Pope meets sex abuse victims, says clergy actions cloaked in complicity

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Asking for forgiveness, Pope Francis told clergy sexual abuse survivors that “despicable actions” committed by clergy have been hidden for too long and had been “camouflaged with a complicity that cannot be explained.”

“There is no place in the Church’s ministry for those who commit these abusers, and I commit myself not to tolerate harm done to a minor by any individual, whether a cleric or not,” and to hold all bishops accountable for protecting young people, the pope said during a special early morning Mass for six survivors of abuse by clergy. The Mass and private meetings held later with each individual took place in the Domus Sanctae Marthae—the pope’s residence and a Vatican guesthouse where the survivors also stayed.

In a lengthy homily in Spanish on July 7, the pope thanked the three men and three women—two each from Ireland, the United Kingdom and Germany—for coming to the Vatican to meet with him. The Vatican provided its own translations of the unscripted homily.

The pope praised their courage for speaking out about their abuse, saying that telling the truth “was a service of love, since for us it shed light on a terrible darkness in the life of the Church.”

The pope said the scandal of abuse caused him “deep pain and suffering. So much time hidden, camouflaged with a complicity that cannot be explained.”

He called sex abuse a “crime and grave sin,” that was made even worse when carried out by clergy.

“This is what causes me distress and pain at the fact that some priests and bishops, by sexually abusing minors’ violated the innocence of children and their own vocation to God, he said.

Pope Francis

Faith influences one-of-a-kind court in goal to help offenders change their lives

(Editor’s note: This is the first in a continuing series of stories called The Catholic Connection: Changing Lives in the Criminal Justice System.)

By John Shaughnessy

A courtroom isn’t a place that most people associate with compassion, second chances and a judge who is described as “walking the Beatitudes.”

Yet spend some time in Indianapolis Community Court, talk with Judge David Certo and the stories start to flow about the steadfast hope and remarkable sense of human dignity that guide this court—the only one of its kind in Indiana.

The stories sometimes depict how a life has been transformed—like the homeless, jobless man who had been arrested several times for alcohol-related offenses.

He grasped the court’s offer of a second chance, performed community service and entered a treatment program—all part of a rehabilitation that eventually led him to his own home and a job as a substance abuse counselor.

There are also the stories of mothers helping to feed and clothe their families through the court’s food pantry and donated clothing pantry—assistance that is available both to offenders who come to court and struggling, vulnerable people from across the city.

Then there are the stories of the court’s efforts to help veterans. Through a screening process that asks the court’s defendants if they have served in the military, veterans are assigned a day in court to help veterans. Through a screening process that asks the court’s defendants if they have served in the military, veterans are assigned a day in court.

A woman prays during a July 4 Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington on the final day of the U.S. bishops’ Fortnight for Freedom campaign.

WASHINGTON (CNS)—A deep appreciation for religious liberty brought Anh Thu Vu of the Binh Thuan province of Vietnam to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the Fortnight for Freedom closing Mass on July 4.

She told Catholic News Service about her experience with religious persecution. “We lived in a small town, and in school they would teach us that there is no God, and they would make it hard for us to go to church because exams would be on Christmas Day,” she said.

“So after experiencing those things, I think religious liberty is important. I think it should be a right inherent to all humans,” said the 23-year-old Vu. “I have been here [in the U.S.] for almost six years as an international student, and I appreciate [religious freedom].”

Hundreds gathered at the national shrine as the two weeks dedicated by the U.S. bishops to prayer, celebration and}

Hundreds gather in Washington on July 4 for Mass closing Fortnight for Freedom campaign

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See POPE, page 8

See FREEDOM, page 2

See FAITH, page 6
awareness of religious freedom drew to a close. just days after the Supreme Court ruled that closely held companies cannot be required to cover contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs in employee health plans. Prior to the beginning of Mass, members of the Catholic lay movement Neocatechumenal Way gathered in front of the shrine and sang hymns. An American flag billowed from the Knights Tower of the shrine. Lay men and women, families, priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women religious filled the Upper Church for the Mass. Rossnat Rodriguez, originally from Lima, Peru, told CNS, “Religious liberty is the whole essence of being free. You should be able to practice your faith. I don’t think that’s something we can compromise. “When you think about the United States and freedom, the pursuit of happiness, this is what it’s all about. I come from a Third World country with a history of violence … [religious freedom] is very dear to my heart.” Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington was the principal celebrant of the Mass. Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, was the homilist. In his homily, Archbishop Kurtz, who is president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), reminded Catholics of the theme of this year’s fortnight: the freedom to serve. “People of faith have had a tremendous impact on the fabric of the United States of America,” he said. “And [that is] precisely because so many have used the freedom that is ours as a freedom to serve.” This faith-filled service, said Archbishop Kurtz, is good for America because thousands of religious communities, Catholic charities and hospitals have put their faith into action in order to serve others, allowing the “light of Christ to shine in our world.” For America because thousands of religious communities, Catholic charities and hospitals have put their faith into action in order to serve others, allowing the “light of Christ to shine in our world.”

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Divine Mercy is focus of official logo, prayer of World Youth Day 2016

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The official logo and prayer for World Youth Day 2016 were unveiled at the event’s host city—Krakow, Poland—by the city’s archbishop, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz.

The Vatican released the information the same day, on July 3. The Archdiocese of Krakow is the former see of St. John Paul, who died in 2005. St. John Paul II's death occurred in the month of his birth, and Krakow is home to the Divine Mercy shrine. St. John Paul was canonized in 2014.

The logo, created by Monika Rybczyńska, 28, with help from Emilia Pyza, 26, features a red and blue flame of Divine Mercy flowing from a gold cross that is surrounded by a red outline of the map of Poland. A gold dot represents the city of Krakow on the map and symbolizes youths in Krakow, Poland, in relation to the event.

The logo is part of a non-profit organization called Changing Hearts US. The organization's website features a prayer intention section and offers a means to order bookmarks and donate.

The website shares the Changing Hearts US prayer in four languages, posts a newsletter with the text of each week’s radio spot (also available in newsletter form via e-mail), features a prayer intention section and offers a means to order bookmarks and donate.

As the Dodds family gathered for a Labor Day weekend initiative of prayer and fasting in 2002: “God merciful Father, in your son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. We entrust to you today that the timid and frightened may know your heart and woman.”

The first part of the prayer entrusts to the Lord’s mercy all of humanity, especially the world’s young people. The second part asks God to grant to the faithful the grace of being merciful toward others, especially those who have doubts about faith or who are discouraged. The last part asks for the intercession of Mary and St. John Paul II, the patron saint of World Youth Day.

The Archdiocese of Krakow is the former see of St. John Paul II and is home to the Divine Mercy shrine. St. John Paul II had a great devotion to Divine Mercy, the recognition of God’s mercy as demonstrated in his sending his Son to die for the sins of humanity.

Pope Francis has asked young people to read the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12, not just as a way to prepare for the 2015 diocesan celebration for World Youth Day and the international gathering with Pope Francis in 2016, but also in order to make them a blueprint for their whole lives. The 2016 international gathering is scheduled for July 26-31, 2016, with Pope Francis and youths from all over the world.

The last celebration of World Youth Day, which Pope Francis celebrated in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in July 2013, concluded with a Mass attended by 3 million people.

Changing Hearts US stresses ‘returning the culture to God’

By Natalie Hostetler

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Make time to get away—and also pray—this summer

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The kids are most likely out of school for the summer, and they are in your capable hands while school gets back in session, probably in mid-August.

Your checklist at work comes to mind, too. So do umpteen other things that you believe require your attention. In your midst of planning, did you pencil in time for a summer vacation?

