas eclipse Pentecost. The importance and grandeur of these



feasts, of course, derive from the events being commemorated. The Church also sees the feast as highly important because of the lessons to be learned from the biblical readings at Mass, lessons very useful for growth in the

spiritual life and for understanding the faith.

Pentecost also was an ancient Jewish feast, celebrating the first harvest. It took place on the 50th day after Passover and received the name of Pentecost, taken from the Greek, as the Hebrew culture more and more was influenced by the Greek civilization. The first Christians almost invariably were of Jewish origins. The Apostles were Jews. So they observed Pentecost.

More broadly, in the Jewish context, this feast celebrated the identity, unity and vocation of the Hebrew people. With the coming of the Holy Spirit, and in the overall context of salvation in Christ Jesus, Pentecost took on a greater meaning for Christians, a meaning centered in Christianity.

So Christians now see, and so long have seen, Pentecost as their holy day, recalling the moment when God the Holy Spirit filled the Apostles with new life. Receiving strength and power from the Holy Spirit, the Apostles then went forward to proclaim salvation in Christ to the entire world.

For the second reading, the Church presents a passage from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. Absolute faith in Christ, as God, and as Savior, is key. It also is vital. Without grace, humans are confused and liable to even fatal missteps.

St. John's Gospel is the source of the last reading, a Resurrection narrative. The Apostles are afraid. They are clustered together in hiding. Then, the risen Lord appears before them. He comes to them

and their fear vanishes. He grants them not only supreme confidence but divine power—the power to forgive sins.

The reading is profoundly relevant for Catholics. As God possessing the Holy Spirit, Jesus gives the Apostles the power to forgive sins, extraordinary because only God can forgive sins.

A critical message in this Gospel reading is that the Apostles were empowered by Jesus to continue the work of salvation.

Reflection

For weeks, the Church has rejoiced in the Resurrection, excitedly proclaiming that Jesus is, not was, Lord. He lives!

Throughout the Easter season, the Church, in the readings at Mass, has called us to realize what effect the Resurrection has upon us and upon human history. The salvation achieved by Christ on Calvary never will end. It is for all time and for all people.

How will this be accomplished? It will be accomplished through the Lord's disciples in every consecutive age.

The bond with Jesus experienced by every authentic Christian is so strong, and unique, that all Christians themselves are bound together. They form the Church.

In their bond with Christ, they share in the mission of Christ, to bring God's mercy and wisdom to the world. It is an individual role but also collective, the collective dimension seen in the ministry and witness of the Church.

As Acts reveals, a determination to be near the Apostles under the leadership of St. Peter is essential to the Church. For this reason, the Church still looks to the chosen successors of the Apostles for guidance and direction.

Pentecost commemorates an event long ago, yet it teaches a very contemporary lesson. In 2013, as 20 centuries ago, it is the Apostolic Church, the community created by God that brings divine mercy to weary and wandering humans. As was the case in Jerusalem so long ago, it loves all, serves all and reassures all. Quite visibly, it still gathers around the Apostles, with Peter at the center.

Christian commitment necessarily is personal and individual. It also is collective. †

Daily Readings

Monday, May 20

St. Bernardine of Siena, priest
Sirach 1:1-10
Psalm 93:1-2, 5
Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday, May 21

St. Christopher Magallanes, priest, and companions, martyrs
Sirach 2:1-11
Psalm 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40
Mark 9:30-37

Wednesday, May 22

St. Rita of Cascia, religious
Sirach 4:11-19
Psalm 119:165, 168, 171-172
Mark 9:38-40

Thursday, May 23

Sirach 5:1-8
Psalm 1:1-4, 6
Mark 9:41-50

Friday, May 24

Sirach 6:5-17
Psalm 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35
Mark 10:1-12

Saturday, May 25

St. Bede the Venerable, priest and doctor of the Church
St. Gregory VII, pope
St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, virgin
Sirach 17:1-5
Psalm 103:13-18
Mark 10:13-16

Sunday, May 26

The Most Holy Trinity
Proverbs 8:22-31
Psalm 8:4-9
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

Question Corner/Fr. Kenneth Doyle

The Jewish faith was an essential part of Jesus' life, preaching and ministry

QA question about religion has always puzzled me: Jesus was a Jew; when did he become a Catholic? (Afton, Iowa)



AYou are right: Jesus was a Jew. He was born a Jew, brought up a Jew, was steeped in the Jewish Scriptures and, as we read in Luke 4:16, went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day,

"according to his custom."

During the temptations in the desert (Mt 4:1-11), Jesus quotes three times from the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy. In the synagogue at Nazareth, Jesus unrolls a scroll, reads from the Book of Isaiah and refers the passage to himself (Lk 4:16-21).

In several Gospel narratives, Jesus claims divine prerogatives (in Mark 2, where he forgives the paralytic's sins before curing him). Because of that, some Jews accused Jesus of blasphemy and rejected him outright.

Nevertheless, in the early years following the death of Christ, Christianity was viewed as a sect within Judaism. Its followers were called "Nazarenes" or people of "The Way," but they continued to practice Jewish rituals. At the start of Chapter 3 of the Acts of the Apostles, we read that "Peter and John were going up to the temple area for the 3 o'clock hour of prayer" (Acts 3:1).

The split between Christianity and Judaism was not so much an event as a process, one that evolved gradually during the first century of the Church's history.

One key moment in that process came with the Council of Jerusalem in 50 A.D., when it was decided that gentiles could be admitted to the Church without being circumcised. During the decades that followed, the relationship between Jews and Christians varied. Sometimes, Christians were expelled from synagogues. At other times, they left voluntarily.

To answer your question as to when Jesus "became a Catholic," I would say never, at least not in the specific way that term has come to be known over the course of history. The Church was first called Catholic by Ignatius of Antioch in about 100 A.D. The term meant "universal." Jesus and his disciples had preached that salvation was meant for all.

Christ came not to eradicate the Jewish religion, but to complete it by creating a monotheistic faith community that would be open to people of all races. He says this

in the Gospel of Matthew: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill" (Mt 5:17).

All of this would indicate that the attitude of Catholics toward Jews ought to be one of respect and gratitude. Christianity was built upon the foundation of Judaism. Pope Pius XI said that "spiritually we are all Semites."

In the words of the Second Vatican Council: "In her rejection of every persecution against any person, the Church, mindful of the inheritance she shares with the Jews ... decries hatred, persecutions and displays of anti-Semitism directed against Jews at any time and by anyone" ("Nostra Aetate," #4).

QIn our parish and in some other churches I've visited, I notice that the bells are no longer rung when the host and the chalice are elevated. Why would centuries of tradition be eliminated? The Mass is about sounds, the smell of the candles and the emotions that the laity feel during the service. Don't those who make the decisions care how the rest of us feel about all of the changes that have taken place? (Utah)

ASince the 1969 revisions in the Mass under Pope Paul VI, ringing of bells by the Mass server at the elevation has been optional. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* says in #150 that this is left to the discretion of the priest.

A quick history lesson might help. Ringing bells at the elevation began in the early part of the 13th century. At that time, few people received Communion regularly at Mass, so few, in fact, that the Church had to mandate its reception at least once a year.

Most worshippers in those days went to Mass primarily to adore Christ rather than to receive him. Because of that, the central focus was seen as the elevation, when the consecrated species were lifted high to be revered.

Today, reception of holy Communion is considered the natural fulfillment of the sacrifice and the act that unites us most intimately to the risen Christ. Bells at the elevation might be seen as misplacing the emphasis.

But bells remain an option, particularly if a great majority of the worshippers feel that their use would highlight the solemnity of the Mass and prompt deeper reverence.

(Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 40 Hopewell St., Albany, NY 12208.) †

My Journey to God

Mary, My Mother

By Sandy Bierly

Love envelops me,
Peace and joy flow abundantly,
When thoughts of Mary come to me,
As I pray my Rosary.

Didn't Jesus say,
"Mother, behold your son,
Son, behold your Mother,"
On the cross of Calvary?

Now I can claim,
The most beautiful Mother of all,
Who comes to my aid
Whenever I call.

Mary, my Mother,
The most beautiful Mother of all,
Who walks by my side,
As we follow her Son.



CNS photo/Victor Aleman, Vida Nueva

(Sandy Bierly is a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany. A woman prays before a statue of Mary at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles. May is traditionally a month that Catholics dedicate to Mary.)

Rest in peace

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

BODIKER, Nancy, 73, St. Mary, Richmond, April 23. Wife of Richard Bodiker Sr. Mother of Lisa Murray, Jerry Shinn, Cathy, Jack, Richard Jr. and Scott Bodiker. Sister of Dr. Jack Bandura. Grandmother of several. Great-grandmother of several.

BORGES, Frances Marie, 91, St. Martin of Tours, Martinsville, May 5. Mother of Monica Burgi, John and Tom Borges. Sister of Emma Kivett. Grandmother of eight. Great-grandmother of three.

BRAUN, Joseph Anthony, 72, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Indianapolis, May 3. Husband of Mary Ann Braun. Father of Ted and Tony Braun. Brother of Barbara May and John Braun. Grandfather of six. Great-grandfather of three.