Recent popes—like St. John Paul II and Benedict XVI—made sure to spend a portion of the hot summer at the papal residence in Castel Gandolfo for vacation. Pope Francis, though he has continued to reside at the Vatican guesthouse, has curated his summer schedule, too.

Through the centuries, many of our universal shepherds have encouraged us to make time for vacations, and though it would not be a sin to bypass their wise advice, time away from the daily grind of work should be a part of our lives—if not during the summer, then sometime during the calendar year.

Pope Benedict XVI put an emphasis on the value of time off, which he said should be for recreation for the heart, the spirit and the mind.

The world—and witness how they live out our faith and, just as importantly, to learn about the challenges they face as a Church community.

A recent vacation visit to an East Coast parish included a heartfelt note in the pastor’s weekly bulletin message asking parishioners to continue praying for vocations. The reason? Because the diocese where they reside had no priestly ordinations this year, and it has none slated for next year as well.

As disciples of Christ, we can now pray for this diocese, along with continuing to pray for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our archdiocese, too. And we know, whichever parish communities God leads us to in our journey of faith, we are always welcome.

—Mike Krokos

Letter to the Editor

Learn from St. John of the Cross and search for the perfect realm of holiness and peace

As we walk the narrow path of self-knowledge, it is inevitable that we will come up against our own limitations—these barriers inside us that will attempt to stifle us in our lifelong apprenticeship of self-mastery. As you overcome each one of these barriers—by your own personal cooperation with God’s grace—you end up learning something valuable about yourself. And sometimes, the things we learn about yourself can, to the individual, seem to communicate a certain spiritual sense along with them.

Every time you come up against a true barrier to your progress, you become a child again. It is a most interesting experience to be reduced, once again, to the level of}

Pope Benedict XVI greets pilgrims as he arrives to lead the Angelus prayer at the papal summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, on Aug. 8, 2010. The pope said summer vacation should include time for quiet and prayer. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

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St. John of the Cross said: “I came into an unknown and stayed there unknown—unknowing rising beyond all science. I did not know the door but when I found the way it was not removed. I was involved with enormous things, but what I felt I cannot say, for I remained unknowing, rising beyond all science. It was the perfect realm of holiness and peace. In deepest solitude, I found the narrow way: a secret giving such release that I was stunned and stammering, rising beyond all science.”

Kirth N. Roach

Order of Carmelite Discalced Secular Indianapolis

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Connected in the Spirit: Merged parishes

Conectados en el Espíritu: parroquias fusionadas

Last week, I wrote about Pope Francis’ dream of a “missionary option” for parishes and dioceses. Simply stated, the Holy Father is challenging us to place missionary discipleship and service on behalf of others ahead of what he calls “self-preservation.”

This is not an easy task. As I mentioned last week, we do have a stewardship responsibility to care for the human, physical and financial resources entrusted to our care.

The Church in central and southern Indiana was built by our grandparents in the faith, many of whom were poor immigrants who came to this region in search of freedom and a better life. What they sacrificed to build our parishes, schools, seminaries, religious communities and social service agencies can never be minimized or taken for granted. We owe them an enormous debt of gratitude, and the only way we can ever hope to repay them is by being good stewards of their legacy.

The legacy that we are called to steward responsibly is not only one of bricks and mortar. Nor is it the preservation of a museum-like dedication to our history. No, the legacy of faith that has been handed on to us is a dynamic reality. It is a tradition of worship, preaching, sacraments, faith formation and education, community life and service to others, especially the poor and vulnerable. This vibrant tradition of Catholic faith and practice is our inheritance. Our job is to grow it and share it generously with others!

Pope Francis urges us to be “spirit-filled evangelizers” who never tire of proclaiming the Gospel of joy. As the Holy Father writes in Evangelii Gaudium, “The renewal of structures demanded by pastoral conversion can only be understood in this light: as part of an effort to make them more mission-oriented, to make ordinary pastoral activity on every level more inclusive and open, to inspire in pastoral workers a constant desire to go forth and in this way to elicit a positive response from all those whom Jesus summons to friendship with himself” (#27).

To achieve genuine spiritual renewal as communities of faith, we must make sure that our structures support and encourage the “missionary option” that the pope reminds us is the essential mission of our archdiocese and of each of our parishes. As most faithful Catholics in our archdiocese know, over the years my predecessors and I have occasionally had to make the difficult decision to close or merge parishes.

The term “merged parishes” describes a new configuration in which an existing parish is entirely joined to another. In these cases, the independent identity of one of the parishes will cease with the merger, and its members and assets will be incorporated into another. The loss of a parish’s independent identity is always painful—most especially for those parishioners whose daily experience of the Church has centered on their home parish.

My own family experienced this in Stoney Pointe, Ontario, Canada, several years ago. The parish where many of my sisters and brothers were baptized, confirmed and received their first Holy Communion; where they went to Catholic school and learned their faith; where they played sports, and where our father was buried, no longer exists. My mother was especially hurt by this decision. Fortunately, with the help of God’s grace and the support of her family and friends, Mom was able to look beyond the pain and find hope and consolation in another parish community where she remains active to this day.

It’s not easy to lose your home parish. All we can do is help those who are suffering the loss of their spiritual home be present to their pain and be at their side. And, of course, we must support our brothers and sisters and make sure they are welcomed warmly into new parish families. Above all, we must rededicate ourselves to the missionary spirit that all Catholics, and all parish communities, are called to live as ambassadors of Jesus Christ in our homes, our neighborhoods and throughout the whole world.

When a parish loses its independent identity, it does not lose its history, traditions or memories (both joyful and sad). Let’s find the right ways to help one another share these memories and carry on our traditions in new ways—as spirit-filled evangelizers dedicated to proclaiming the joy of the Gospel to everyone we meet here at home and in all corners of the world.

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to continue to be with us as we extend the planning process we call Connected in the Spirit to every parish in our archdiocese, so that all of us may be missionary disciples who build up the Church in central and southern Indiana.

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I a semana pasada escribí sobre el Espíritu del “oportunismo misionero” que tenemos que poner en marcha para que las parroquias y las diócesis contaran con una “opción misionera.” En resumidas cuentas, el Santo Padre nos desafía a serle fieles, a antepender el discipulado y el servicio misionero para beneficiar del propósito a lo que él denomina la “autopreservación.”

Esto no es una tarea sencilla. Tal como mencioné la semana pasada, tenemos la responsabilidad administrativa de velar por los recursos humanos, físicos y económicos que se nos han confiado. La Iglesia en el centro y el sur de Indiana fue construida por nuestros antepasados, especialmente los pobres y vulnerables, que vinieron a este país en busca de libertad y una mejor vida. Jamás podremos minimizar o tomar por granted. Tenemos una enorme deuda de gratitud con todos aquellos a quienes Jesús nos ha llamado a sirviérselos.

La herencia que debemos cuidar responsablemente no se limita a los muros de nuestras parroquias, escuelas, seminarios y comunidades religiosas. No, el legado de la fe que nos han transmitido es una realidad dinámica, es un patrimonio que ha sido cuidado y conservado por generaciones de fieles católicos en este archdiócesis.

La pérdida de la identidad independiente de una de las parroquias cesa con la fusión, y sus integrantes y bienes se incorporan a otra parroquia. La parroquia donde mis hermanos y hermanas recibieron sus confirmaciones y donde aprendieron sus primeras lecciones de la fe, no existe más. Mi madre fue especialmente herida por esta decisión. Sin embargo, gracias a la gracia de Dios y al apoyo de familia y amigos, mi madre ha sido capaz de encontrar consuelo y continuar creciendo en su fe y fiereza.

Y, por supuesto, debemos apoyar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas para que puedan reanudar su vida en otra comunidad, donde puedan compartir sus experiencias y vivencias. Por eso, nosotros nos esforzamos por continuar siendo misioneros en nuestro trabajo pastoral, y por eso nos esforzamos por continuar siendo misioneros en nuestra vida diaria.

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Tradiculado por: Daniela Guainpa
Events Calendar

July 10-12 Holy Spirit Parish, 7243 E. 10th St., Indianapolis. Parish Festival, Thurs. 5-11 p.m. Fri, 5 p.m.-midnight. Sat. noon-midnight, food, games, entertainment. Information: 317-351-9404.
July 11-12 St. Benedict Parish, 113 S. Ninth St., Terre Haute. Community Festival, 5-11 p.m. Fri., 5 p.m.-midnight, music, games, food. 32 adults, under 18 free. Information: 812-232-8421.
July 12 St. Joseph Parish, 1375 S. Mckee Ave., Indianapolis. Harvest House Senior Picnic, 11 a.m.-noon, luncheon and fellowship following Mass. Information: 317-241-9878 or 317-244-2555.
July 13 St. Roch Parish, Family Life Center, 3630 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Single Seniors Ministry, 1 p.m. Information: 317-784-4207.
July 13 St. Malachi Church, 9833 E. County Road 750 N., Brownsburg. Mass in French, Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin, celebrant, 7 a.m., confession, 4-4:45 p.m. Information: 317-536-9598 or cllclark@archindy.org.
July 14 St. Lawrence Parish, 542 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg. Parish Festival, chicken dinners, 9-11 a.m. at buy booth, hidden treasures booth, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Information: 812-537-3992.
July 17 St. Joseph University Parish, 113 S. Fifth St., Terre Haute. Divine Mercy Chaplet and Pro-Life Mass, chapellet 4:30 p.m., Mass 5:30 p.m., pro-life ministry meeting 6:7 p.m. Information: Connie Kell Fitch, dinneone@yahoo.com or 812-965-8157.

Divorce and Beyond sessions scheduled for July 21-Aug. 25 at Cathedral Center

A six-session Divorce and Beyond support group for separated and divorced adults has been scheduled at the Archbishop Edward T. O’Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St. in Indianapolis, from 7-9 p.m. on Monday evenings, July 21-Aug. 25. The topics for discussion will be the process of divorce, self-image, anger, blame, guilt, loneliness and forgiveness.

The cost of the six-week session is $30, which includes a book. For more information or to register, contact the Pro-Life and Family Life Office at 317-236-1586 or 1-800-382-9836, ext. 1586, or e-mail dvamelle@archindy.org. Registration forms may be obtained online at www.archindy.org/dv/buminities/divorce.html.

Other upcoming divorce ministry-related events include “Being and Belonging... A Retreat for Adults Experiencing Divorce” at the Cathedral Center from 7-9 p.m. on Oct. 22.

Retreats and Programs

July 25 Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. Poetry Workshop, Poet M.L. Leiber, presenter, 7-9 p.m. $20 per person. Information: 812-933-6437 or frcacco@archindy.org.

July 26 Oldenburg Franciscan Center, Oldenburg. “Transitions: Crossing Life’s Thresholds,” Franciscan Sister Olga Wittinger and Claire Sherman, presenters, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. $45 per person includes lunch. $65 includes CEU and lunch. Information: 812-933-6437 or center@oldenburg.edu.

August 1-3 Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Retreat Weekend: A Lifeline for Marriages, Information: 317-817-6611 or wrightl@aol.com.

August 8-10 St. Benedict Archabbey Guest House and Retreat Center, 200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad. Step 1 Retreat for Recovering Alcohols and Al-Anons. Information: 812-657-6855 or step1@stmeinrad.org.

Past local society president receives award

Sheila Gilbert, national president of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and past president of the Society’s Indianapolis Council, is congratulated after receiving a Distinguished Alumni Service Award from the Indiana University-Purdue University School of Liberal Arts during a ceremony on May 9. Pictured are Colleen Farrel, left, Dandelia Radford, Kyle O’Brien, Sheila Gilbert, Patrick Jerrell (current president of the Society’s Indianapolis Council) and Elaine Jerrell, (daughters of Sheila).†

Franciscan raised in Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish on August 3

Franciscan Father Edward Boren, a native of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Indianapolis, will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for his 50th jubilee year at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, May 15 in Indianapolis, at 10 a.m. on Aug. 3. Father Edward was ordained on Jan. 19, 1964. While he served most of his years in Texas, Father Edward served in the archdiocese for one year as a teacher at Roncalli High School in Indianapolis during the 1973-74 school year, and provided assistance at St. Patrick, St. Gabriel Archangels and Sacred Heart of Jesus parishes, all of Indianapolis, in 2007. Attending the Mass of Thanksgiving will be members of Father Edward’s immediate family. He invites all to celebrate the Mass with him as he marks his 50th jubilee. ♦

Lumen Christi School in Indy offers summer institute from July 28-Aug. 8

Lumen Christi School, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis, will offer several classes during its Summer Institute from July 28-Aug. 8. For those in grades 1-12, various classes will be offered, including math, keyboarding, physical education, spelling, reading/phonics, grammar, beginning Latin, foundations of science, computer technology, psychology and art. The cost per class is $95 per student. For more information or to register online, log on to www.lumenchristischool.org/2014-summer-institute.htm. For questions, call 317-632-3174. ♦

St. Monica Parish begins series of novenas on July 15 to end violence

On July 15, members of St. Monica Parish in Indianapolis will begin a series of eight novenas—72 days—to end violence. All are welcome to join in the prayers, which each person can say on their own time. The novenas, or nine-day prayers, will be posted on the St. Monica website (www.stmonicaindy.org), on St. Monica Parish’s Facebook page (St. Monica-Lady) and available on cards in the church at 6131 N. Michigan Road in Indianapolis.

The first novena will be to the Holy Spirit for enlightenment to open hearts to turn toward peace rather than violence. The series of eight novenas will culminate in a prayer vigil sponsored by The Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis on Sept. 25 (location and time to be determined). The vigil will be held in honor of families who have been affected by recent violence.

All members of the archdiocese are invited to join in this prayer for peace in our community and world.

For more information, contact Ed Wisinski at edw@2i2z.com or 317-590-6700, or Darbrce Barret at dbarret@comcast.net or 317-523-4193. ♦

Fr. Edward Boren, O.F.M.
From gangs to coffee rust: Push factors for Central American migrants

SOUTH SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (CNS) — Giovani Melendez, 31, fled this Central American capital a decade ago, running for his life, setting out suddenly on a search for safety across Central America to send his family money to stave off hunger, buy medicines and pay for a trip to the United States, taking risks ranging from robbery to having their limbs cut off by the gangs. Melendez expressed uncertainty about coming back to El Salvador.

"I'm scared to come back," Quintanilla said, adding that an aunt in the U.S. lent him $300 to pay a coyote, but that money must be repaid.

Another mother of the choir, 20, left after his mother, who had supported him for more than a decade from New Orleans, fell ill and needed support. Quintanilla said he arrived after three attempts: the number of chances the coyotes provide their client for each payment. On top of that, there's enormous poverty, said sales director for global solidarity, justice and growth in Latin America and the Caribbean, has heard horror stories, too: "In any place we go, there's violence. It includes three of the most violent countries in the world, with the murder rate in Honduras topping 9 per 100,000 residents, according to the U.N. office on Drugs and Crime. The rates run roughly half as high in Guatemala and El Salvador.