BREEDEN, Rebecca Sue, 69, St. Agnes, Nashville, April 29. Mother of Emily Corn, Kim Graff, Jeff Hopkins, Rachel and Chris Cseszko. Daughter of Rex Breeden. Sister of Jeanne Matson. Grandmother of five.

DONLAN, Edward F., 92, St. Jude, Indianapolis, May 7. Husband of Rita Donlan. Father of Linda Erwin, Joanne Kinsman and William Donlan. Brother of Katherine Jackson. Grandfather of eight. Great-grandfather of 13.

EDER, Robert J., 85, St. Mary, Rushville, April 28. Husband of Betty (More) Eder. Father of Karen Harpring, Lisa Ruttenberg and Stephen Eder. Grandfather of seven. Great-grandfather of six.

FORTHOFER, Raphael Paul, 73, St. Nicholas, Ripley County, April 4. Husband of Rosina Forthofer. Father of Christy, Shelly and Nick Forthofer. Brother of several. Grandfather of several.

GALLAGHER, Marilyn J., 82, former member Sacred Heart of Jesus, Indianapolis, April 25. Wife of James Gallagher. Mother of Elizabeth Chipchak, Ann Watson and Mark Gallagher. Sister of Marjorie Lenahan, Alice Kilgore and Richard Wehlage. Grandmother of eight.

GRAVES, Richard, 78, St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower), Indianapolis, April 26. Husband of Jessie Graves. Father of Dawn Wendel and Rick Graves. Brother of Mary Morgan and Robert Graves. Grandfather of four.

KIRCHGESSNER, Roberta Lee (Smith), 59, St. Joseph, Clark County, May 2. Wife of Merrell Kirchgessner Sr. Mother of Martin, Merrell Jr. and Patrick Kirchgessner. Stepmother of Rebecca Northern. Sister of Deborah Dreschel, Colleen Kirchgessner, Mary McKinley, Corlis Turner, Larry and Mark Smith. Grandmother of two.

KOPP, Howard A., 85, St. Vincent de Paul, Bedford, May 6. Father of Mary Ellen Graf, Catherine Young, Gregory and Stephen Kopp. Brother of Kathleen Freeman. Grandfather of four. Great-grandfather of one.

MAUER, Leonard J., 100, St. Mary, Greensburg, April 25. Father of Ruth Cook, Angela Kelly, Mary Jo Nieman, Judy, Nita, Larry, Mark, Michael, Roger and Timothy Mauer. Brother of Edwin and Louis Mauer. Grandfather of 21. Great-grandfather of six. (correction)

MILES, Margaret, 92, St. Mary, Richmond, May 2. Mother of Ann Rounds and Michael Miles. Grandmother of four. Great-grandmother of four.

MOODY, Kevin L., 59, St. Louis, Batesville, April 30. Father of Nicki Eichhold and Janel Norris. Brother of Beverly Jumper, Roseann Tousley, Cindy Weiler, Anita Zielinski, Keith and Ken Moody. Grandfather of five.

SIPES, Ruth Marie, 82, St. Paul, Sellersburg, April 22. Mother of Beverly Basham, Alice Oechsli, Richard and Robert Lewis.

SMITH, Marie Julia (Hess), 84, St. Mary, Navilleton, May 5. Mother of Margaret Hoffman, Therese Martin, Mary Jo Mayer, Doris Ooley, Connie Scilmiller, Eileen Schraffenberger, Denis, Nick, Sam and Conventual Franciscan Father Tom Smith. Sister of Irene and Marcella Naville and Rosetta Smith. Grandmother of 22. Great-grandmother of 13.

STRAHL, Joseph A., 91, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyd County, April 26. Husband of Celeste (Hanka) Strahl. Father of Mary Ewing, Celeste, Dolores, Joseph and Robert Strahl. Grandfather of eight.

STRUEWING, Stanley A., 69, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Cambridge City, April 30. Husband of Patsy (Bragg) Struewing. Father of Travis Gabbard, Richai Morgan, Kara and Brent Struewing. Brother of Milli Hiday and Ruth Sweetwood. Grandfather of six. Great-grandfather of one.

WEILANDICH, George, 84, St. Mary, Richmond, April 17. Father of Dwan Doherty. Brother of Mary Wilde. Grandfather of four.

Zaharako, Ted D., D.D.S., 62, St. Agnes, Nashville, April 16. Husband of Alice Zaharako. Father of Anthony Zaharako. †



Zucchetto exchange

After arriving for his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on May 8, Pope Francis exchanges the zucchetto—also known as a skull cap—that he was wearing with a young girl who had one to present to him.

Franciscan Sister Janet Brosnan ministered as an educator and hospital chaplain in Indiana and Ohio

Franciscan Sister Janet Brosnan, a member of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis in Oldenburg, died on May 1 at St. Clare Hall on the campus of the community's motherhouse. She was 79.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 3 at the motherhouse chapel. Burial followed at the sisters' cemetery.