But Central America is experiencing another outflow, as many minors attempt to escape violence or reconnect with their parents who support households they have not seen in years and support the law will look kindly upon children arriving in the United States. It includes three of the most violent countries in the world, with the murder rate in Honduras topping 9 per 100,000 residents, according to the U.N. office on Drugs and Crime. The rates run roughly half as high in Guatemala and El Salvador.

"They roughed me up," said Oscar Mancilla, 17, another deportee waiting to be processed. "[The gangs] ask you to join, even if you don't want to."

The violence is forcing some families across Central America to send their unaccompanied children toward the United States. Sometimes they pay a smuggler to get them to the border, where they can be killed for coming from the wrong gang-controlled neighborhood, or forced into lives of crime and violence. Migrants now leave Central America with something new, however: hope, especially that the time the children arriving will receive asylum or permission to stay, even though there has been no change in U.S. policy. Coyotes-human smugglers—are likely responsible for spreading such rumors.

It's a lie, but it's been propagated throughout the country," said Carlos Flores Pinto, director of the border project at Casa Alianca (Covenant House) in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

"Mother and fathers decided this is the opportunity to save their children or, if [parents] were already [in the United States], the chance to see their kids again," he said.

Those children have created concern for U.S. officials. U.S. Customs and Border Protection says it has detained 47,017 unaccompanied children from October 2013 through May 2014, an increase of 92 percent from the same period a year earlier. An internal draft Homeland Security memos from May, reviewed by the Associated Press, said U.S. Border Patrol agents could arrest as many as 90,000 unaccompanied children crossing the Mexican border this year.

President Barack Obama called it a "humanitarian crisis."

The court said the college, located west of Chicago, is not a religious ordering. The order in

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The U.S. Supreme Court on July 3 issued an unsigned opinion granting Christian-run college temporary relief from the HHS mandate because of the owners' religious beliefs.

The court said the college, located west of Chicago, is not a religious ordering. The order in

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The U.S. Supreme Court late on July 3 issued an unsigned opinion granting Christian-run college temporary relief from complying with the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) federal contraceptive, abortion-related mandate that is part of the Affordable Care Act.

The order in Wheaton College's Burwell case came three days after the court issued its Hobby Lobby decision saying that closely held for-profit companies could be exempted from some requirements of the federal health care law because of the owners' religious beliefs. The court said the college, located west of Chicago, does not have to fill out the self-certification form known as the EBSA Form 700—directing a third party, usually the employer, to attest that the company is not offering contraceptive coverage. The college instead can send a letter to the department, the court said.

The HHS secretary "in writing that it is a nonprofit organization that holds itself out as religious and has religious objections to providing coverage for contraceptives. The respondents are enjoined from enforcing against the applicant the challenged provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and related regulations pending final disposition of appellate review.

The order on Wheaton College is similar to an injunction granted earlier this year to the Little Sisters of the Poor. On Jan. 24, the high court issued a three-sentence order affirming—for the time being—an injunction blocking enforcement of the mandate against a group of religious nursing homes for the elderly poor. The Jan. 24 order affirmed Justice Sonia Sotomayor's Dec. 31 order. In other words, the mandate would be put on hold pending a hearing.

The Catholic Benefits Association was granted a temporary restraining order against its enforcement for 155 Catholic employers and more than 1,090 parishes that joined the association after June 4.

P. O. Box 1410, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-1410

chill@archindy.org

For more information, please log on to

www.archindy.org/layministry

St. John’s - Dover

Summer Festival
Saturday, July 19
5:00-midnight
• Food Fest • Beer Garden • Music by “Inner Soul”

Sunday, July 20
11 am-9 pm
Chicken Dinner 11 am-5 pm
Carnival Games until 6 pm
• Country Store • Raffle & Games • Bingo & Kids’ Area
• Beer Garden & Music by DJ Dan Morris until 9 pm

SR 1, 2 miles south of I-74 at Lawrenceburg-St. Leon exit

Online Lay Ministry Formation
The Archdiocese of Indianapolis has partnered with the University of Notre Dame and Catholic Distance University (CDU) to offer not-for-credit online theology classes:

• Undergraduate Certificates at CDU
• All 12 classes for a Certificate in Lay Ministry available online
• 30% discount for all employees, volunteers, and parishes
• Employees also receive reimbursement upon course completion

For more information, please log on to

www.archindy.org/layministry

The Criterion Friday, July 11, 2014 Page 7

D.0.N. A member of the Salvadoran national police is seen on July 1 holding an infant who arrived back in San Salvador from Mexico. The number of children leaving the country is increasing due to factors such as violence and push factors, and minors will be granted asylum upon arriving in the United States.

130,000 people internally displaced due to violence, and a woman who had gangsters demand she hand over her two daughters—
to be their girlfriends—"She left the next day," Jones said of the woman, who was recently deported back to El Salvador, but was likely to leave again.

"Eighty percent turn around and head right back," he said of deportees. "They're expressing uncertainty about heading out again. He once owned a business painting cars and doing bodywork, but he's limited to asking for extortion payments. One hundred-dollar monthly payments became $200, in a country where the minimum wage is slightly more than $300 per month. Then came the threats. "The gangs know more about you, your family... than anyone else," he said.

"They're a well-organized outfit. This just a group of kids."

He told his business immediately to pay for a trip to the United States, taking 30 cents on the dollar by his estimation. Reluctant to sign over personal items the Melendez family could not carry on their backs.

"Where he will go next remains uncertain. "I need to find a faraway family member," he said.
prayed that “the remnants of the darkness who abused innocent persons” and left daughters who betrayed their mission, weep, the grace for the Church to weep who were at risk.”

It is the first time Pope Francis met with a group of former seminarians Certo has established “a community court, with procedures” for protecting minors. It was the first time Pope Francis met directly with a group of victims of clerical abuse. After the meeting, the Vatican spokesman said, “It’s a big day for Certo, who has a definite commitment to help us get through this.”

The pope thanked God “for the grace to weep, for the grace of the Church to weep and make reparations for her sins and daughters who betrayed their mission, who abused innocent persons” and left living scars. He said women and sitting in the pews who God loved them, and he prayed that “the remnants of the darkness which touched you may be healed.”

In an effort to help the abuse heal, the pope met individually with each, accompanied by a loved one or family member and a translator, Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman.

The pope spent a total of three hours and 20 minutes in closed-door talks with each victim. The Jesuit priest said the men and women were visibly moved by the Mass and that he felt “something positive on their journey” of healing.

Responding to critics that the July 7 meeting and Mass were ineffectual and part of a publicity stunt, Father Lombardi said it had been “a very moving experience” and that people had been able to say what they had wanted in private prayer, “it was clearly a good experience.”

Still, the overall approach is reflected in his decision to convert a conference room into a food pantry.

“How do you walk away from Jesus?”

The food pantry is named in honor of Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department officer P. O’Malley of Boston—the head of a new Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, which the pope established in December, met on July 6 at the Vatican. They discussed expanding the number of members, especially from Africa and Asia, before the next meeting in October, Father Lombardi said. The commission also said it was necessary to set up a permanent and staffed “working office” at the Vatican, he said.

The commission, which currently has eight members, including a survivor of clerical sex abuse, mental health professionals and experts in civil and Church law, is tasked with laying out a pastoral approach to helping victims and preventing abuse.

Just as Jesus told Peter to feed his sheep, the pope said, I would add, “Let no wolf enter the sheepfold.”
Whither thou goest: Pope speaks openly of ways his pontificate may end

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Sympathizing with all the unmentioned young people today, Pope Francis—half jokingly said it is easier for a pope to resign than to know where his earthly life will end.

“I think the people’s definitive path is more certain. Where will the pope end up? There, in that tomb,” in St. Peter’s Basilica where most popes are buried, he said June 28 to a group of young men involved in a vocational discernment process run by the Diocese of Rome.

But that is not the way things turned out for St. Celestine V, who until 2013 was known as the last pope to voluntarily resign. When he renounced the papacy in December 1294, after only five months, in his successor he had him imprisoned. He died in custody and, eventually, his remains were interred in L’Aquila, the town where the cardinals had met and elected him pope.

Pope Francis opened a special Celestinian Year on June 5 in Isernia, the southern Italian city that claims to be where St. Celestine was born 800 years ago. The date of Pope Francis’ visit was the anniversary of St. Celestine’s election as pope.

Standing outside Isernia’s cathedral, Pope Francis focused on Pope Celestine’s simplicity, his love for the poor and his ministry of proclaiming God’s mercy.

The only mention of Pope Celestine’s resignation came in Pope Francis’ final prayer at the end of the 35-minute meeting.

The prayer praised God for choosing Pope Celestine and for having “inspired him to renounce the munificence of supreme pastor.”

But Pope Francis used his intercession, with his intercessions, to always seek your will in prayer and to faithfully guard our love for the Church,” the pope prayed.

Pope Celestine had issued a decree making it theoretically possible for a pope to resign. In fact, he said that given how smoothly things have gone since Pope Benedict XVI shocked the world by resigning in February 2013, the position of retired pope has become “an institution.”

On the way back from the Holy Land in May, he told reporters that Pope Benedict had “opened a door, a door to retired popes. Will there be others? God knows. But the door is open.”

As for himself, he said, “I will do what the Lord tells me to do. Pray and seek God’s will.”

“A pope who feels that his strength is failing—because these days we are living longer—has to ask the same questions Pope Benedict asked.”

However, on more than occasion, Pope Francis also has mentioned the possibility of dying in office.

In an interview on June 29 with the Italian television news station TGCom24, Cardinal Angelo Comastri, archpriest of St. Peter’s Basilica, said “a few days ago” he and Pope Francis were walking in the grotto under the basilica and passed the chapel where the tomb of St. John Paul II had been buried before his beatification in 2011.

He said, jokingly—but underneath his meaning was clear—he said, “Don’t forget, learners the one for me,” the 70-year-old cardinal said.

And I joking, in return, said, ‘Holy Father, let’s see who gets there first.’ ”

Cardinal Comastri said it had nothing to do with the 77-year-old pope’s health, even though just a few days earlier the pope cancelled a visit to a hospital and university at the last minute.”

For “Christian,” the cardinal said, “physical death flings us into the arms of God. . . . This is why the pope can be so serene about the prospect of his own death.”

Such talk is not new for Pope Francis. As archbishop of Buenos Aires, he discussed the topic with two journalists for the 2010 book, El Jefe. Asked if he ever thought of his own death, he responded, “For a while now, it’s been a daily companion of mine. I’m over 70 years old and the thread of life I have left on the reel isn’t long.”

Cardinal Comastri told the television station: “Overall, his health is good. The pope is generous and sometimes he accepts more commitments than he has strength for, so once in a while he is forced to say, ’I can’t do it anymore. I have to stop for a moment.’ But it’s just to catch his breath.”

Pope Francis might not disagree with Cardinal Comastri’s diagnosis. Earlier in June, opening the annual Rome diocesan pastoral conference, the pope ended with his usual blessing and respect that people pray for him. But he added, “My work is not easy,” and smiling, he said, “it’s a bit unhealthy.”

Iraqi patriarch: Situation is perhaps ‘darkest and most difficult period’

AMMAN, Jordan (CNS)—The patriarch of the Chaldean Catholic Church in Baghdad called the current situation in his country “perhaps the darkest and most difficult period in [the Church’s] recent history.”

In a telephone interview with Catholic News Service on July 7, Cardinal Patriarch Louis Sako also appealed for the safe release of two nuns and three orphans believed kidnapped in the city of Mosul and any northern Iraq on June 28.

He told CNS that there has been no news about the group’s whereabouts or who may have kidnapped them and promised assurances of help from many quarters.

Cardinal Sako also said the city of Mosul “is almost empty of Christians.”

There are only about 200 [Christian] individuals that may be left there,” he said. “The churches are closed. There was no mass this Sunday. There are no priests.”

Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant militants reportedly have occupied both Mosul’s Chaldean Catholic and Syrian Orthodox cathedrals, removing the crosses at the front of the buildings and replacing them with the Islamic state’s black flag.

Cardinal Sako compared the current situation for the Church in his country to the biblical tale of when Jesus slept in the boat while the storm raged and his disciples were terrified, as recorded in the Gospel of St. Mark.

“Despite everything, we do not despair,” he said. “We are invited and pressed to awaken Christ, to take advantage of our faith and continue in a calm sea.”

He urged the faithful to pray for the safe return of the group and for the future fate of all Christians in Iraq.

“I do believe, of course, that prayers can make miracles,” he said.

The kidnapped Chaldean Daughters of Mary, Sister Miskintosh and Sister Unor, and three orphans were missing in Mosul, the first city to fall in June to militants of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, who have overrun vast swathes of territory across five Iraqi provinces north and west of the capital, Baghdad.

“Until now, we don’t know who is behind the kidnapping and where they are,” Patriarch Sako told CNS.

“We have contacted many people, including Muslim imams, sheikhs and private individuals. They have promised us that they are trying to find something, but nothing has happened.

They don’t know. We’ve also asked the Kurds to look for them,” he said, his voice full of concern and strain.

Kurdish fighters have promised to defend Christians and other minorities in northern Iraq against the recent onslaught of Islamist extremists.

Patriarch Sako said it was not clear whether the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant was involved in the abductions.

“We don’t have exact details,” he said. “The situation is very confusing. Nobody knows.”

The group went missing around the time the militants shelled Christian villages outside of Mosul, including Qaraqosh, forcing more than 40,000 Christians to flee to terror, many with just the clothes on their backs. The majority of Qaraqosh’s 40,000 inhabitants are Syriac Catholics.

The two sisters were responsible for managing an orphanage in a Christian neighborhood in Mosul.

The orphans, two girls and a boy, have been identified as Hala Salim,

Sarah Khoshaba and Aram Sabah.

We are asking for their release because they are innocent,” Patriarch Sako told CNS.

“They have nothing to do with the policy or the situation taking place in Iraq. They are not party to these events,” he said, referring to sectarian violence convulsing Iraq as Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, aided by Sunni Muslim tribesmen and Saddam Hussein loyalists, has declared an Islamic state or caliphate across vast stretches of Iraq and Syria.

“They [nuns] are innocent people helping people, doing good things for everybody: Christians and Muslims,” he emphasized.

“We lived together side-by-side [with Muslims] for 14 centuries,” the patriarch said. “We still want to communicate and live together.”

But Iraq’s Christian community has dwindled in the years following the U.S.-led invasion. Iraq’s Christian community was estimated at 800,000 to 1.2 million people before the 2003 war that unleashed a wave of sectarian violence, but the current Christian population is thought to be less than half that number.

Many of those left had lived until recently in Nineveh province, of which Mosul is the capital.
Pope: Migrants’ deaths should provoke sadness, action, not indifference

VA FICAN CITY (CNS)—The tragic deaths of thousands of men, women and children who die while searching for a better future should trigger compassion and action, not indifference, Pope Francis said.

“The problem of immigration is getting worse, and other tragedies have unfortunately followed closely behind at a relentless pace,” he said in a written message.

“It’s difficult for our hearts to accept the death of these brothers and sisters, who bravely exhausting journeys in order to escape ordeals, poverty, war and conflicts often linked to international policies,” the pope said.