Sister Janet was born on June 17, 1933, in Indianapolis.

She entered the Oldenburg Franciscan community on Sept. 8, 1951, and professed final vows on Aug. 12, 1957.

Sister Janet, formerly Sister Terence, ministered as an educator in Catholic schools in Indiana and

Ohio for 26 years. In the archdiocese, she taught at St. Andrew School in Richmond (now Seton Elementary School), St. Mary School in New Albany and the former Holy Trinity School in Indianapolis.

In 1976, she began ministry as a chaplain in hospitals in and around Cincinnati, retiring from that ministry in 2011.

Surviving are four sisters, Donna Monahan, Joanne Hutchinson, Mary Jane Owens, all of Indianapolis, and Marge Rieser of Avon, Ind., as well as two brothers, Dan Brosnan of Shoals, Ind., and Joe Brosnan of Freedom, Ind.

Memorial gifts may be made to Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, IN 47036-0100. †

Benedictine Brother Terence Griffin used business knowledge in ministry at Saint Meinrad Archabbey

Benedictine Brother Terence Griffin, a monk of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, died on May 5 in the monastery infirmary. He was 84.

The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on May 8. Burial followed at the Archabbey Cemetery.

Brother Terence was a jubilarian of monastic profession, having celebrated 52 years of monastic profession.

Daniel Rodgers Griffin was born on Feb. 15, 1929, in Bellevue, Pa.

He attended North Catholic High School in Pittsburgh, and then attended Robert Morris Business School, also in Pittsburgh.

Before joining the monastery, Brother Terence worked at the Pittsburgh Forging Company in Coraopolis, Pa., and at the Pittsburgh Coke and

Chemical Company in Neville Island, Pa.

He was invested as a novice in 1959, professed simple vows on May 7, 1960, and professed solemn vows in 1963.

Brother Terence's assignments included serving as an assistant in Saint Meinrad's Business Office, working with the comptroller of Abbey Press, assisting in Saint Meinrad Health Services and infirmary and working at Abbey Caskets.

For many years, Brother Terence also helped arrange the rosary processions at the nearby Our Lady of Monte Cassino Shrine held on Sundays in May and October.

Surviving are two sisters.

Memorial gifts may be sent to Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad, IN 47577. †

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Silver anniversary

Divine Word Fathers Charles Smith and Chester Smith, who both ministered at St. Rita Parish in Indianapolis, concelebrate a Mass marking the 25th anniversary of their ordination to the priesthood on May 4 at the Bishop Joseph Chartrand Memorial Chapel at Marian University in Indianapolis. Pictured from left are, Deacon Brad Anderson; Father Kenneth Taylor, pastor of Holy Angels Parish in Indianapolis; Divine Word Father Kenneth Hamilton, who was the homilist at the liturgy; Divine Word Father Charles Smith; and Divine Word Father Chester Smith. More than 200 people attended the Mass and celebration that followed.

Hispanic Ministry first Communion



Rubi Flores, a member of St. Mary Parish in New Albany, was among the 101 Hispanic youths in the New Albany Deanery who made their first Communion during a Spanish Mass at St. Mary Church in New Albany on April 21. Father Juan Valdés, administrator of St. Mary Parish in Lanesville, was the celebrant at the Mass. He was assisted by Deacon Rick Cooper, also of St. Mary Parish in Lanesville. Pictured, from left, are Father Valdés, first communicant Rubi Flores, and Rubi's godmother, Aurora Flores.

Vatican, U.S. sign deal to cooperate in fight against financial crime

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—In an effort to strengthen its ability to fight money laundering and the financing of terrorism, the Vatican signed an agreement with the United States to share information regarding suspect financial transactions.

The Vatican's Financial Information Authority signed a "Memorandum of Understanding" in Washington D.C. on May 7 with the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), a bureau of the U.S. Department of the

Treasury that investigates potential illegalities within the U.S. financial system and cooperates with similar agencies in other countries.

The Vatican's agreement with the United States was meant to "strengthen its efforts to fight money laundering and terrorism financing globally," the Vatican said in a written statement.

The memorandum is also meant to "foster bilateral cooperation in the exchange of financial information," the

statement said.

The Vatican said its finance agency has signed similar agreements with counterpart agencies in Belgium, Spain and Slovenia, and that it was in discussions with more than 20 other countries to establish similar agreements.

The agreement was signed by Rene Brulhart, the Swiss lawyer and finance crime expert the Vatican appointed last year to lead the Vatican's Financial Intelligence Authority, and Jennifer Shasky Calvery, director of FinCEN. †

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