The pope’s written message marked the first anniversary of his visit to Italy’s southernmost island, Lampedusa. The Vatican released the message, which was addressed to Archbishop Francesco Montenegro of Agrigento, on July 5.

Pope Francis visited the island on July 8, 2013, after seeing newspaper headlines describing the drowning of immigrants at sea. The island is often the first port of entry for migrants trying to reach Europe from Africa, and the United Nations estimates that the dangerous sea crossings have cost the lives of more than 20,000 migrants in the past 25 years.

During his visit, the pope had called such tragedies “a disgrace,” and he tossed a wreath of white and yellow flowers into the Mediterranean Sea in memory of those who perished while trying to build a new life in Europe.

In his anniversary message, the pope said he felt spiritually present at the seaside once more “to cry with all those who are hurting and to toss flowers of prayers in suffrage for the women, men and children who are victims of a tragedy that seems endless.”

The tragedy “demands to be confronted not with the logic of indifference, but with the logic of hospitality and community, with the aim of safeguarding and promoting the dignity and centrality of every human being,” he said in his message.

He urged all Christians and people of goodwill to continue to help those in need, “taking them by the hand, without making calculations, without fear, with tenderness and understanding.”

He also expressed hopes that all the different agencies and institutions involved, “especially at the European level, may be more courageous and generous in coming to the aid of refugees.”

Meanwhile, the Vatican observer to U.N. agencies in Geneva said protecting the freedom, dignity and safety of refugees “should take precedence over disproportionate concerns about state security.”

Addressing a session of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on July 1, Archbishop Silvano Tomasi said assistance and hospitality should not “be limited to the private sphere,” but must “become part and parcel of the world of politics and thus make a difference at national and global levels.”

The financial and logistical costs and burdens of handing the influx of refugees must be relieved in part by having “more flexible border policies and an easier access to asylum procedures,” he told the committee.

Looking specifically at Europe, the archbishop said more countries need to agree on a system for hosting refugees rather than continuing to make the countries of first entry “bear the full burden alone.”

What was in the news on July 10, 1964? Religious leaders praise the newly passed Civil Rights Bill, and Father Hesburgh is honored by the president

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 July 10, 1964, issue of The Criterion:

• U.S. religious leaders ask for support of rights law
• Religious leaders hail signing of the Civil Rights Bill into law, stressed that it is up to all Americans to make it work. Cardinal James Francis McIntyre of Los Angeles said he was “happy that the elected representatives of the people have kept faith with the Constitution of the United States and the benign spirit of Abraham Lincoln. ’We are confident that the provisions of this new law will be accepted and obeyed with docility, understanding and Christian love,’ Cardinal McIntyre said. He called the rights act ‘a concrete expression of the conscience of all men of good will and adds. ‘The formation of that conscience has been the concern and the work of the Church for many long years. To this end, she has labored by precept and example to instill in men’s hearts those lessons of human dignity and human equality which flow from Christ’s teachings.’”
• President outlines rights act
• Brookville native: Veteran of Peace Corps raps U.S. ‘complacency’
• Cardinal Koenig: Struggles Church support of democracy, liberty
• Archbishop Silvano Tomasi said assistance and hospitality should not “be limited to the private sphere,” but must “become part and parcel of the world of politics and thus make a difference at national and global levels.”

By Brandon A. Evans

• St. Meinrad to launch Latin America priory
• Melkite rite archbishop plans three-day visit
• Roundup time for missioner
• Bishop plans 26 ‘belt’ parishes
• Lay volunteers hit road
• Lay volunteers hit road
• Lay volunteers hit road
• Lay volunteers hit road
• Town is created for gypsies
• New Xavier Rynne book
• Nikita soft on Church?
• Anglican Church seeks greater use of Latin
• Lay volunteers hit road

(Read all of these stories from our July 10, 1964, issue by logging on to our archives at www.CriterionOnline.com.)
NEW ALBANY—At the heart of every parish festival is a faith community’s enjoyment of food, fun and family. And those blessings were all on display during the 30th annual St. Mary’s Festival and Street Dance on June 21.

This year, the festival at St. Mary Parish in New Albany also served another purpose—one more step in the healing process following the closing of St. Mary’s Catholic Academy at the end of the 2012-13 school year.

While parishioners are still sad that their school closed, they have moved on, and are determined to make new memories and attract new members.

“Things happened that led up to the school closing,” said parishioner Kris Jakoby. “Our parish is in a new and exciting chapter of the church’s history.”

Still, the parish’s festival—from the joy of the children’s games and the street dance to the enjoyment of the chicken and dumplings—continues as a favorite tradition for members.

“For me, the festival and street dance is all about the parish family and the community,” said parish member George Ott.

The festival format has changed through the years, but not the motivation for hosting it each summer. While it is a fundraiser, parish members insist it serves a greater purpose.

“The festival has grown and evolved over the years. It’s like a homecoming,” said Tonya Boley, the festival’s chairperson. “It’s a great time to meet friends and have a good time.”

Boley said St. Mary Parish is still active and doing great success,” said Beth Ott, a member of the parish. “Our parish came together and showed how much they support the festival. I know that it is a huge task to undertake and a lot of hard work, but it is all worth it when you see how much it brought everyone together.”

While the festival format may be tweaked, one thing is certain, according to members. The festival, and St. Mary Parish, is alive and well.

(Chris Morris is a member of St. Mary Parish in New Albany.)

Go and find disciples by following Christ’s example, archbishop says

The crowd grew quiet and knelt as Archbishop Gregory came out to lead the procession, holding a large monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, archbishop of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, was the homily generator.

In reflecting on the theme of discipleship, he talked of moving from the center out to the peripheries. “We’re supposed to be a good virus. People want to catch us.”

Disciples must themselves be in “intimate” friendship with the Lord through eucharistic adoration, so that they may take Christ to others, he said.

He singled out catechists as heroic disciples and applauded their efforts.

“Nothing is more brilliant or more scary than to get up in front of a group of young people and try to teach the words of Jesus,” he said. “You are the infantry people, the front lines.”

Tracks were offered in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and American Sign Language, and there was a track for children.

Speakers included Mother Dolores Hart, a cloistered Benedictine nun and former actress; Greg Willott, director of evangelization for the Archdiocese of Denver; Jeff Cavins, catechetical leader of interactive Bible studies; Patty Schneier, lay Catholic author and evangelist; and, in the Spanish track, Sister Adela Galindo, foundress of a Miami archdiocesan order.

For Erin Kline, the congress is a spiritual revitalization, said the member of Prince of Peace Parish, in Flowery Branch, Ga.

“I love the congress—everything about it—being able to see everybody and reconnecting with God. I have a hard time with that at times. Being with him and feeling such peace and connection is why I continue coming back,” Kline told the Georgia Bulletin, newspaper of the Atlanta Archdiocese.

Gina Taylor, a member of St. Thomas More Parish in Decatur, Ga., has been attending the congress for 10 years, since she was 14 years old.

“I love what I about is the sheer number of people who are here,” said Taylor. “It’s a microcosm of the universal Church.”

Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory

St. Mary Parish in New Albany hosted its 30th annual Family Festival and Street Dance on June 21. There were kids’ games, chicken and dumplings and a street dance. Despite the closure of St. Mary’s Catholic Academy at the end of the 2012-13 school year, the festival has continued to help support the many ministries at the parish. Many members said the festival helps bring the parish family together each year. (Submitted photos)
Saved by Christ’s cross, we are called to follow God

A practical guide on how to believe the truth of our faith

A recently published document by the Vatican Commission, appointed by Pope Benedict XVI, to determine the capacity of individuals and of the Church to discern the truth of the faith.

Consider This/Stephan Kent

A p r e s e n t a t i o n o f t h e C o m m i s s i o n ’ s w o r k

The Church is neither a democracy nor a dictatorship. Faith is not based on popular opinion.

Faith is not based on popular opinion. Sincerely questioning requires one to be fully open to change. For example, one can explain how immigration and poverty relief trace directly to the principle of human dignity or why capital punishment and “just war” principles relate directly to the teaching of respect for life.

The Spirit continues to be at work in the sanctuary.

The commission made several points that bear on contemporary events. Catholics are people of faith who must always be open to God’s voice and who must be instructed on a Friday table on the stage, “she instructed on a Friday table on the stage,” she said. “We need one round table on the faith that can be instructed on a Friday morning in June, the eve of the Corpus Christi procession. And it was in full force, a swirl of activity in the church square.”

But the rhythm of life continued, with wheeling chairs, folding linens, slicing carrots. A 72-year-old uncle surveyed the scene, while a 9-month-old baby had been到位.

“Agnes’ mind was on logistics, the ‘controlled chaos’ she had been anticipating. But it was clear she was enjoying every minute. “This is all part of the celebration,” she told me.

It was a double celebration for Agnes: not a daughter’s wedding but the priestly ordination of her twin sons. Identical twins with individual callings to the priesthood.

She has to address that part to the people who express cynicism or ask who had the idea first, Todd or Garry. Agnes and her husband, Brian, chose to have one of their twins as high school freshmen to inquire about their future plans.

In private conversations, both teens expressed an interest in joining the priesthood, but not as a pair to the other. The discovery of their mutual goal was a happy surprise—and an enduring blessing during eight years of preparation.

“I felt natural,” said Father Garry, now 26. “It was very helpful to have a twin brother to spar each other on.”

At 18, the twins from Fowler, Mich., made a big decision, setting out for college seminary in St. Paul, Minn. They made it after much prayer, with great maturity. Their 20s have been defined by intense growth.

“Over the past few years, our work has been embedded in a robust fraternity among their fellow seminarians, including some who’ve turned their backs on the Church,” said Father Garry. “They see the freedom that comes from answering your call from God, going all in and never looking back.”

“Beyond words!” she said.

As Father Garry and Father Todd processed into St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Eau Claire, Wis., and sat down to receive the veils that would mark their orders, Agnes looked radiant in a layered ruffle dress that shimmered in the light, her silver hair neatly pulled into a chignon.

“Beyond words!” she said.

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“I love my children as they are,” Agnes said.

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Sunday Readings
Sunday, July 13, 2014

Isaiah 55:10-11

Sunday, July 15

Psalm 59:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23
Matthew 10:34-11:1

Matthew 5:1-12

Tuesday, July 15

St. Bonaventure, bishop, doctor of the Church
Isaiah 7:1-9
Psalm 48:2-8
Matthew 11:20-24

Wednesday, July 16

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Isaiah 10:5-7, 13-18
Psalm 94:5-10, 14-15
Matthew 11:25-27

Thursday, July 17

Psalm 26:7-9, 12, 16-19
Psalm 102:13-14b, 15-21
Matthew 11:28-30

Daily Readings
Monday, July 14
St. Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin
Isaiah 1:10-17
Psalm 59:8-9, 16-17, 21, 23
Matthew 10:34-11:1

Tuesday, July 15
St. Bonaventure, bishop, doctor of the Church
Isaiah 7:1-9
Psalm 48:2-8
Matthew 11:20-24

Wednesday, July 16
Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Isaiah 10:5-7, 13-18
Psalm 94:5-10, 14-15
Matthew 11:25-27

Thursday, July 17
Psalm 26:7-9, 12, 16-19
Psalm 102:13-14b, 15-21
Matthew 11:28-30

Question Corner
Fr. Kenneth Doyle

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

My Journey to God

By Sandy Bierly

A gentle breeze calls to me
To come and let the chores be
Now is the time to be carefree
Running through the grass, through the grass,
Letting the wind blow through my hair
Taking time from a busy life
To let the sun’s rays shine on my face,
Running barefoot through the grass,
As I relive my childhood days
I remember the simple life long past.

(Sandy Bierly is a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in New Albany and a member of Saint Meinrad’s Oblate of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in St. Meinrad, Lucie Morton, S. plants an American flag in the grass at Mr. & Mrs. Deepwell, Vernon, Va.)

(CNS photo/Jim Young, Reuters)
FREE Joint Pain Seminar

Don’t let joint pain prevent you from every day activities. Join St.Vincent for a FREE joint pain seminar, and find out how we have helped thousands of Hoosiers overcome life-limiting pain — and how we can help you, too.

Register today at MedicineAndMovement.com/LearnMore or by calling 317-338-CARE (2273).

JOINT PAIN SEMINARS

Thursday, July 10, 6 p.m.
Dr. Gregory Dikos, Ortholody
St.Vincent Indianapolis Hospital, 2001 W. 86th Street
Orthopedic Center, Entrance 8, Classroom 1

Tuesday, July 15, 5 p.m.
Dr. Renn Crichlow, Ortholody
St.Vincent Indianapolis Hospital, 2001 W. 86th Street
Orthopedic Center, Entrance 8, Classroom 1

Your last will and testament can be an eloquent statement of what was most important to you in life. A bequest to help educate priests, permanent deacons and lay ministers at Saint Meinrad is a good way to thank God for your faith and to pass it on to those who follow you.

Help us carry on God’s work.

Filipino archbishop named Vatican representative to U.N.

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope Francis named a Filipino archbishop, who helped lead and rebuild the Church in Haiti after devastating 2010 earthquake, as the Vatican representative at the United Nations in New York.

Archbishop Bernardito Auza, 55, the nuncio to Haiti, was appointed permanent observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, replacing Indian Archbishop Francis Chullikkatt. Vatican Radio made the announcement on July 1.

Archbishop Auza was ordained a priest in 1990 and served in Madagascar, Bulgaria and Albania, then ministered as the Vatican Secretariat of State. From 2006 to 2008, he worked at the Holy See’s Permanent Observer Mission at the United Nations.

Named nuncio to Haiti in 2008, he was serving there when the deadly Jan. 12, 2010, earthquake hit and destroyed much of western Haiti.

With three key Port-au-Prince archdiocesan leaders dead and scores of other religious killed or missing, Archbishop Auza took a leading role in stabilizing and helping rebuild the Church. At least 316,000 people died in the quake.

As nuncio, he was also the key player in channeling relief money from the Vatican and other Church sources to local needs and in helping make key decisions on project priorities and spending funds transparently by setting up an independent “inspection” commission.

“We have to start the reconstruction with very solid principles to avoid confusion and disappointments and ill feelings of those who are willing to help,” he said a month after the quake.

He helped local projects raise funds and focused efforts on encouraging new and capable Church leaders …

Filipino pilgrimage

Filipino children participate in a procession of Marian images on June 28 during the 17th annual National Filipino Pilgrimage at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington. Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of Manila, Philippines was the principal celebrant of the Mass that followed the procession. (CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn)
Priests, deacons and religious respond to God’s call of love

(Edward’s note: The following is the second in a series featuring the winners of the Indianapolis Serra Club’s 2014 John D. Kelley Vocations Essay Contest.)

By Elizabeth Heile
Special to The Courier

Jesus’ call of love is different for everyone. It may come as a thought in the mind or a tug at the heart. Whatever it may be, we must listen and seek to do God’s will.

Discerning your vocation is a very important matter.

For many men, young and old, it is to become a priest. Each priest responds to his call of love differently. I have had the honor of meeting many of them. They have come to St. Monica Parish to call God’s love differently.

Father Frank Eckstein, a retired priest, responds to his call of love with simplicity. He still continues to drive to St. Nicholas School twice a week, putting aside his plans, to celebrate Mass for us.

In his homilies, he explains the word of God in such a convolutional way that everyone understands it.

Father Pascal Nduka, our former pastor, came to the United States from Nigeria. He left his family to say “yes” to God. Father Pascal inspired me through his story, showing me that to be a priest or a sister doesn’t mean that you have to always be serious. He included children in his homilies and made us feel special. He taught us about God in a way that made us want to learn. This was how Father Pascal responded to his calling of love.

My precious angels. This is what Sister Loretto Emerenogi from the archdiocesan Mission Office calls us. A member of the Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy, Sister Loretto responded to her call of love by becoming a sister.

She raises money for poor children. Every year, she comes and helps with our Bible school. Kindhearted, she makes everyone around her feel loved. Sister Loretto humbly lets God lead her, always answering “yes” to her call of love.

Responding to God’s call of love is different for everyone. In Deacon Ralph Poyo’s case, it is preaching humbly lets God lead her, always answering “yes” to her call of love.

Sister Loretto responded to her call of love by becoming a sister. A member of the Daughters of Mary Mother of Mercy, she was to walk.

If you are interested in joining a dedicated team that passionate embrace the current world and is able to build relational and pastoral life, have at least three years’ experience working in Catholic liturgy. Candidate must be a fully initiated Catholic and a member of the Latin rite. She or he will be a well-educated and experienced in theology or pastoral ministry is preferred, but experience and skill will be honored. Commitment to family life is a must.

Please contact Father Dan Atkins at datkins@holyfamilynewalbany.org

LITURGY DIRECTOR

The Liturgy Director is responsible for the effective preparation, coordination, performance and leadership of music within the liturgical celebrations of the parish. This person of faith is both a pastoral minister who possesses a vision of how a local Church can develop its potential and a professional who holds specialized credentials in music and has a thorough understanding of Roman Catholic liturgy.

Please contact Father Dan Atkins at datkins@holyfamilynewalbany.org or mail a cover letter and resume to:

Serra Club vocations essay

Sisters of the Holy Cross
100 Loydies Hall-Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame, IN 46556
Attention: Human Resources Director or email to Jess@ed@csccsisters.org

For any additional information please call our Director, Marlene Stammmer at 812-923-8355.

We are seeking a faith-filled, energetic, passionate person to oversee, coordinate and implement our ministries to high school and college age young adults with our 18 parishes in Floyd, Clark and Harrison Counties in southern Indiana. Applicants need to be able to build relational and pastoral ministry and be able to empower leadership.

If you are interested in joining a dedicated team that truly makes a difference, please send a resume by July 25th to marlene@nadyouth.org.

For more information please call our Director, Dr. John C. Kelley at 812-923-8355.

COORDINATOR OF FAMILY LIFE

In Monica Parish in Indianapolis, Indiana is seeking a part-time Coordinator of Family Life to work under the supervision of the Pastoral Associate in promoting the spiritual growth of families. The Coordinator of Family Life will use the tools of “whole community catechesis” to help families live and learn on their faith. The Coordinator will staff the family FLC of RICA, assist in building a Team that will sponsor family faith formation initiatives, and coordinate with Infant Baptismal Preparation and Marriage Preparation/Enrichment.

Candidates for this thirty-hour position must have a proficiency in bilingual English in Spanish. Each candidate must be a fully initiated Catholic and a member of the Latin rite. She or he must be committed to the work of charity and justice that it so passionately embraces. The work includes opportunities within the Parish, and coordinate with Infant Baptistm Preparation and Marriage Preparation/Enrichment.

Please contact Father Dan Atkins at datkins@holyfamilynewalbany.org

Sisters of the Holy Cross, Inc.

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Faith, nature and adventure guide sister’s ministry

By Shirley Boardman
Special to The Criterion

NASHVILLE—When Eileen Flavin was born in Michigan City, Ind., in 1943, her family could not have anticipated the life and adventures that awaited her. Her parents prepared her by living a life of faith and enrolling her in Catholic schools.

While still an elementary student, a teacher suggested that she consider a religious vocation, but Eileen resisted the calling, anticipating a life as a wife and mother.

In high school, however, she sought advice from Father William Peil, a priest of the Gary Diocese, who counseled her and connected her with a Holy Cross sister.

In 1961, after applying to both St. Francis College and the Holy Cross Congregation, she was surprised to be quickly accepted by both, putting before her a decision that would eventually evolve into a life of faith, service and adventure.


Sister Eileen—formerly Sister Mildred Eileen—also holds a bachelor’s degree from Saint Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Ind., and a master’s degree from Loyola University in Chicago, Ill.

She taught elementary school in Illinois, served in parishes in Michigan and Indiana, and accepted a two-year assignment in Rome.

Then her vocation brought her to minister at St. Agnes Parish in Nashville. In 2005, Sister Eileen was appointed to the position of parish life coordinator of the Bloomington Deanery faith community.

Sister Eileen quickly came to realize both the richness of nature, artists, craftsmen and the Brown County spirit of hospitality, as well as the poverty that makes up this rural, southern Indiana county where more than 50 percent of the school children are on the free or reduced lunch program.

Now, together with Father Eric Augustin, sacramental minister for St. Agnes Parish and director of vocations for the archdiocese, Sister Eileen sorts out the sacramental needs of the parish, supports the many committees and volunteers who contribute to the care and management of the 11 buildings on the property, and ensures that the more than 400 parish families and many visitors receive pastoral care.

She starts and ends her day with prayer for all that is before her—whether it is resolving the problems brought by woodpeckers who have drilled holes in the walls of the parish’s church, or helping the parish council find the ways and means to convert a goat barn to a parish office.

Switching gears from saying the prayers of the dying with a failing member, to being present at a wedding, to focusing on a financial statement in support of parish administration means that Sister Eileen’s daily routine can test every skill.

As a member on a number of town advisory groups and spiritual director for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Brown County, Sister Eileen is continuously confronted with the challenges of the county’s vulnerable people, whether it be for food, shelter or emergency assistance for utilities. As a member of the Brown County community, she shares in the network of “safety net” providers for emergency services.

Her role as parish life coordinator may take her to visit members who are being cared for in hospitals in Indianapolis, Columbus and Bloomington, as well as taking the Blessed Sacrament to shut-ins.

Traveling the roads of southern Indiana has meant close calls with horses, deer, fog, ice and debris dropped by loggers and farmers. Since arriving in the county, her congregation has arranged for her to have a durable all-wheel drive vehicle to help ensure her ability to navigate the back roads and weather challenges.

For all Sister Eileen has done, the parishioners of St. Agnes are grateful to be able to celebrate this 50-year milestone with her.

On Aug. 16 and 17, Sister Eileen will be recognized at each Mass in gratitude for her love and dedication to her ministry, and a reception and program will be held in her honor on Aug. 17.

Her ministry to her parish and the county defy anything that the little girl in Michigan City could have anticipated for her life.

(Shirley Boardman is a member of St. Agnes Parish in Nashville. All are welcome to join the parish at any of the Masses, the reception and/or the program. For more information on the Aug. 16-17 activities, log on to the parish website at www.stagneschurchnashville.org, or call the church office at 812-968-2778.)

Rejuvenate your spirit!

Take off a few days to Kordes Center, the retreat and lodging facility on the grounds of Monastery Immaculate Conception in Ferdinand, Indiana.

Let the peacefulness and simplicity of the serene atmosphere renew your spirit.

The Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana, provide a unique hospitality, and invite you to walk the grounds, take a tour of their church, or join them for prayer.

“My refuge from the world. God refreshes me each time I come here.”

— Guest comment

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